

The Toodyay Herald

Your locally owned
community newspaper
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5000 copies circulating in Toodyay, West Toodyay, Goomalling,
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October 2017
Edition 362

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Road danger never considered

**More rubbish spilled in
2nd trucking disaster as
Ministers pass buck over
ongoing landfill debacle**

Michael Sinclair-Jones

THE STATE Government claims it is powerless to stop millions of tonnes of rotting Perth garbage being dumped in Toodyay.

And it appears that nobody at any level of government looked at the danger of adding hundreds more heavy trucks to Toodyay Road – one of WA's worst for fatal crashes and serious accidents – when State planning and environmental approvals were granted.

The risk was highlighted this month when a heavy rubbish truck carrying building and other waste from Perth crashed at the corner of Toodyay Road and Fernie Road, spilling waste (pictured below) onto nearby bushland as other heavy rubbish trucks queued to pass.

It was the second serious accident in six weeks involving spillage of waste material by a truck using Toodyay Road after another heavy rubbish truck caught fire and was destroyed near Noble Falls in August, tipping contaminated waste into Wooroloo Brook.

All hopes to block the controversial landfill project now rest with local public objections to a dumping licence being issued under environmental law.

Perth waste management company Opal Vale Pty Ltd is in the final stages of seeking approval to starting dumping millions of tonnes of Perth garbage in a former brickworks claypit in Hoddys Well, about 13km south of the Toodyay townsite.

The rubbish will be carted in hundreds more heavy trucks and trailers each week on a 50km stretch of high-risk Toodyay Road between Roe Highway and the Fernie Road turn-off to the Chitty Road dump site.

Two Labor State Ministers passed the buck last month when asked by *The Toodyay Herald* about ongoing local concerns.

Environment Minister Stephen Dawson's office said it was a planning matter and that questions should be addressed to Planning and Transport Minister Rita Saffioti.

Ms Saffioti's office said the previous Liberal government had granted planning permission to build the tip and that this process had been completed "years ago".

If the Department of Water and Environment Regulation (DWER) granted Opal Vale a licence to start dumping rubbish at the new tip, objectors would have a right to appeal against the conditions set by the licence, a State Government spokesperson said.

However, neither minister had power to intervene to stop the tip, he said.

Continued Page 7, second photo Page 3.



Latest Toodyay landfill spill. Photo: Peter Harms.



Julimar 'pirates' hose down rivals in fun-filled Recycled Regatta mayhem

JULIMAR Volunteer Fire Brigade 'Pirates' fly the Jolly Roger and play dirty with a fire hose in last month's hilarious Recycled Regatta on the Avon River between Stirling Park and Newcastle Bridge.

Several makeshift craft made from recycled materials took part.

Recent heavy rains ensured there was enough water to complete the one kilometre journey, with a large number of spectators

cheering from the river bank.

The event was followed by prize presentations and fund-raising food stalls at Duidgee Park.

See Toodyay Tidy Towns report, Page 20.

Dow challenged for seat, presidency

TEN CANDIDATES are contesting three council seats in one of the most keenly fought local shire elections in recent years.

The most talked about contest appears to be in the Toodyay townsite's Central Ward (752 voters), where Shire President David Dow faces a strong challenge from newcomer Di Granger, with third candidate Linda Rooney a final-day nomination for the seat.

At least one new councillor will be elected after former East Ward Cr Kate Wood resigned last March when her family moved to Geraldton.

Cr Brian Rayner was re-elected for another four years as the only North Ward candidate when nominations closed last month.

The shire's remaining 2575 registered voters have been sent election packages with ballot papers, candidates' profiles and voting instructions in reply-paid envelopes to be mailed back and received by the WAEC Returning Officer by 6pm on Saturday October 21 or handed in to the shire office in Fiennes Street by 5pm the day before.

This will be Toodyay's first postal ballot for a shire election and is being run by the WA Electoral Commission.

Previous council elections have been run by the shire with 'in-person' voting at polling stations on election day.

The change aims to increase voter participation, which was only 29.9 per cent

at the last shire elections two years ago.

This month's poll closes at 6pm on Saturday October 21, when votes will be counted at the Toodyay Shire Council chambers and the winners declared.

Voting is 'first-past-the post', with no opportunity to distribute preference votes where there are three or more candidates.

However, voters in East Ward – where there are two vacancies – will be asked to pick two candidates from a field of four.

Continued Page 3.

Mining added to draft planning strategy

MINING is added as a 'discretionary' land use and limits will be applied to future rural residential subdivisions in a new Shire of Toodyay draft planning strategy.

The draft continues an existing ban on future landfill but has no effect on an existing large-scale dump being built in Hoddys Well.

The shire says the WA Planning Commission recommended that mining be added as a 'D' (discretionary) use to "trigger consultation requirements" with the State, which manages

mining and mineral exploration licences.

However, anti-bauxite mine protesters in Morangup and elsewhere claim it sends the "wrong message" to miners and will turn Toodyay into the "mining mecca of the Avon Valley". See Letters, Page 4.

The draft – published on the shire website – also covers farming, tourism, transport, waste management, housing and population growth, and is open for public comment, with submissions due by Friday November 3.

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

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

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

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Subscriptions are \$33 (postage and packaging) per year (11 issues). Please send a cheque to PO Box 100, Toodyay 6566.

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DISTRIBUTION

The Toodyay Herald has a distribution of 5000 copies, with 2800 copies delivered monthly to PO boxes and letter boxes in Toodyay, Morangup and Bolgart. Copies are also available at roadhouses and businesses in Toodyay, Northam and Clackline General Store, Bakers Hill, Gidgegannup, Wooroloo and Wundowie.

Printed by Rural Press

THANK YOU

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped produce this edition of The Toodyay Herald: Joseph Fernandez (Legal), Richard Grant, Allan Gregory, Beth and Peter Ruthven and Jean Witcombe.

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NEXT TOODYAY HERALD EDITION

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Ol' Blind Joe

Going off the grid

MY EDITOR, 'The Scoundrel of Toodyay', told me to drag my sorry arse up to Perenjori to cover a meeting of experts concerning the construction of WA's first thermal solar power tower in the town as it has had dozens of brownouts and they're going off grid.

Basically, it's just a bunch of solar panels aimed at a tower containing a salty brine at the top which heats up to thousands of degrees, drips down, creates steam, and *voila*, turns turbines to produce electricity.

I absconded in a mate's car and set off into the wild and unpredictable future with fifty bucks in my kick and a full tank.

Things started going fruity when I got to nut-job city limits at the end of Bindi Bindi Road and couldn't find my way.

I spotted this woman in pyjamas and a robe messing around outside a chook shed and soon found myself listening to her babbling incessantly about anything and nothing.

Eventually we made it to a ramshackle shed down the back where her bedraggled and long suffering husband was hiding.

He managed to find a Perth street directory which proved to be as much use as tits on a bull.

Then he kept insisting that Perenjori was back towards Toodyay, but I had checked the internet before leaving and knew it was much further away in the opposite direction.

I might not be good at maths or directions, but the bleeding obvious seldom eludes me.

The husband finally got back from the house with a phone declaring I was correct and said I could head up the highway and chuck a right at blah, blah, and wanted to offer some other suggestions.

No way.

Frog and toad

I KNEW it was the longest option but simple, and I wanted to hit the frog and toad pronto.

She was still arguing with the fairies in the backyard and he's following me to the car like a lost puppy and I just wished I'd left the motor running.

I missed the first conference speaker but arrived in time to hear Professor Ray Wills of Future Smart Strategies.

I'd brought a notepad but forgot it, and this guy throws facts and figures at you like a machinegun - an impressive top-shelf, big-picture thinker.

The next guy was James Eggleston who is a postgraduate researcher at Curtin University's Sustainability Institute who's more into the detail but extremely annoying because he's far too bloody happy.

Later, I pointed this out to him and suggested he seek therapy as he obviously has deep-seated emotional problems and, of course, he laughed.

I jaggied it though and got to ask the last question before lunch and asked James why he was sceptical of the efficacy of hydro schemes to store energy.

The Australian National University and the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) have identified 22,000 potential pumped hydro energy storage sites across all states and have assessed that only 0.1 per cent are required to do the job.

They can balance the grid with any amount of solar and wind power - up to 100 per cent - as ageing coal-fired power stations close.

I found James' response unconvincing but then Professor Ray arced up saying that things are moving so fast we won't need hydro.

Our technical capacity with batteries is increasing by a quarter each year, and prices are dropping by the same amount annually.

Lunch was an extravaganza, the likes of which I haven't experienced recently with the table groaning beneath trays of roast chicken, ham on the bone and dozens of pastas, salads, etc..

The next table was full of diced fruits, watermelon, rockmelon and suchlike with a fancy pants coffee machine next to homemade chocolate chip cookies, shortbread and cake - ooh, la, la.

Smart cookies

I got back to my seat and found Professor Ray had chosen to sit next to me and he was yakking with a couple of smart cookie cookies sitting opposite about using solar to deliver water and other systems on the farm.

Ray's running 1600 sheep at his joint so he knows his dags from his dingleberrys, although it's a questionable distinction and more a colloquial leftover from the arse end of history.

We got to chatting and he reckons the next big jump is graphene batteries which can fully convert the energy they receive and nothing is lost in the process, thus providing a huge increase in overall efficiency.

Graphene generates multiple electrons from each photon, whereas silicon - the current source of solar cells - can generate only a single electron per photon.

I was pleased when he agreed that fracking was dumb technology, and now it seems Turnbull is gonna fine States that don't frack - this is our democracy in action.

Nobody in their right mind - investors or business - wants to invest in or build a coal fired power station except our government which will throw zillions of dollars at a couple of them for short-term political gain.

Turnbull is gonna cut \$1.3 billion from ARENA's funding, which is part of former Liberal PM Tony Abbott's legacy to shut down the renewable energy sector.

I was reminded of US singer Patti Smith's lyrics "The people have the power, the power to dream, to rule, to wrestle the earth from fools".

A single conversation with a wise man during the eating of a meal is better than 10 years' mere study of books - Chinese Proverb.



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	15	16	17	18	19	20
	22	23	24	25	26	27
	29	30	31	Nov 1	2	3
					4	

Kevin throws hat into ring to lead show

Ieva Tomsons

TOODYAY Agricultural Show President Kevin Hutchings (51) has the spirit of earlier times when the pace of life was set by the sun and contributing to the community was par for the course.

"I hate daylight saving," said Kevin who doesn't use an alarm – unless he has to rise before dawn.

This year is the second time Kevin has stepped up to guide the Agricultural Society and he won't have time to present his comprehensive displays of fresh pasture and fodder plants.

He's a traditional farmer who knows the value of healthy pastures and has been the Show's main pasture section contributor for many years.

However, this year's 164th Toodyay Show will be the first without a pasture display.

Kevin was in his early teens when he first threw his hat into the ring as an exhibitor.

By age 30 he was on the show committee, two years later he was vice-president for four years and served his first term as president from 2004-2006.

"Dave Chitty was president at the time and roped me in to the committee," said Kevin.

Times have changed, and local farmers are no longer the backbone of agricultural shows."

Of the 16 committee members, only three are farmers – Kevin, Dave and chief steward Alison Wroth.

The age of committee members has also changed and it's a challenge to recruit younger members to the voluntary positions.

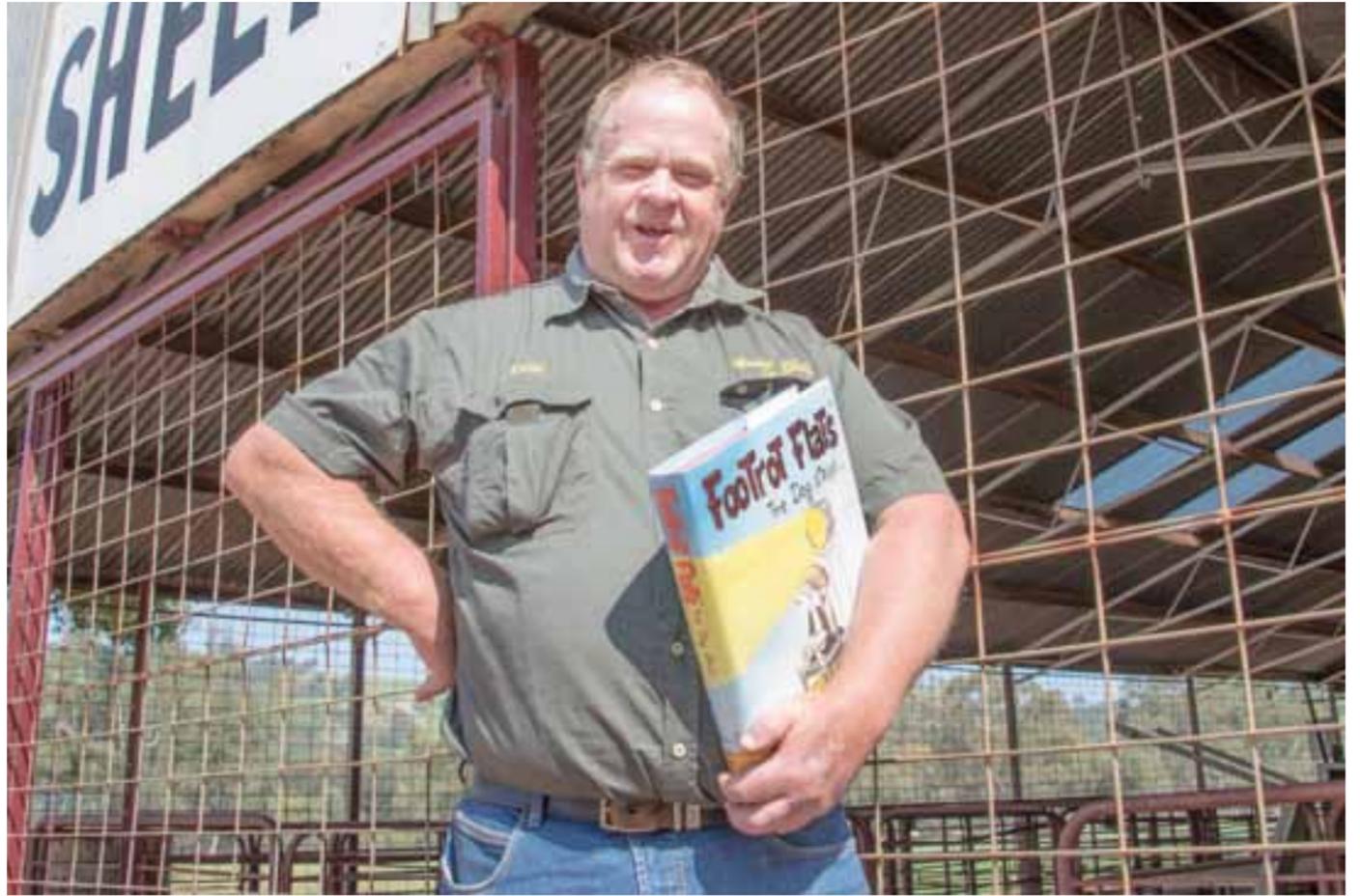
John Smart is Toodyay's oldest committee member at 82 and 24-year-old Nikki Smith is by far the youngest.

"And, there's a lot more paperwork these days but luckily the committee is up with it," said Kevin.

"Since 2001 (9/11) bureaucracy has increased – you now have to have public liability, emergency exit signs and emergency evacuation plans to deal with."

Kevin is concerned that increased bio-security documentation for livestock exhibitors will further discourage farmers from bringing animals to the show.

It takes a lot of time and effort to prepare, truck and exhibit animals, and each year most agricultural shows have to work hard



Kevin Hutchings with one of his favourite books outside the Sheep Pavilion at the Toodyay Showgrounds.

to convince producers to participate.

In 1901 the showgrounds were swamped with sheep entries and many had to be turned away.

Those days are well and truly over, and show organisers are now content that children still have the chance to interact with some farm animals.

The Hutchings family set their roots in Toodyay in 1857 and Kevin is latest in the long line to farm Spring Gully in West Toodyay.

Nearby farm subdivisions have caused the number of neighbours to double since Kevin took up the reins of the 1000-acre (405ha) property in 1996.

He wistfully recalls his dad Leslie and 'uncle' Arnold Hutchings roaming freely through neighbouring farms shooting foxes.

"Everyone knew everyone back then – you didn't have to tell them you were coming, they just knew."

In the same breath Kevin rattles off the names of all his 'new' neighbours and tells *The Herald* about the annual neighbourhood Christmas party when they all get together.

Out in Julimar everyone knows Kevin.

He's been a bush fire brigade vollie for more than 20 years and in late 1997 joined the Land Conservation District Committee, which he led from 2000 to 2003.

Kevin has an impressive collection of

Footrot Flats books, calendars and comic strips which he started to collect when was just a kid.

Shearers who have shorn at Kevin's old wooden shearing shed say it's just like the sheds in New Zealand's hill country but you won't find Kevin doing his block at a sheep when the Eagles lose, like *Footrot Flats* character Wal does when the All Blacks rugby team go down in a screaming heap.

Kevin's a steady-as-she-goes farmer who loves the lifestyle and wants to continue as long as he can, breeding his Corriedale sheep* and cropping 87ha of oats, lupins and wheat for chaff and hay.

As show week rolls around Kevin will be on high rotation.

"It's taxing and you really feel zonked at the end of it but after a short break we get back into it for the next show."

*Kevin is one of a handful of WA farmers who still breed multi-purpose Corriedale which was popular with Soldier Settlers for its wool and meat.

Chitty says she'll run for president if re-elected

Continued from Page 1

UNLIKE in Federal and State elections, the absence of preferential voting in local government elections may favour President Dow by splitting his two opponents' votes, a fact not lost on local poll strategists.

In East Ward where there are two vacancies (776 voters), Shire Deputy President Therese

Chitty appears set to retain her seat, while Hoddys Well ratepayer Ben Bell is running a strong campaign to fill the second vacancy.

The two other East Ward candidates – Karyn Dymond and Tim Hale – are running low-key campaigns and seem unlikely to attract enough votes to gain a winning lead.

Karyn Dymond – who owns a property in

town – is the only candidate registered at an address not in or near the boundary of the ward she is seeking to represent.

Cr Chitty has told a number of people that if re-elected she will run for shire president regardless of who wins Central Ward.

Councillors elect a president by a secret ballot held every two years after each election for half the seats on the nine-member council.

President Dow has told ratepayers he has "unfinished business" on the council which suggests that if re-elected, he will also contest the top job, to which he was re-elected unopposed two years ago.

In West Ward (1047 voters), Cr Paula Greenway from West Toodyay is widely seen by supporters as likely to retain her seat but faces a determined challenge from Morangup ratepayer Craig Brook, with Andrew Walker from Lovers Lane, Toodyay, also an outspoken contender.

As in Central Ward, first-past-the-post voting may favour Cr Greenway by splitting her opponents' votes with no opportunity for those candidates to receive second preference votes.

More landfill waste spilled in second truck disaster



Landfill waste contaminates bushland in heavy rubbish truck crash. Photo: Peter Harms. More Page 7.



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The Toodyay Herald

It's now up to you

IT'S TEMPTING to run a report card this month on the three Toodyay shire councillors seeking our votes to be re-elected for another four years.

However, it might take more space than is available here, and regular *Herald* readers probably don't need to be reminded of all that has happened in the past four years.

Those who want change will know what to do, and those who want more of the same will vote accordingly – so be it.

All we urge is that readers take a few moments of their time to cast a vote.

However, it should be said that a successful council is one that talks to its constituents and is open and transparent in all that it seeks to do.

You don't need to be a brain surgeon to be a shire councillor but common sense and empathy help.

A successful council also needs strong leadership that commands respect and can represent broad community interests, both at home and in the wider world.

That means listening, being respectful, consulting with others and making decisions in an open and transparent way. It's a big ask, and not everyone in the community is equipped to do it.

Being a leader is as much about personality and good communication skills as being tenacious when required.

It also means taking the community with you when tough decisions have to be made, and admitting mistakes when they occur.

Nobody is perfect.

A council can't run a public survey every time it wants to make hard decisions.

But those who talk to a broad cross-section of the community and understand its needs and aspirations are more likely to succeed than those who don't.

That's easy to say, much harder to do and it takes time, effort and commitment.

The current candidates are seeking to represent the whole community – which is all of us – and at least two of them say they want to be our next shire president.

Those seeking our votes should be able to demonstrate that they understand the basic principles of good governance and support the need for effective leadership.

One last word.

Whoever wins this month's shire elections should note that we will continue to report without fear or favour what goes on inside the council chamber and beyond.

It's not our job to be the council's community cheerleader – the shire has enough resources and plenty of opportunity to do that for itself.

All we want is open and transparent local government, effective leadership and outcomes that benefit the entire community.

That surely should not be too much to ask.

Michael Sinclair-Jones
Editor



The way we were – This photograph taken around 1900 shows Eva and Oliver Whitfield at the former Whitfield's Produce Store on the site of what is now the Terry White Pharmacy in Stirling Terrace. Daniel Connor is thought to have built the original shop and house in the late 1860s, and it was later used as a bakery and tearooms before being rebuilt in the 1920s. From Newcastle Gaol Collection.

LETTERS

New shire plan adds mining

I HAVE just read through the Shire of Toodyay's new 2017 Draft Local Planning Strategy which gives industry mining a 'D' use.

It is worth noting that under the current Town Planning Scheme 4 (TPS4), industry mining is not listed as a use.

The reason for this is a simple one and that is that the shire can neither approve nor reject an application to mine.

However Section 120 of the State Mining Act gives local shires a say in regard to whether or not mining should take place within their shire.

If we allow our shire to give mining a 'D' use, it will send the wrong message to the State Mining Warden when an application to mine is received.

To gain your support for the new draft Local Planning Strategy the shire says that a 'D' use will trigger s120 of the Mining Act.

However, that section will be open to the shire regardless of any changes.

I urge everyone to put in a submission before submissions close on Friday November 3 to say that mining should not be given a use under any changes to our Town Planning Scheme or we will end up being the mining mecca of the Avon valley.

If that happens you can kiss goodbye to tourism and all the other industries on the drawing board for the hard-working committees in Toodyay.

The shire's new Draft Local Planning Strategy is listed in the 'public notices' tab at the top of toodyay.wa.gov.au, then click at the bottom of that page for 'more public notices'.

Brian Dale
Morangup

Rates changes must stop

THE LETTER that accompanied our rates notice insinuates the rates new status is a Landgate problem, however, as the Barnett government found when they tried to renege on the power-to-grid contracts, people power in the form of a class action can stop them in their tracks.

Landgate informed me our Gross Rental Value (GRV) has not been reviewed since 2014. They suggest the GRV is a lot lower now, along with property values, and a review is overdue.

A fair solution would be to rate us at unimproved land value plus two per cent, revalue the GRV and advertise the changes, then allow submissions of objection to be heard. Thank you.

Kevin Craig
Julimar

Short-changed by council

CAN I take this opportunity to ask a question that bothers me too much?

When councillors vote unanimously to pass

issues that impact badly on all the ratepayers and residents of their shire what is being accomplished?

Is it that they want to be seen as doing the right thing for the running of the council or are they ignoring all the people of their shire even if it causes hurt, anguish and other problems?

It seems to me that in such cases not one of the nine councillors has considered any of the people they are supposed to be representing.

It seems to me that in fact it is not just lack of consideration but total and complete misrepresentation which goes against the purpose and the policy of electing them in the first place.

Is it a council by the people and for the people?

Ben Camenzuli
Coondle

Tired of paying off shire debt

WHY WOULD anybody want to open or operate a business in Toodyay, when the Shire of Toodyay, without any consultation or warning, increases rates by 300 per cent.

Was this obscene rate increase due to the Valuer General re-rating the whole shire or only Extracts Light Industrial Area?

Should this not be the case and the Shire of Toodyay has taken it on themselves, it is quite obvious that they have learnt nothing of their fiasco with their illegal rate increase to ratepayers in Morangup last year.

The Shire of Toodyay, staff and councillors spent approximately \$3500 for their Christmas party in the Swan Valley last year, so the \$3800 rate increase should just about cover the cost of this year's party.

Imagine if the shire staff and councillors spent this money supporting local business and not spending ratepayers' money outside the shire boundary.

Toodyay ratepayers are tired of paying off shire debt, whether that be shire legal action, estimated at \$350,000, the Christmas party at \$3500 – the list goes on.

Without vision or any forward-thinking, Toodyay is not only sitting still, it is actually going backwards.

Maybe we should amalgamate with Northam Shire, if they would have us, as they encourage development and employment making a more vibrant locality.

Northam ratepayers can see where their rates are being spent.

How fortunate are Shire of Toodyay ratepayers that the president is not taking home his full entitlement, but that is another \$64,000 question.

Grant Williams
Julimar

Birds and bauxite don't mix

AS AN 85-year-old Toodyay local who has spent a lot of time in the bush, I believe that some of our birds would be affected by bauxite mining.

First of all there is the emu which likes the gravel soil on the eastern side of a hill because it is dry soil and the male bird can get

off the nest to feed while the early morning sun keeps the eggs warm.

The next bird is the sacred kingfisher which at most times digs a hole on the side of a hill or in termite nest or where earth has been built up, or in the banks of a creek and sometimes will nest in a hollow branch of a tree.

The next bird is the plover of which there are different kinds all over Australia.

Our plover, the plain plover likes to nest on dry, loose ground in a small amount of grass and often uses old dry cow manure to nest in.

I have often found our grey teal ducks nest in a heap of rubbish near the creeks, sometimes in hollow tree stumps and quite often their nests have been found where there were old rabbit burrows.

Next is the brown quail which quite often nests in wheat, oats or barley crops or high grass in a depression in the ground near creeks or swamps.

Wood ducks' nests are often found in hollow tree stumps near water and the nests are lined with down and sticks.

Our red cap robin and scarlet robin often nest in tree stumps and forks of small trees close to the ground.

Our blue wren nests close to the ground in scrub bushes or in low hanging branches of wattle trees among thick bunches of leaves.

Our little ground lark makes its nest with grass in a small depression in the ground behind a tall tuft of grass.

Two others things we would lose are our snake and long-tailed goanna populations which we have to have to keep down the rats, mice and grass hoppers that, at times, cause us a lot of trouble.

Bauxite mining would wipe them all out.
Ron Waters
Toodyay

Tradies' ad a winner

TWO YEARS ago I moved to the Avon Valley and recently branched out on my own building patios.

To advertise my new business, I signed a three-month contract with one of the free community newspapers with no real result.

My monthly \$50 double tradies' ad in the *Herald* has produced three contracts – one of which is a huge 100m patio in Toodyay and the others in Gidgegannup and Stoneville.

In terms of value-for-money the *Herald* wins hands down – \$720 versus \$50 a month is a no-brainer.

Thanks. I'll be sticking with the *Herald*.
Pete Treichel
Gidgegannup

Continued on Page 7.

The Toodyay Herald invites you to have your say in our letters page. Please email us at 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, grammar and punctuation.

TOODYAY EMU FARM



Walk amongst "Free Range Emus" in natural bushland

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'Seat warmer' hams it up, Dow gags on August love-in



Geoff Appleby

I HAVE always considered my vocabulary to be adequate by normal standards but had difficulty finding a suitable word to describe last month's Toodyay Shire Council meeting.

It was the last scheduled gathering before the October 21 shire elections – for which ballot papers have been mailed to all electors – and it was mercifully brief, lasting just 45 minutes.

It was also abysmal (I knew the word would come).

This was a great pity because before proceedings got underway, North Ward Cr Brian Rayner set the scene for what could have been an entertaining night.

As the only candidate in his ward, Cr Rayner was declared re-elected unopposed when nominations closed last month.

Seat warmer: Those who follow *Facebook Toodyay Community Forum Have a Chat* which has 3148 members will have seen him described there after the poll was declared as the 'seat-warmer'.

Now, I admire a man with a sense of humour and before Cr Rayner sat down, he removed his jacket and did a slow lap of the council chamber to reveal a large label pinned to his back that read 'seat warmer'.

When another councillor said two big safety pins holding the label might tear holes in the back of his shirt Cr Rayner quipped: "That's alright, I get paid enough here to buy another one."

Well done Brian.

And so on to the meeting which as usual started with public questions.

Feint foiled: Toodyay Progress Association Chair Larry Graham referred to the association's August submission to the WA Local Government Department calling for a formal inquiry into the Toodyay Shire Council to investigate alleged evidence of dysfunction and maladministration.

He queried President David Dow's statement in the ratepayer-funded *Toodyay Community*

Newsletter that the shire had "reviewed the list of complaints and we totally reject the claims".

Mr Graham asked how the shire's decision to reject the claims was reached and where was it recorded in shire minutes.

President Dow answered that local government law allowed councillors to meet behind closed doors.

Mr Graham responded that council decisions made behind closed doors were required by law to be publicly disclosed and recorded.

President Dow then revealed there was no council decision to reject the association's claims and that his public statement about the shire's response was his own personal opinion.

If that was the case, why not just say so in the first place instead of trying to fudge the answer with talk about meeting behind 'closed doors'?

Out of hand: Our shire leader looked just as uncomfortable when asked why more than \$7500 was spent on three nights' accommodation at a four-star Perth hotel for a WA Local Government Association conference for which he and Cr Rayner were nominated at the April council meeting as voting delegates, with President Dow's wife, Cr Judy Dow, and Cr Rob Welburn as proxy voting delegates.

It's worth mentioning here that the WA Local Government Association is a sort of private club for councillors – it's not part of government and has no power to do anything except make policies, lobby politicians and provide training courses on things like financial management, council decision-making and how to avoid answering pesky media questions by 'staying on message'.

President Dow revealed that all bar one councillor (Cr Sally Craddock) went to Perth for the annual love-in and when he saw the cost afterwards thought "gee – this is getting out of hand".

You said it brother.

Did anyone not think when staying there that seven Toodyay councillors plus shire CEO Stan Scott spending three nights for free at a posh Perth hotel might cost a few grand and raise a few eyebrows?

Instead of punishing this newspaper for exposing shire largesse on the council 'gravy train', how about first having a good hard look at how easily Toodyay ratepayers' hard-earned

dollars seems to get spent on councillor perks in a near-deficit budget year?

The final council agenda before this month's shire elections was predictably light-on for substance and – apart from standard procedural stuff – contained only three items of substantial business.

Tick 'n' flick: The list of monthly shire payments was lumped together with several other items for approval without discussion, including payment of nearly \$50,000 to 25 out-of-town suppliers of goods and services for Toodyay's annual International Food Fair during the Avon Descent river race in August.

A total of \$21,000 spent on the local government conference in Perth was also passed without discussion, with an undisclosed amount of partner expenses to be reimbursed to the shire, presumably for meals, bar fridge, etc..

Toilet wall: Having approved a concept design in June for a mural to grace the shire's new public toilet wall in Charcoal Lane, community input was sought and reviewed at last month's council forum.

I'm not quite sure what happened along the way but when it came back to council last month, the main recommendation was to proceed with developing a 'public arts' policy while continuing to work with Toodyay Tidy Towns to develop the mural.

This shire administration develops more policies that I've had hot breakfasts but you'd think they would do the policy first, then the mural, so that it conforms to the new requirements.

Don't be surprised if – as with last year's inordinate delays for the town's long-awaited entry statement – nothing gets done until next year because we still have to have more community input on final mural designs and then find a suitable artist.

Heritage ban: Planning approval for a new house in Herbert Street was rejected without discussion 7-0 (Cr Paula Greenway absent) because it failed to meet shire heritage restrictions, and retrospective approval for a sea container in Morangup was deferred 7-0 to next month after Cr Rayner said it was next to a shed that might also lack planning permission.

Last Supper: The unusually short meeting ended at 4.45pm when councillors went

'behind closed doors' for their usual free feed which President Dow and Deputy President Therese Chitty might have prayed was not a Last Supper before this month's shire elections.

Good luck to them and Cr Greenway, who also faces the polls.

Herald invests \$10,000 in community groups

The Toodyay Herald (Inc)
Heather Appleby

YOUR LOCAL newspaper has in effect donated almost \$10,000 back to the community during the last financial year.

This is the value of discounts offered to local not-for-profit to community organisations to advertise in the *Herald*.

Had we charged full price for those ads, our profit last year would have been \$11,000.

Our actual profit was just over \$1300 which, taking into account high IT costs, was a good result.

The *Herald* is a not-for-profit community organisation run by volunteers and is very proud of this record – it is a clear demonstration of our commitment to support local community groups.

Our recent AGM saw last year's committee re-elected for the next 12 months, with one vacancy filled by Meredith Neilsen.

Editor Michael Sinclair-Jones advised the meeting that the *Herald* had submitted four entries to this month's annual WA Media Awards.

They included news written by Michael, columns written by Bat in the Belfry Geoff Appleby, profiles by sub-editor Ieva Tomsons and a story jointly written by acting editor Roger Simms and Geoff Appleby in May, with graphics by Sandra Harms.

Yearly membership of The Toodyay Herald (Inc) is available to readers for \$10 and will increase from 1 July 2018 to \$15, or \$12 for concession card holders.

For information and membership forms, please ring the secretary on 0419 906 083 or email secretary@toodyayherald.com.au.



Di Granger
CENTRAL WARD

As your Councillor

I will listen.

I will facilitate effective conversations.

I will make sound decisions.

I will provide feedback on issues that impact you.

How to Vote

This Council election is by
Postal Vote.

When you receive your Postal
Voting Form, please do the
following:



Di Granger

Return by mail in pre-paid
addressed envelope provided or
Hand deliver to the Shire Office (15
Fiennes Street, Toodyay) before
6pm, 21st October 2017.

SHIRE OF TOODYAY LOCAL GOVERNMENT POSTAL ELECTION

"I've got what it takes"

I will provide the communication, leadership and governance we all deserve

I support an accountable and progressive Council

- I will be accountable for decisions and actions that affect the public purse. This is not negotiable - it is a given.
- I will make sound financial decisions. I'm pretty sure none of us would mind our rates increasing if we could see 'bang for our buck'.
- I will be relentless in determining how our money is spent and to review decisions that are not conducive to community well-being.
- I will seek to ensure all Shire strategic plans are meaningful and progressive, and easily measured for success.

I support local business

- I will strive towards reducing 'red tape' to assist existing business and those that wish to create business to be able to do so.
- I will support a framework where industry and agriculture co-exist, but this must meet community and environmental expectations.
- I will encourage micro and other unique business opportunities to enable Toodyay to grow and remain viable.
- I will look for innovative ways that create opportunity for young people to stay in our town.

I support a socially responsible community

- I will continue to work with the community and relevant bodies to keep the AVONLINK TRAIN SERVICE. Earlier this year, as Chair of the support group I lobbied State Government to keep it on the tracks. The continuation of this service creates many opportunities into the future for business operators, commuters, visitors and locals.
- I strongly support a SWIMMING POOL. Why don't we have a swimming pool? We should have one, we will have one. I will ask the questions, like a dog with a bone until I get the answers to determine the state of play with this long-standing issue. Once resolved, I will be relentless in getting it costed, funded and built! There are so many benefits to this crucial asset: mums and bubs, toddler safety, school carnivals, regional swim-meets, swim clubs, wellness (hydro-therapy) and aged mobility activities.

I'm a writer, trainer, facilitator, coach and small business owner.
I have run a successful consultancy (Lifelong Learning) for
25 years, predominantly in the corporate world. I am currently
doing a contracted piece of work for State government.



Contact Di Granger
Email: di.granger@lifelonglearning.com.au
Web: lifelonglearning.com.au
Di Granger - Candidate for Central Ward Toodyay



Di Granger CENTRAL WARD

If you want change, VOTE!

Drink, drugs and crashes keep police on toes

Police Beat

With Sgt Warren Conder
Toodyay Police Station



DRUG raids on four Toodyay properties last month resulted in more than 20 charges against about a dozen people.

The biggest raid was at a rural property in Morangup where a cannabis crop weighing a total of about 4kg was found in a shed and greenhouse fitted with hydroponic equipment.

Drug material seized included a large number of cannabis plants in several big hessian bags, smaller snaplock plastic bags containing measured quantities of dried cannabis, small bottles of cannabis resin, scales, smoking implements, growing equipment and cash.

"The offender was declared in court as a drug trafficker and the case is ongoing," Toodyay police chief Sgt Warren Conder said.

Three other local raids netted smaller amounts of cannabis, methamphetamines and drug use equipment such as pipes.

The drug raids were as the result of information received from the public, and further inquiries are continuing.

"We encourage anyone with information that might help stop drug trafficking in our local community to call us," Sgt Conder said.

Drivers drug swiped

AN INTENSIVE police drug swipe campaign was conducted on local roads in the third week of September.



A suspected drunk driver had to be cut from his car which slammed into a tree in Coondle.

"We did 53 drug swipes on drivers at random road stops all over the shire and got five positive results for methamphetamines and cannabis," Sgt Conder said.

Drug swipes involve police using a mouth swab to obtain a small sample of saliva to test for traces of illicit drugs.

Unlike with drink driving where motorists are allowed to drive with less than .05 of alcohol in their blood, it is an offence to drive with any quantity of an illegal drug in your body.

During August, police stopped a total of 785 motorists for random drink and drug tests on local roads, and issued six infringement notices for speeding and 20 cautions.

"People often complain about being stopped for a random breath test on a Sunday

morning when they think nobody would be drink driving," Sgt Conder said.

"But you'd be surprised how often people are still over the limit next morning after few drinks the previous night.

"As an officer of the law who has seen many gruesome fatalities, I make no excuse for that.

"I make no excuse for taking a few minutes of their time for a breath test if it means another traumatic death can be avoided.

"I just ask people to be patient."

145km/h car seized

A LOCAL man caught doing 145km/h in a 100km/h zone had his 4WD vehicle seized by police.

"When stopped, most people say they didn't know they were speeding, some give an excuse and some say nothing," Sgt Conder said.

"However, that's no excuse when people are clocked doing well above the speed limit.

"In particular, we see lots of drivers flogging through the 60km/h zone in Gidgegannup, which will lead to fines and demerit points.

Crushed on impact

A MOTORIST returning home from a friend's house had to be cut from his car by Toodyay Fire and Rescue Service volunteers after he lost control on a bend and wrapped his car sideways around a tree.

The man aged in his late 50s who police suspect had been drinking turned right from Julimar Road into Coondle West Road and lost control of his car on a sweeping bend.

"He lost control, veered across the road, tipped the car up and slammed sideways into a tree," Sgt Conder Said.

"Fortunately he was travelling alone

because the passenger seat was totally compressed by the roof—anyone sitting there would have been instantly crushed to death. "He was airlifted to Royal Perth Hospital with serious but not life-threatening injuries, including to his head.

Another car went off the same bend from the opposite side the day before and ended up in a paddock.

"I know we keep saying this, but for goodness sake please take more care when driving because we don't want to have to keep seeing dead and maimed bodies being cut out of cars."

Historic cottage vandalised

POLICE are seeking public help to find offenders who tried to jimmy open a door at historic Parker's Cottage at the Toodyay Showgrounds last month.

The cottage was built in the late 1880s and is on the Shire of Toodyay heritage register.

The offenders also kicked in some wall rendering and damaged an externally mounted air-conditioning unit.

"Unfortunately, it's a dark area and there are no gates," Sgt Conder said.

"However, if anyone saw or sees anything that looks suspicious in that area could they please call Toodyay police on 9574 9555, Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000 or Toodyay shire rangers on 9574 4555 (including after hours).

Parcel post is a computer scam

Toodyay Community Safety and Crime Prevention Association
Desraé Clarke

AUSPOST is one of the current scams coming through on the computer, advising that a "parcel is waiting to be collected".

It may be addressed to you personally, as happened recently to my husband Wayne, or as an open email.

The email requests users to click on the links to "print your shipping label for tracking" – don't do it.

WAScamNet has been notified of a variety of email addresses used and when one of the emails with a Queensland address was checked, it was tracked to Denmark.

Do not open these emails and do not click any links.

Related scams include impersonation of government officers, prize notifications and pleas for urgent assistance.

Toodyay Police can be contacted on 9574 9995 and Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000.



Measured quantities of cannabis and drug paraphernalia seized by police.

What do older kids do in cyber space?

Computer Safety
Phil Hart

TEENAGERS can sometimes face an uphill task when it comes to learning to use the internet safely and effectively.

While the issue of sexting is on everybody's minds, recent research by the Australian Institute of Criminology suggests this may be more of a perception than a fact. To read more about sexting and young people visit bit.ly/2bVPkTg.

The key issue for teenagers is to be aware of the consequences of a relationship breaking down.

There is also the question of the legality of some of the images being held on their devices.

High school students can be tempted to

copy material from the internet and pass it off as their own work. They can also be tempted to copy from other students.

Both of these are forms of plagiarism, and teachers are very good at spotting this.

Apart from plagiarism being a form of dishonesty, such students need to ask themselves if they have genuinely learned anything about the subject.

Quoting a source and crediting it properly should always attract extra marks.

Any personal identifiers such as debit card or mobile phone numbers should only be disclosed on the internet with all due caution.

Any email that asks for personal identifiers is an attempt to cause harm.

Some web sites have an age restriction.

Facebook does not allow anybody under the age 13 to use it. It is always worth checking for age restrictions.

Computer games can be very tempting for teenagers but downloading and installing lots of them can cause problems.

Such games can clog up computers, causing them to slow down to a crawl or even stop working altogether.

Some games are infected with 'malware', so it pays to have your anti-virus protection up to date.

Downloading a handful of games is usually quite okay.

Teenagers can also access general advice about protecting themselves on the internet. The Federal Government has a Stay Smart Online web site at bit.ly/2cD5pfr.

The Government of Victoria has a Web & Social Safety site at bit.ly/2t7UfpO.
Happy surfing.

YOGA

Wednesday 4pm
Friday 9am

Sally
9574 4184

Toodyay
Community Centre
During School Terms

TOODYAY

MRB 2339

Tyre Service

New 4X4, Truck,
Motorbikes &
Tractor

Repairs
Exhausts
Balancing
Suspensions
Wheel Alignment

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Stirling Tce

9574 4499

tyres1@inet.net.au

State shirks landfill debacle

Continued from Page 1.

TOODYAY Road traffic safety “would have formed part of the planning application which was considered and approved by the Shire of Toodyay in 2016”, the State Government spokesperson said.

However, there is no evidence that adding hundreds of tonnes of heavy haulage to what the RAC this year called WA’s fourth most dangerous country road was considered by any level of government when planning and environmental approvals were granted.

The shire initially rejected the landfill bid but was overruled on appeal to the State Administrative Tribunal because Opal Vale applied for the Chitty Road site before local planning laws were amended to ban landfill.

The company had six months to obtain works approval from the former Department of Environment Regulation (DER), which was granted despite objections on the last day, just hours before that deadline expired.

Opponents claim the DER faced extreme political and commercial pressure to agree to let large volumes of metropolitan rubbish generated by Perth’s growing population be dumped in Toodyay because of a previous Liberal government ban on new landfill sites on the Swan Coastal Plain.

Opal Vale repeatedly breached groundwater

protection standards after getting approval to build the \$3 million tip but the DER agreed to the company’s request to overlook these failures despite ongoing public objections.

In State Parliament last month, local WA Nationals MP Shane Love held up photos of the waterlogged Chitty Road landfill site from last month’s *Herald* Page 3 and said:

“Today I received an email from a constituent. I will read it out. These are his words, not mine. This is a feeling that people have in the area. He states:

“Would they (MPs) be aware that a cowboy outfit with a dodgy environmental record is set to make a fast buck from dumping millions of tonnes of rotting Perth garbage in a fragile Hills ecosystem because there is no coherent State waste management policy?”

“Or put another way, what modern capital city in the world has no waste management plan?”

Local opponents have lodged fresh objections claiming that Opal Vale’s breaches of environmental safety standards demonstrate that it can’t be trusted to dump large volumes of rotting rubbish at the site, which is only 900m from Jimperding Brook.

They also claim the company is in breach of groundwater monitoring conditions set under the terms of shire planning approval.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4.

Men’s Shed salutes Hector

HECTOR Ross was a great grumpy guy who sped through the streets of Toodyay on his gopher to find friends and engage with them.

For many years he was a member of the Toodyay Men’s Shed and provided the shed with numerous little ‘ditties’ about his life in the pastoral industry.

Many people may not know that Hector was a great fisherman and loved the Pilbara’s ocean and rivers, to the extent that he lived in the north for many years.

Hector and his beloved Lucia came to Toodyay with a passion for life and they developed a working farm with tractors and other machinery to keep the farm going and, of course, he made his famous tippie.

Then came the accident; our friend had a bingle with a tractor and developed an infection which turned into a serious complaint with Hector losing part of his legs and fingers. Did he falter?

You betta believe he did not. His tenacity for life was such that he said: “So what, I have other limbs to help me, I can cope.”

Hector and Lucia bought a ‘home alone’; a bigger and better than a caravan rig, and ventured together to further fields.

Even with Hector and his disabilities, Lucia has shared everything and loved this man along the way.

From our men at the Toodyay Men’s Shed we salute you Hector. You have given us the guidance to continue and you will live on in our memories.

Jeff Roberts
Chairman, Toodyay Men’s Shed

Communication breakdown

APPARENTLY, due to the undulating terrain, the existing Optus mobile phone tower in Julimar has difficult or void areas of telecommunications within only a kilometre.

In other words – hills block the mobile phone signal.

It therefore stands to reason the proposed Telstra tower in Julimar on an even lower site and with elevated land to the north and south, will have much the same problem.

In places it will simply depend on which company you are with as to whether you will get through or not, if at all.

If we must have another tower it should be put in an optimum position for the widest coverage to avoid people screaming for yet another down the track.

Atop the hill, on cleared land adjacent to the property where the silver colossus of an NBN tower already blights the landscape, would be a good choice.

Lessons should have been learnt from the Optus tower.

An isolated Telstra customer in dire straits will needlessly suffer – or worse – due to the poor positioning of the Telstra tower.

As for emergency services, a satellite phone with each vehicle would be the most effective way of relieving all fears of telecommunications ‘black spots’.

R Barker
Toodyay

Home schooling group gets out and about

Avon Valley Home Educators
Sharon Pegrum

AT THE beginning of this year, First Steps Montessori was given a new life as Avon Valley Home Education Collective Inc.

With community interest in Montessori waning, home schooling families took over the group to create a new support network.

The playgroup has evolved into a home schooling group over the past nine months.

Toodyay has a large number of families that have chosen to school their children at home for a variety of reasons.

Towns such as Northam and York, and smaller outlying towns also have home schooling families which can remain isolated, and the group aims to bring these families together to support each other.

The aim through organised events and casual meetings is to provide a welcoming space for all families educating their children at home, and those considering in future.

Home schooling in a rural area can be isolating if you are unable to find nearby families and many drive long distances for both activities and socialising.

The group aims to provide these opportunities closer to home and grow a thriving community.

For families considering home schooling it can be beneficial to speak to others who are already walking the path.

During the first half of this year the group met casually at Duidgee Park but numbers dropped off during winter.

With the spring weather, the group is back up and running.

Members recently met in York for the first time and there are several meetings and excursions planned throughout the Avon Valley and Wheatbelt

By varying locations outside Toodyay, the group hopes to be able to provide events that can be accessed by a larger number of families throughout the region.

Families in the area are welcome to attend any of the meetings which are published on the group’s Facebook site: Avon Valley/Wheatbelt Home Educators.

The Facebook group has more than 60 members and allows families to have a say in what they would like from the group.

Contact the Facebook site Avon Valley Home Educators, ring president Sharon Pegrum on 0466 430 979 or visit avonvalleyhomeeducation.wordpress.com.



RUSSELL MORRIS



LIVE at the



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November 10th 2017
Doors open 6pm

ARIA Award Winner 2016
Best Blues Roots Album
“Red Dirt Red Heart”
Aria Hall of Fame inductee,
#1 selling Platinum artist,
King of Pop, Australian Icon!
A few phrases commonly
used when describing
Aussie legend Russell
Morris. Shooting to fame in
the middle 60’s with
Somebody’s Image, Russell
had a string of hits
including Hush and the Bob
Dylan classic Baby Blue.
In 1969 he and producer
Molly Meldrum released
“The Real Thing”, Australia’s
only true psychedelic #1 hit.
Following that, Russell
penned breakthrough hits
such as; Sweet Sweet Love,
Wings of an Eagle, Rachel,
Part 3 into Paper Walls, The
Girl That I Love and many
more...

#1 on the Australian Blues
Radio Charts, Russell won the
2013 ARIA award for Best
Blues n Roots album for
Sharkmouth.
The first of a trilogy of albums
re-telling some amazing
stories in Australia’s distant
past covering great Australian
characters and stories
including Breaker Morant,
Sandakan, and the Eureka
Stockade.



\$128
per person
including
3 course meal

Limited tickets available and selling out fast,
call (08) 9574 6255 to book now!

2927 TOODYAY ROAD GIDGEGANNUP

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Julimar 2-4 this is Coondle 1-4, Roger FCO

Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Julimar

Grant Scobie

NOWADAYS we use the telephone as an extension of our hands but it wasn't always like that.

Can anyone remember what it was like to have to wait until you got home to use the phone? What about the time before answering machines or voicemail?

Today, in the fire brigade we have SMS messages telling us that there's a fire, where it is and who is to turn out.

Not so long ago, it was a siren in town.

It was some years before the first radios came to be used on the fireground and they were huge cumbersome things, taking up a good part of the front seat of a Landrover – there were no Landcruisers back then either.

Mobile aerials needed to be specially made for the conditions and they were about two metres long, made using a fibreglass fishing rod wound with copper wire and tuned to the allocated frequency using a Standing Wave Ratio (SWR) meter.

The base station aerial was a vertical Marconi mast mounted on the roof of a house in Julimar, meaning that more area was covered than with a conventional horizontal aerial.

The West Ward Radio Group was made up of brigade members not necessarily from the same brigade, which allowed them access to the frequency as well as giving a name to put on the receipts.

Having this sort of communication was a revelation as fires could now talk to each other as well as to a base.

Gradually, radios became the norm and, with the release of the airwaves to Citizens Band (CB) radio enthusiasts, farmers began to install Ultra High Frequency (UHF) radios in their vehicles.

Eventually, the bushfire brigades were

formed and they and shires were granted access to the Very High Frequency (VHF) bandwidth.

This has since been split into mid-band VHF (70 – 87.5MHz) and high-band VHF (148 – 174MHz); we now mainly use the high-band variant, utilising channels specifically licensed to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.

We also use UHF so we can contact farmers and others who do not have access to the VHF radios or frequencies.

We are also taught how to speak on the radio.

The first thing we learn is the use of call signs and in which order to use them – “Julimar 2-4, this is Coondle 1-4” (see my story in the September 2017 issue of

The Toodyay Herald about the naming conventions of the vehicles) or even, “Julimar Captain, this is FCO Smith” (FCO is Fire Control Officer).

We then use different words such as over, out, roger etc to shorten sentences and make the airwaves available for the next caller.

Many newcomers to the brigades are quite shy about using the radio, wondering whether they will make fools of themselves if they say the wrong thing or use the wrong terminology.

But when it comes down to it, it's all about communication – the information that needs to be sent – so we can talk normally, too. As long as the message gets through.

But if a user makes the fatal mistake of saying “over and out” at the end that will

inevitably receive the response: “That's a carton,” from someone on the fireground.

Over means over to you; your turn to speak; this conversation is still going on; out means “I'm outta here; the airwaves are free for other users”. “That's a carton” means exactly what it says.

Apparently, communications would have helped a lot when the Julimar 2-4 boat competed in the recent Recycled Regatta.

Apart from getting everyone paddling together, it seems paddling in the right direction was a difficulty as the ‘truck’ crossed the finishing line in reverse.

The fire shed at Julimar is always open on Friday evening from about 5.30pm onwards with supper and drinks on hand. Come on down and communicate with the crew.



Morangup crew turn out for training and equipment check-up, with 2.4 tanker (right).

Finance approved for new Coondle fire station

Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Coondle-Nunile

Max J Heath

HI THERE from the Coondle-Nunile fire shed.

It has been an interesting month as dry weather has meant that ground litter is a lot dryer than expected for this time of year, leading to a couple of call outs early in the season.

We had our monthly meeting on September 9 and this started off with Community Emergency Services Manager Rob Koch giving us a rundown on the progress of our new equipment.

Finance has been approved for the new Coondle fire station and the surveyors have already been on site.

The final lease agreements should be completed by the time this goes to print and apparently tenders could even be called before Christmas.

There was some discussion about the design and the brigade requested some minor alterations.

Also confirmed is the new 3-4 urban fire unit to replace our older 2-4.

The 3-4 units are set up to be capable of

handling structural fires as well as bushfires.

The meeting was brief but a few interesting things came up.

The yearly roster was released and as we are down in numbers this year we will man units as best we can.

Apparently, we have a couple of new members awaiting training and as soon as they have completed this they will be added to the roster under the care of the lieutenants.

In training Kevin Bowen instructed on oxygen delivery therapy and draughting (filling water tanks for auxiliary supply), among other topics.

Coondle-Nunile member Jane Taylor is setting up a Facebook page for our brigade. We are hoping this will give some of you out there the incentive to join a brigade – preferably ours.

We are losing a good conscientious member in Aaron McVery as he is moving to Ellenbrook to live and members gathered at a barbecue to send Aaron on his way and wish him all the best.

On a sadder note, we would like to offer Richard and Jacqui Broadwood our condolences on the loss of Richard's mother.

Please check fire breaks and prepare your property for a safe fire season.

More dead sheep investigated

THE RSPCA is investigating new allegations of animal cruelty against a local sheep farmer who was fined \$50,000 and ordered to pay \$20,000 in costs for starving 300 sheep on a Toodyay property in 2014.

The latest inquiry follows reports of unshorn flyblown sheep and bodies in a paddock in Gidgegannup.



Sheep carcass in Toodyay paddock.

Owner Clinton Wheatley pleaded guilty to the 2014 offence in the Perth Magistrate's Court last July.

It followed reports of “unnatural piles of bodies” on Mr Wheatley's Racecourse Road property, prompting a rescue operation by shire rangers and a local farmer.

The court gave Mr Wheatley four years' conditional probation to reduce his flock and have his sheep undergo monthly assessments by an animal husbandry expert.

It followed a previous conviction in Geraldton for cruelty to sheep 17 years ago.

The RSPCA confirmed last month that it is investigating the latest animal cruelty allegation.

Mistreatment of livestock and other animals can be reported to the RSPCA animal cruelty hotline on 1300 278 3859.

Toodyay Shire Council Elections OCTOBER 21 2017



East Ward

VOTE



**Therese
Chitty**

As your Councillor

My focus will continue to be the improvement of sport and recreation facilities. Adequate facilities are vital to attracting and retaining families in Toodyay. I currently serve on the Committee of Butterfly Cottages. I am keen to continue helping the senior citizens in our community. I am also a passionate supporter of our farming and business communities. I strongly oppose the Opal Vale waste site and believe Bauxite mining should not occur in Toodyay or surrounding areas.

I have strong family connections to our community where I have raised six children, who all attended Toodyay District High school. I was active on School Council holding executive positions on the P&C throughout those years. I also helped run many of the sporting organisations in town as the children were growing up and I continue to do so.

Currently, as well as being the Deputy Shire President I help run our farming business with my husband Rod, work part time at the Toodyay Dental Clinic and enjoy playing sport.

Authorised by Therese Chitty - 5047 Toodyay Road, Toodyay WA 6566

Votes in reply-paid envelopes must reach the Returning Officer by
6pm on Saturday October 21.

EMERGENCY SERVICES



From left: Brian Allen, Captain Jeff Venn and Keiko Allen reeling out the hose.

Permits now needed if you want to keep burning

**Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Morangup**
Sue Maddrell

OCTOBER is the start of permit burning and if you haven't already tidied up around your property, get stuck into it now.

Pruning and slashing are good alternatives to burning but if you really need to burn an area then you should contact Fire Mitigation Officer Greg Warburton for a permit.

The brigade has responded to several out-of-control burns in the past month.

Even in winter you need to have water on hand in case your fire gets away.

There is information on the Department of Fire and Emergency Services website called Winter Burning Guide; a bit late now you might think, but there is still some useful information in it.

The Morangup brigade will hold its usual fundraising stall at the Toodyay Agricultural

Show on October 7 and this year, apart from jams and pickles, we have lovely light knitted scarves, homemade tea-light candle holders and other crafts made by Leoni and the Morangup Social Group.

Morangup residents can drop off donations for the stall at the fire station on Friday October 6 between 5-8pm. Please ring Sharon on 9574 7012 if you have any questions. If you are coming to the show, do drop by our stall and have a look.

It was decided to have our annual Christmas barbecue for the Morangup community a little earlier than usual on Saturday November 25 at 6pm.

The brigade meets on the third Saturday of each month and for those who just want to come and have a look, there are usually vollies down at the station most Saturday mornings, or ring our captain Jeff Venn on 0417 714 798 with any queries.

Volunteers are always welcome.

New bush fire group to defend Majestic Heights

**Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Toodyay Central**
Mick McKeown

DURING September members of Central Brigade have been busy with training and turn outs.

A joint training exercise with Toodyay Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) and St John Ambulance was held early in the month.

Central was responsible for extinguishing a car fire and providing water supply to FRS while FRS rescued 'casualties' from an overturned bus and St John provided first aid and treatment.

The exercise was very successful and provided a great opportunity for volunteers from the three organisations to not only work together but also to get to know each other.

The exercise was followed by a sausage sizzle provided by St John Ambulance which was a very hospitable gesture – many thanks.

Central members also spent a Sunday morning training for fire fighting in areas where closely settled housing meets the bush. These areas are referred to as the Rural Urban Interface or RUI for those who like their three-letter acronyms.

The training focused on how bush fire brigades can protect houses and other assets that are under threat from impending bushfire.

At home we should all now be working to make sure our firebreaks are in order before November 1. Firebreak notices have been sent out by the shire but if you have not received one or have mislaid it, the information can be found on the Shire of Toodyay website.

The shire does not require you to create and maintain firebreaks just as a way of annoying you – firebreaks are essential so that you and bushfire brigades can defend your property if it comes under threat from a bushfire.

Meanwhile, a Bushfire Ready Group has been formed in the area of Acacia Close, Adenanthus Road, Broadgrounds Place, Drummond Drive, Fargo Way, Harvester Drive, Hatfield Road, Hemiandra Place,

Hibbertia Place, Hovea Way, Pindi Place, Racecourse Road, Sandplain Road, Sesselis Road, Smokebush Way, Stirlingia Drive and Wandoo Circle.

For further information on Bushfire Ready Groups please contact John Hansen via email, 2jbushfireready@gmail.com.

If you are interested in finding out more about our brigade, or if you would like to join our brigade, please get in touch with our captain, Mick McKeown 0439 998 808 or our secretary, Karen Hansen 0408 683 790.

Boy scout time

**Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Bejoording**
From the desk of The Badger

IT'S THAT time of year again when we must plan for the hot dry summer and all the things we hope it doesn't bring.

Time to remember the Boy Scout's motto – be prepared.

On the domestic front we must ensure our firebreaks comply, so get out there with whatever weeding method you prefer, fill in the winter rain gullies that can trap a vehicle tyre, cut the overhanging branches and so on.

You have all received advice from the shire so be ready to be inspected.

Fortunately, it's been a very quiet winter on the fire front with very few call outs but after a mild winter and wet start to spring fuel will build up in native bush areas, and on residential blocks, so we can't be complacent.

The Bejoording brigade would welcome any new volunteers but we would be particularly keen to get another driver with the appropriate heavy vehicle licence. This would help to spread the roster load.

Our next regular meeting is at 6pm, at the shed, on Tuesday October 24.

If you have any questions remember you can contact captain Barry Grey on 9574 2149, or The Badger on 9574 4834.

Please leave a message if we're not there.



VOTE



Benjamin Bell East Ward

Benjamin Bell
Candidate for
East Ward Toodyay



Time to make some changes!

Authorised by Benjamin Bell

**Join us for coffee, cake and a chat at the campaign office
next door to the IGA Toodyay**

We're here Saturdays and Sundays between 10am and 2pm until the 15th October 2017

Contact Benjamin Bell on **0467 770 016** or email: ben2j@hotmail.com

President's Pen smudges response to inquiry call

Toodyay Progress Association
Larry Graham, Chair

IN THE PRESIDENT'S PEN part of last month's Shire of Toodyay community newsletter, Cr David Dow said "The shire has reviewed the list of complaints and we totally reject the claims made by the TPA (Toodyay Progress Association)".

Further on he alleged that "while the timing of the TPA's request is unfortunate with little or no prospect of a finding prior to the October elections, at least the next council will be able to operate with a clean slate when it comes to past events."

When questioned about his comments at last month's council meeting, Cr Dow pointed out that this was a personal opinion, the shire had not formally reviewed "the list of complaints" as he had claimed in the shire newsletter and he also confirmed that the council had not considered the matter.

He also produced no evidence to support his allegations that there was some connection between the current shire elections and the timing of our call for a Local Government Department inquiry.

That is because there is no evidence.

The timing of our request for an inquiry is entirely due to delaying tactics adopted by the council.

Each of these matters could have been dealt with months ago if prompt and accurate answers had been provided when we began seeking information last February.

Since our inception we have repeatedly said that the TPA is not concerned with who is in office because what we are about is behavioural change – not regime change.

We will continue to conduct ourselves professionally regardless of who is in office.

The other leg of the President's 'defence' against an inquiry is the flawed 'Council At Risk' process, which he cited from a report tabled in State Parliament in August.

These council risk assessments are so hopelessly out-dated that new State laws have been introduced to give the WA Auditor General powers to do pretty much what the TPA is asking for in Toodyay.

That says it all really, but the Shire President's rejection of our call for an inquiry is not at all important because we did not ask the council to do anything.

The Director General of the Local Government Department is the person empowered by law to inquire into councils, and our request – supported by hard evidence – went to him.

Having cleared up all that diversionary nonsense, shire council elections are now underway and this association encourages everybody to vote.

The unfortunate history of local government

elections is that low voter turnouts (29.9 per cent in Toodyay last time) and a first-past-the-post voting system mean that nobody elected can claim any meaningful electoral legitimacy.

Where there are three or more candidates, the one least preferred by most voters can still win because – unlike in State and Federal elections – there is no ability for the other candidates to receive second preference votes.

The best we can hope for is that those elected will understand they have simply won a licence to consult with the community.

It is important to also note here that councillors are no longer unpaid volunteers giving freely of their time – they are now well-paid, albeit part time, professionals and that fact alone means community expectations should be higher.

Those higher standards are being reflected in the campaigns to date; there are some very good ones being run and there are interesting contests underway.

We should not expect saints, geniuses or perfectionists on council, nor do we want petty tyrants; we expect people to put themselves forward to act solely in the interest of the community.

So, who we should vote for?

If you think the town is being run well, you should vote for those councillors currently holding office.

If you hold a different view and want change, there is still the difficult decision of who to actually vote for.

Not knowing the Local Government Act (It can be obtained from slp.wa.gov.au) guarantees failure as a councillor; as does thinking local government is like running a business.

You can check all this with candidates and, if they don't return your calls, don't vote for them.

Candidates need to understand that being elected does not always mean being popular – it means being open, honest and prepared to actively seek out community views and input on issues.

That can mean controversy, scrutiny, having to listen to views you may disagree with, making hard decisions and sometimes getting things wrong.

Those who cannot handle dealing with the public in this way do not belong in public life.

The reward for those elected will be the very rare privilege of being part of the only decision-making body that can drive improvement in our town.

The TPA wishes all candidates well.

For what it is worth, my vote will go to someone who is prepared to assertively oversight the administration, follow policy, engage confidently with the community, return rates to pre-2013 levels, reduce councillor payments to pre-2013 levels and get us a swimming pool.

And as always, we point out that we are an apolitical, not-for-profit public advocacy group that will not be running or endorsing candidates in council elections and we can be contacted at toodyaypa@gmail.com.



Toodyay Community Resource Centre volunteers having a blast at the Inaugural Recycled Regatta. Photo: Bonnie Axon

Spectacular fun on the Avon

Toodyay Community Resource Centre
Gale Anderson

WHAT a spectacular and colourful fleet it was that paddled its way down the river from Newcastle Bridge to Duidgee Park on a beautiful sunny spring day.

Spectators walked the Bilya Track and cheered them on all the way.

It was an hilarious event and a lot of people put in an enormous amount of work to create an awesome array of rafts.

A big thank you to all who assisted, sponsored and supported our inaugural Recycled Regatta.

The sponsors were: Lotterywest, Healthways, RoadWise, Bendigo Bank, Toodyay Op Shop, Bottlemart, Makit Hardware, Toodyay Herald, Toodyay St John Ambulance and the Shire of Toodyay.

The Blessing of the Fleet was undertaken by Peggy and Brian with the race starter being the Bendigo Bank Pig.

Toodyay Tidy Towns had the difficult job of judging.

Thanks go to all the volunteers: Captain Extraordinaire Alan Axon, Bonnie Axon, Ginny Rafferty, John Smart, Lenny Anderson, Zonelle and Zac Raye, Debra Andrijich, Stan Scott, Roz Davidson, Miska Madacsi, Anthony for the tug-of-war rope, Ashley Grundy for lending the safety boat and the Toodyay Community Resource Centre staff and committee.

Photographers included Jane Taylor, JT Photography, Gary Walton, David Cornforth and Sarah Birnie.

Food was supplied by the CWA and the Lions Club.

Congratulations to all our competitors – The Pinks, African Queen, Peace Be the Journey, Bathing Beauties, White Water Masters, Scout Duckers and the Double Zs.

You were all winners in our eyes but here are our official category winners: First Across the Line, Friends of the River's Polystyrene Team; Best Raft Creation, Pirates of Julimar; Best Sailor's Outfit, The Simpsons; Most-spirited Team, Raft O Slip and, of course, our tug-of-war winners and thong-throwing champions.

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Local farming women marry up with WIFE

Women in Farming Enterprises Toodyay Branch

Alison Wroth, Co-ordinator

AT LAST, after the initial sundowner to gauge interest, a decision was made to defer another gathering until after seeding when jobs settle down a bit on the farm.

Here we are in late September and we have just held our first meeting to decide whether we are going ahead with registering a Women In Farming Enterprises (WIFE) branch for Toodyay or just let the idea pass.

Thankfully, I believe that the eight ladies who made the effort and attended the September 13 meeting made the right decision to forge ahead, get the branch registered and go from there.

The primary role of our Toodyay branch will be to: meet regularly to discuss key business topics; encourage sharing existing knowledge between our members; promote friendship and support through discussion and networking; and to offer members the opportunity to hear guest speakers with possible tours/workshops included.

These are just a few of the roles with which we will attempt to empower the women of our branch, making sure, always, that we are still enjoying and benefitting from our meetings.

Our branch will certainly be different from WIFE in Victoria Plains, Dowerin and the many branches spread throughout the southern area of WA as Toodyay is made up of women coming from not just large farms but hobby farms as well.

I believe we can all benefit from having this knowledgeable support group in town.

If you have any questions about becoming a member of WIFE please contact me on 0437 099 960.

Massive changes bring new challenges

Toodyay Agricultural Alliance
Frank Panizza

THE USUAL unpredictable spring weather has been a feature again this year and late September rain has been a tremendous help for finishing off crops in the shire.

Many farmers are now hoping for at least an average season, though concerns still remain about the yields of canola crops which established late and are patchy in places.

Pastures have still been below average and many farmers are looking at the prospect of a long regime of handfeeding stock over summer.

Toodyay residents not familiar with agriculture often ask me about the health and long-term future of broadacre farming in our shire.

My usual response is that agriculture has gone through some huge changes in the past 150 years but that we are still here.

These massive changes have occurred state-wide, but are no more evident than in Toodyay.

The size of farms has increased massively, mostly as a result of mechanisation. Agriculture and businesses that serviced agriculture employed most of the Toodyay residents for three quarters of a century.

The first use of land for farming in Toodyay was for sheep grazing but as profitability from wool slowly declined after the wool boom caused by the Korean War, cropping has taken over as the major contributor to agricultural production.

Many challenges still face broadacre farmers in our shire today. Urban encroachment, land use conflict, transport issues, government regulation and the split up of farm land for housing all pose future threats to agriculture.

Encouraging younger farmers, both male and female, to see agriculture as a career is also a challenge.



Supplementary feeding in summer will continue for some farmers. Photo: Frank Panizza.

Prime agricultural land is prized by many investors, including those from overseas.

Large tracts of farming land are now in corporate ownership in WA but as yet very little in Toodyay. The corporatisation of farming is a worldwide trend and Toodyay will not be immune to it.

These challenges may not be known in the wider Toodyay community, but are well understood within farming circles and farmers in the shire came together to face the future in October 2014 at a meeting which led to the formation of the Toodyay Agricultural Alliance (Inc.).

Our purpose is simple: to promote, protect and preserve agriculture in Toodyay into the

future and this prompts a timely reminder to our members of our upcoming AGM.

Toodyay Agricultural Alliance (Inc.) will hold its AGM on Tuesday October 17 commencing at 6.30 pm at the Toodyay Club.

Toodyay Shire CEO Stan Scott will be attending as an invited speaker to hear members' concerns relating to the impact of shire policies on local agriculture. Members of the Toodyay Agricultural Alliance are encouraged to attend to discuss matters affecting them with the CEO and other members.

RSVP for catering purposes to toodyayalliance@outlook.com. or ring 0406 585 716.

164th Show is bulging at the seams

Toodyay Agricultural Society
Alison Wroth, Chief Steward

II SEEMS October has arrived with great speed this year, especially if you are on the local Toodyay Agricultural Society Committee.

We have all been saying the right things regarding weather on the show day in the hope that somebody is listening and does the right thing after two, shall we say not the best years weatherwise.

We are fully booked with stalls and a variety of ground-space, so expect a show that is bulging at the seams and ready to

provide you with whatever you want.

This year we have extended our ground-space tents and community stalls further out onto the main oval creating a wonderful walkthrough from the new location of our main stage at the right of the base of the steps onto the oval which will provide the best acoustics.

The show's official opening at 10am is followed by entertainment acts during the day until our rock band Powerhouse kicks in later in the night.

The entertainment list covers a huge variety to attract people of all ages.

We have free activities on the top paved area with the Toodyay Playgroup Kiddies Corner, Mickey J who is the best busker you are likely to see, while Spot Pop Magic will always be roaming the showgrounds performing magic tricks.

On the main stage, entertainment demonstrations begin at 9.15am and continue throughout the day.

Sideshow Alley, Laser Corps, Photo Booth, Baby Animal Farm and camel rides are some of the features that our roving MC is bound to direct you towards.

The entertainment, maintenance of exhibition halls, fireworks and general running of the show – not forgetting the huge



Sideshow Alley is always fun.

amount of prize money we give to winners on the day – is all made possible through the sponsorship of our major sponsors.

Thank you to Toodyay Op Shop, CSBP Northam, Dunnings Fuel, Toodyay Bakery, Toodyay and Districts Bendigo Community Bank, Reece Plumbing and the Shire of Toodyay.

To wind up, don't forget the Toodyay Cricket Club is opening the bar at noon.

Stay with the kids for our auction of produce and trees at 6pm, just before the Austral Fireworks begin at 7.30pm.

See you on the day and – enjoy yourself.



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TOODYAY COUNCIL POSTAL ELECTION

Meet Di Granger Candidate for Central Ward

What's the one single thing that holds a community together?

Communication!

Answer:

Let's chat before you cast your vote.
Join me for a cuppa, cake and conversation.

Saturday 7 Oct: Amy's Cafe 9-10am

Saturday 14 Oct: Pizza Cafe (near IGA) 9-10am

No appointment necessary...just rock up

Authorised by Helen Shanks
6 Lukin Street, Toodyay

Post-war migrants helped build WA

Toodyay Historical Society
Robyn Taylor, President

THE CONTRIBUTION of post-war migrants to WA's culture and economy is something most of us are generally aware of.

However, unless we have had an active involvement with the families and their businesses, or come to deeply appreciate the cultural changes that took place in Australia over the following decades, our awareness can be superficial.

Last month several members attended the annual Affiliated Historical Societies conference hosted by the Wanneroo and Districts Historical Society and what an eye-opener it was.

We learnt about the histories associated with the district on the Saturday followed by an excursion on the Sunday visiting a number of places covered in the talks.

The theme was Wanneroo – Where History Meets Today and speakers talked about early pioneering beginnings that have evolved into major present-day successful industries.

Nick Trandos OAM was born in Kafalari, a small Macedonian farming village. The family had been separated by WWII, then the Greek Civil War, before joining father Dimitrios in North Wanneroo.

Nick and his brothers have earned an international reputation for the high-quality produce from their Trandos Farms. The technology and infrastructure of the huge hydroponic farm in particular was awe-inspiring.

Like Dimitrios, Yoze (Joe) Susac sought a safer life in Wanneroo for his family far away from war-torn Europe.

He worked hard and bought a plot of land before being joined by his family. His son Don Susac talked about the family's move from market gardening to establishing the Susac Lime Kilns, the last active lime-burning kilns in WA.

We also heard a similar story from Paul Conti from the Paul Conti Winery, whose father arrived from Sicily in 1925.

The family worked hard and from 1948 established their renowned wine-making business.

On September 30 members attended the



Sketch of the Toodyay Convict Depot circa 1850s, possibly by Royal Engineer Lieut. Du Cane.

opening of the Toodyay Convict Depot exhibition at the Old Gaol Museum.

A number of our members, including Beth, Alison, and Eva, have been assisting with the creation of profiles of the convicts and ticket-of-leavers who spent time at the hiring depot.

Toodyay and the colony benefitted from the skills and labour many of these men provided.

A number of items have been lent for the displays including our copy of an unsigned sketch of the depot, possibly by Lieutenant Du Cane.

Members are reminded Donegan's Cottage will be open to the public on Saturday October 7 as our contribution to the Toodyay Agricultural Show and Jenny has organised photographic displays and items to interest visitors.

We need at least two members to be on duty inside and outside the cottage; please let our secretary Linda know if you can help.

Our feature speaker for our general meeting starting 7pm on Wednesday October 18 will be member Dr Toby Metcalfe who will be delivering the second part of his talk on Terra Nullius: Cook to Mabo. The meeting will be held at Drummond House, next to the bank. Visitors welcome.

Our end-of-month event will be a sundowner at Connors Mill, Friday October 27, 6-8pm.

Please bring a plate.

For information please contact: Linda, secretary 2j.ths@gmail.com; president Robyn Taylor, rdtaylor@iinet.net.au, 9574 2578 or Beth Frayne, 9574 5971.

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

You can also find us on our website: toodyayhistoricalsociety.org.au/.

Membership is fantastic value at \$10 per annum.



Shelby with a book prize for her detailed drawing of her family.

Shelby draws her family

Toodyay Early Years Network
Clare Withers

THE YEAR One students participated in an art competition to produce a drawing of their family, to be used by the Toodyay Early Years Network.

Congratulations to Shelby whose drawing was chosen to be used on the front of an information pamphlet for the network.

The pamphlet will be available in the very near future to parents of young children in Toodyay.

The local network is a group of parents, and people who work and engage with young children, in Toodyay.

Their aim is to connect families with support services and programs in the Toodyay community.

YOGA

Wednesday 4pm
Friday 9am

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Shire counsels students on good governance

Toodyay District High School
Doug McGhee, Chaplain

TOODYAY District High School prefects were privileged to be hosted by the Toodyay Shire on September 11.

A new exciting partnership has begun with the shire and our prefects, where prefects hold meetings in the shire chambers with shire councillors mentoring our students.

In their first meeting, Rayne McGowan chaired the meeting, with Shire President David Dow sitting beside her, coaching her on formal meeting protocols.

Mr Dow and Toodyay Shire CEO Stan Scott taught our prefects that meeting processes were designed to promote respect and efficiency in the decision-making process of the chambers.

Official minutes from the meeting were taken by Mackenna Cousinery under the guidance of Claire McGowan from the shire.



Shire President David Dow (front) with shire staff, teachers and Toodyay District High School prefects in the shire chambers in Fiennes Street.

After the prefects conducted their meeting on school matters, they were informed of shire matters relating to youth, and were invited to make comments.

"On Monday, September 11 we went to

the Shire of Toodyay. David Dow showed us how to do a professional meeting," Matilda Williams reported.

"It was great and I would love to do it again. I would like to thank all the shire

members that made this possible for us, and most of all Mr Dow.

Late last month 14 brave Toodyay District High School teenagers hopped on the bus to go paintballing at Delta Force in Muchea.

Armed with 600 paintballs each, the Toodyay competitors took on other teams of teenagers. We won our battles comprehensively with great teamwork and by listening to the instructors on the day.

Congratulations to our young people for their positive and trustworthy behaviour – they were a pleasure to be around and the success of the day will ensure future weekend youth events.

We are planning a 'Bounce' excursion next term to celebrate the end of the year.

These events give our young people something exciting to look forward to and bring us together as a community for new adventures.

Weeds up to our armpits

Bejoording Community Group News
From the desk of The Badger

AS SPRING begins we come to the end of another footy season.

As usual in our friendly community every broadcast game this season has been an 'open house' at the home of one family or another. And who can forget the night the Eagles won at the end of extra time?

You could hear the shouting and screaming right across the valley.

It's a true Bejoording tradition and a big thank you to all of you who threw open your sheds, patios or man caves, lit your barbecues and open pit fires, and congenially hosted these enjoyable get-togethers.

Speaking of spring, where is it? After a relatively mild winter it seems that spring

so far has been the winter we didn't have.

Cold, wet and windy best describes the weather up here at present, and a mild winter followed by plenty of rain means weeds up to the armpits, firebreaks that seem to disappear and in places, mud glorious mud.

Let's all hope this weather of extremes doesn't point to one of those exceptionally hot and dry summers.

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.

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



L-R: CWA committee members Pam Meston, Steph Penn and Marion Guthrie enjoy high tea.

Bolgart scones tickle tastebuds

Bolgart Community News
Serena Syred and Nolene Kaszanski

A LOVELY High Morning Tea was enjoyed by 51 ladies at Bolgart Hall on September 19.

Delicious sandwiches, scones and various cakes were served by Bolgart CWA ladies who were joined by branch members from Toodyay, Wongan Hills, Koorunga and Bindoon for this special event. The event raised \$1217 for various charities.

Eleven local CWA ladies enjoyed a bus trip last month to CWA House where they toured the offices and had morning tea with other visiting CWA members. Many thanks to Colin Guthrie for driving the bus.

Sincere sympathy to Vikki, Naomi, Claire, Lara, and Miranda Harrington and families on the sudden loss of Mark Harrington. He leaves behind many memories of cricket, darts and golf. Our thoughts are with the Harrington families.

The local Faction Athletics Carnival was held in Goomalling on September 1 with the Bolgart, Sacred Heart and Goomalling primary schools competing. Even though the weather was dreadful, good sportsmanship was shown by all students. Goomalling Primary School was the overall winner.

The Victoria Plains Small Schools Association's Interscholar Carnival was hosted by Sacred Heart in Goomalling on the September 15.

Schools from Bolgart, Calingiri, Yerecoin, Cadoux, Sacred Heart and Goomalling participated in athletics and team sports.

Congratulations to Bolgart's Josephine Edmonds for coming runner up in the under-nine girls' category.

Bolgart placed third in the Handicap Shield and fourth overall.

Golf news

ON SEPTEMBER 23 we played the mixed Closing Day sponsored by Toodyay Tyres.

Eleven men and seven women competed in overcast weather. Lester Snooke won the men's with 44 points and the runner up was Beau Mete with 42 points.

The women's winner was Nolene Kaszanski with 37 points winning on a count back from Joy Hamilton.

Men's seasonal trophies were presented. The winners are as follows: Eclectic Trophy, Bryan Crane; Nearest to the Pin on No. 9, Geoff Ludeman; Longest Drive on No. 3, Callen Syred and, Best Second on No. 13, Callen Syred.

A beautiful barbecue dinner was served after presentations. Thank you to all of our annual sponsors.

The ladies closed their season on September 28 with a 'yellow' themed fun day.

We played an Ambrose event over nine holes followed by a shared lunch.

Seasonal trophies were also presented and were won by: Eclectic Trophy, Merle Manuel; Nearest to the Pin on No. 15, Pam Meston; Long Drive on No. 2, Vivienne Camerer; Putting Competition, Joy Hamilton; Ferret Competition, Pam McGill; Consistency Award, Joy Hamilton; Silver Spoon, Merle Manuel; International Bowl Silver, Joy Hamilton and, International Bowl Bronze, Merle Manuel.

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ACCOUNTANT

Muntz & Partners Chartered Accountants is a well established accounting practice dealing with a variety of clients based in Doubleview and with offices in York and Toodyay.

Due to growth of our business we are seeking the services of a fulltime/part time accountant with at least 5 years' experience in Australian public practice to work out of our Toodyay office.

The ideal applicant would live in the Avon Valley.

Experience in the following areas will be required:

- Taxation compliance and preparation of returns
- Preparation of financial statements for companies, partnerships, trusts and sole traders
- Researching of tax legislation and its impact
- Preparation of BAS and IAS statements

In addition you will need to have:

- Degree qualifications
- Professional memberships
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to meet deadlines and proven attention to detail
- Experience dealing with local businesses and individuals in order to build & develop relationships
- Ideally have HandiSoft, Agrimaster, MYOB, Xero, and ATO Portal experience
- A high level of computer literacy



Please email your covering letter and resume to Muntz & Partners marked for the attention of Guy Lehmann to enquiries@muntzpartners.com.au

Brainstorm leads to \$15,600 Toodyay marketing windfall

Toodyay Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Helen Shanks

AFTER several months brainstorming ideas, exploring options and gathering opinions the Toodyay Chamber of Commerce and

Industry (TCCI) recently secured a Federal grant of \$15,600 through the Building Better Regions Fund for stage one of its Let's Brand and then Market Toodyay project.

We all know that Toodyay offers a unique country experience just outside the metro area, with an ever-increasing number of visitors each year.

With bush-based enterprises, artisan traders and craft experts, bed and breakfasts, farm stays, unique shops, as well as a wonderful history, this project will ensure that the town maximises its full potential while maintaining its charm.

As a result of the \$15,600 grant, the chamber's Vision Brand and Market sub-committee will now work with marketing experts and other partners, including the shire to develop a Toodyay Marketing Plan.

The plan is expected to have several components including partnerships with the shire, tourism regional and state bodies, booklets, pamphlets, displays, and media.

While the marketing plan is being prepared, the TCCI will submit further funding submissions to cover costs for an expected media campaign in 2018.

The benefits this project will bring to the Toodyay community are considerable, including the ability to attract and retain young adults and families, which in turn help the local business community grow and create more jobs for young people in particular.

A number of options already being explored include: agri-tourism (paddock to plate and farm experiences); country-experience packages (utilising many local enterprises); eco-tourism (highlighting our amazing natural environment); trails (hiking, biking and cultural) and tours (self-drive through the region).

My role in this exciting project is to ensure the plan meets the expectations of our business community, captures the essence of our region and engages interested community members to ensure we use the plan to bring long-term prosperity to our town.

Anyone interested in discussing the project can contact Helen Shanks on email hjshanks@bigpond.com.

Bigger, better Christmas street party coming

Toodyay Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Bob Schrader

WITH a new focus on community engagement, fun and enjoyment for all the family, the 2017 Toodyay Christmas Street Party will be event you will not want to miss on Friday December 1.

Come and join in the fun and excitement with a variety of new stalls including places to eat, things to do and action to see.

The Toodyay Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc is extremely pleased to see Tanya Stuart heading up this important community event.

Tanya has gathered a great committee of enthusiastic helpers to make this year's party bigger and better.

If you have something to sell, display or promote, contact Tanya on 0409 181 404.

Please note no outside food businesses will be allowed to operate at the event; this means that only Toodyay business are eligible to fill the available stalls and the need for food, refreshments, etc.

Thank you once again to this year's sponsors who are generously providing the vital funds to make this event a night to remember Shire of Toodyay, the Op Shop, Makit Hardware and the Toodyay and Districts Bendigo CommunityBank.

The event will run from 6.30-9.30pm on Friday December 1 along Stirling Terrace, Toodyay. For more info go to facebook.com/ToodyayChamber or contact President Bob Schrader 0411 881 909 or co-ordinator Tanya Stuart 0409 181 404.



Terry Hood demonstrates woodturning at last month's Toodyay Farmers Market.

Shavings fly as woodturners turn new key at The Junction

Avon Woodturners
Max J Heath

HI FROM 2J Junction.

We have it. We finally have in our hot little hands, our Certificate of Occupancy – at last.

It's been a fairly busy month with things going on at the shed and around and about including the Farmers Market.

There has been a lot of activity on our annual raffle prize and finally it is nearly finished, except for painting.

The raffle will be held at the end of November and the prize will be a worthwhile Chrissy present.

September 24 was our monthly meeting. Among the items discussed, we decided

to purchase a bench from Toodyay Garden Centre.

Linda Streatfield the wife of our late member Roger donated the money to purchase a seat which will be a memorial to her husband who was killed in a tragic accident on his way home from turning.

We look forward to unveiling this at our opening on October 29.

Starting on September 27 we have decided to open in the mornings.

If this suits you to come and have a look from around 9am until midday. Of course, this will be at 2J Junction.

Well, that is about all from Avon Woodturners for this month and so as RoadWise says – don't drive tired.

STREET PARTY



TOODYAY CHRISTMAS STREET PARTY FRIDAY

1st DEC 2017

New focus for 2017 on Community engagement, fun and enjoyment for all the family, young & old. Come along and join in the celebrations.



WHEN: 6.30pm to 9.30pm Friday 1 Dec 2017
WHERE: Stirling Tce Toodyay
MORE INFO: www.facebook.com/ToodyayChamber

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:



Don't miss the bus, register kids now

LOCAL parents are reminded to register their children for next year's orange school bus service.

School Bus Service (SBS) orange buses are provided free of charge to eligible children in regional WA.

If school children aren't registered before November 3 they may not be able to access the service in the first weeks of the next school year.

The service group needs time to process applications, plan routes and allocate resources to make sure all eligible kids can be picked up and dropped off as required.

Parents who leave it too late to register their child may find that their stop is serviced later in the term after the route and timetable has been amended.

Only children who are starting school for the first time, changing schools or moving address need to register their details.

Children who already use an orange school bus and are not changing their arrangements do not need to re-register.

Where it isn't possible to provide a dedicated bus service, SBS offers a conveyance allowance to help manage the cost of taking children to and from school each day.

Parents can fill out applications either online at schoolbuses.wa.gov.au, or by contacting the service team on 9326 2625 for an application form.

Further details about the service, including eligibility requirements, are available on the website.

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Grandkids salute old diggers

Milton A Baxter

A POIGNANT moment was captured at the Toodyay Anzac Memorial Park on September 14 when the 100th anniversary of the death of Albert Edward Landaman MM was commemorated.

He was a member of the 5th Pioneer Battalion when he laid down his life in Zillebeke, Belgium in 1917.

Bert, as he was known to all, was born in Sydney in 1888.

His father Charles came from Finland and after jumping ship in Sydney in 1882, married a Welsh girl.

Bert joined the army in 1915 and graduated

from the 17th Australian Infantry Battalion to the 5th Pioneer Battalion.

In 1916 this battalion specialised in digging tunnels, laying wooden sleeper roads and constructing small-gauge railways.

A shell killed Bert and also claimed five other lives, none of whom have marked graves.

Although Bert is not connected to the Toodyay memorial, we descendants who call Toodyay home, would like to think that those local brave souls who also gave their lives in the same bloody carnage and are listed on the Toodyay monument, would certainly welcome him to join their ranks to be remembered with reverence.



Left to right: Bert's grandson Milton Baxter; great-great grandson Bryce Baxter-Ewing and great granddaughter Bindi Baxter at the Anzac Memorial in Toodyay.

\$1700 raised for veterans

RSL Toodyay Sub Branch
Bruce Guthrie

THE RECENT RSL Toodyay Sub Branch annual raffle and street stall was a resounding success with nearly \$1700 raised over two days.

Our sincere thanks once again to the people of Toodyay for their most generous support, by which we are very humbled.

Susan King won the first prize money tree and Vanessa Lette won second prize, the Sands of Gallipoli figurine.

While our efforts are focused on supporting ex-servicemen and women and their families, you do not need to be a RSL member to receive our help.

If you are an ex-service member or a family member, we would like to hear from you and if possible put you on our email contact list so that you know what we are doing throughout the year.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the Shire of Toodyay team and Minda Mia Contracting for the magnificent job they have done in upgrading Anzac Memorial Park. This upgrade has substantially increased the area of level ground and the pathway up to the memorial is now wheelchair compliant.

We have added another bench seat, three silhouettes and a niche wall.

We have also received and will be replacing 12 plaques that currently exist in the memorial rose garden.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of grant money from the Department of Veterans' Affairs and Lotterywest.

We also thank Steve Reid from Reid's Mechweld for manufacturing another beautiful bench and the three silhouettes.

We would also like to acknowledge the hard work and great service provided by the team at Toodyay Newsagency. It is the hard work and support of retailers such as the newsagency that make it possible for Lotterywest to make grants available.

The purpose of the niche wall is to provide space for families who may wish to honour a deceased service member with a small memorial plaque. Please contact our secretary Max Howard on 9574 2102 after October 31 for details.

The 2018 Sandakan Tour Scholarship applications closed on September 22 and we received multiple applications. Well done to the students who applied.

Other important RSL news includes the election of office bearers for 2017-18: president, Peter Brennan; vice-president, John Clark; secretary, Max Howard; treasurer, Paul Barton; welfare officer, Geoff Brown; membership, Sue Eldridge; media liaison, Bruce Guthrie and, events coordinator, Bob Wood.

The Australian Defence Force Bike Ride morning tea is on Wednesday October 11 from 8.30 to 11am in the Memorial Hall.

We wish all members good health.

Charlie reveals ambo history

Toodyay Probus Club
Norm Green

AT OUR September meeting we were honoured with a talk by long-time Toodyay resident Charlie Wroth about the history of the local ambulance service.

Suggestions about having an ambulance in Toodyay started in 1944 and as a result, the first one went on the road in 1945.

I was surprised to hear that St John in Toodyay is a completely self-funded volunteer organisation with no help from St John Ambulance in Perth, the government or shire.

However, the Lions Club have been very generous with funding.

St John in Toodyay has one paid office administrator; the other 70 or so other people are volunteers.

They have one ambulance in Morangup, one in Bolgart and three in Toodyay.

There is one paramedic, shared with five other towns, who gets the priority calls. They had 761 jobs last year.

I was very impressed by the dedication and commitment of Charlie who has been a volunteer for 37 years.

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New seat gets old plaque, tree to come

CWA
Elizabeth Mansom

HAVE you seen our lovely new seat at the back of the CWA hall in Charcoal Lane?

We have the Men's Shed to thank for that. Another seat, no longer in situ, was donated in 1974 by the local branch to commemorate the CWA of WA's Golden Jubilee and we were able to retrieve the plaque from that and attach it to the new seat. Only seven years to go, and we can attach a plaque for the double golden jubilee.

Eleanor, who keeps the hall surrounds so attractive, is going to plant a shady tree near the seat.

At this year's State Conference, the State Treasurer reported that the 2016/17 statewide fundraiser for Motor Neurone Disease (MND) resulted in the organisation receiving \$83,979.

In accordance with the original motion that chose this charity, 75 percent goes to the MND Association WA and the rest goes to support families caring for those afflicted with the disease.

Older members of the Toodyay community may remember Alice Adamson, a former member of our branch.

Mrs Adamson attended our 90th anniversary commemoration but sadly passed away a few weeks later.

Such was the dedication and passion Mrs Adamson put in to CWA that she was awarded an Honorary Life Membership in 2008, the association's highest award.

A member of the Gerbera Society provided helpful hints on gerberas and geraniums and all the pots and cuttings he brought along were eagerly snapped up.

It was indeed a very enjoyable day out.

Craft day on September 14 was spent tidying up and clearing out in preparation



From left: Judith Walton, Evelyn Oliver, Elizabeth Mansom, Viv Street and Val Byron with prizes won at a recent visit to Bayswater CWA.

for the Fashion Parade on September 30.

Did you come and see us at the Recycled Regatta? We thoroughly enjoyed the morning and were inspired to think about a CWA entry next year.

On September 19 eight of us went to Bolgart to a high tea. The Hall was a picture. There were cups, saucers and plates, gorgeous teapots, milk and sugar bowl sets.

Then followed the three-tiered cake plates laden with crustless sandwiches, scones, jam and cream and every kind of slice and sweet cake you can think of.

We enjoyed beautifully presented delicious food and congenial company. Thank you, Bolgart.

CWA meets at 1pm on the fourth Thursday of the month in the CWA Hall in Stirling

Terrace, Toodyay.

Bookings are being taken by Desrae Clarke on 9574 5574 until October 15. From October 16 bookings will be taken by Glenys Clabaugh on 9574 5110 or 0427 478 325.

Advertorial

Hello, I feel blessed to be a part of this community. We are a caring and considerate community helping each other and others. I came to be more aware of this last year when I decided to offer volunteer support on Chios, in Greece, where

refugees from the conflict in Syria were arriving daily and required assistance. Many of you heard that I was going and provided donations. I am in awe of your generosity and it is evident daily, especially at those times when

community groups fundraise in front of IGA. Our donations both physical and financial keep this community vibrant and thriving.

My reason for running for Central Ward Councillor is enmeshed in your generosity and support. I have the time and ability to be your voice and keep you informed.

Being involved locally in History, Arts and Environment, means I have a strong leaning towards culture, aesthetics and communication.

If elected I will strive to;

- Improve Communication from Council by re-instating the Shire news in our community newspaper. Putting notifications on the noticeboards, in the newspaper and on Facebook on a regular basis, at least monthly, about what the council is up to. *I think we need much more awareness about matters that affect us directly.*
- Reinforce Policies by ensuring they are updated and applied. *If we agree on a policy then the decision making surrounding that matter is far easier to determine.*
- Improve public transport for our community. This includes the Train, Taxi and Community bus service.
- Upgrade recreation amenities including a pool.
- Improve efficiency within the Shire activities.
- Explore ways to increase the prosperity of our town. *ie; Tourism and spending our money where our heart is.*
- Be available for you to ask questions, express concerns and have your voice heard at Shire level.

I am very pleased that we have a postal vote for this election as it makes it easier for us to have our say. Please do.

Just put a tick next to one candidate only and put your response in the post. If you wish, you may drop your completed postal voting form into the box located in the shire offices.

If not elected I will still attend Council meetings and offer to be a voice for you.

Shire of Toodyay Local Government Elections 2017

Vote 
Linda Rooney



Central Ward Toodyay

Written and authorised by Linda Rooney, 14 Henry Street West, Toodyay, WA, 6566



Our new seat made by The Men's Shed to commemorate the CWA's 90th birthday.

Hideaway is on the move

Ida's Hideaway
Rae Vigar

AFTER 16 years of Ida's Hideaway meeting on Saturday afternoons at Butterfly House, we are unable to comply with a request from Butterfly Cottages Inc to sub-lease 'the house'.

Since Saturday September 16, we have been meeting at the Toodyay Resource Centre from 1-4pm.

Everyone is welcome to join us for a fun afternoon.

On Monday September 11, we enjoyed a lovely lunch at the Cola Café for Ida's Hideaway's 16th birthday.

Regrettably, Ida was unable to attend as she is in hospital. We all hope to see her home very soon.

Thank you to the Toodyay Community Resource Centre for making this venue available to us.

Sports
Events / Results
Read it in the
Toodyay Herald
news@toodyayherald.com.au

