

The Toodyay Herald

Your locally owned
community newspaper
Est. 1902

5000 copies circulating in Toodyay, West Toodyay, Goomalling,
Bolgart, Calingiri, Morangup, Northam, Coondle, Hoddys Well,
Wattening, Dewars Pool, Culham, Bejoording, Nunile, Julimar, Bakers
Hill, Clackline, Wooroloo, Wundowie, Gidgegannup and local districts.

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Local WA National MP Shane Love (centre) calls for a show of hands of those who use the Duke Street rail footbridge after Perth's Public Transport Authority closed it last month pending a structural safety review. About 50 people – including two disabled people in motorised wheelchairs, five Toodyay shire councillors and Shire CEO Stan Scott – attended the meeting.

TOODYAY residents are being urged to sign a new petition to save the Duke Street rail footbridge from permanent closure.

Perth's Public Transport Authority (PTA) closed the bridge last month after a woman was injured in a fall on the uneven walkway.

APTA spokesperson said the bridge would remain closed while the authority reviewed a recent structural assessment.

Disabled people in gophers, school children and others on foot have no other safe access to local shops and medical

MP launches petition to save Duke Street footbridge

services other than a two-kilometre detour via the Harper Street rail underpass.

Local WA Nationals MP Shane Love said he wrote last month to State Transport Minister Rita Saffioti asking for the bridge to

be immediately reopened and appropriately maintained in the future.

"In addition, I have spoken to the Minister and one of her parliamentary colleagues stressing the urgency of the issue," he said.

"I have also produced a petition requesting that the bridge be reopened.

"The petition will be available for signing at the Shire of Toodyay (in Fiennes Street) and the Toodyay Community Resource Centre (next to the Christmas 360 Shop)."

Acting Toodyay Shire President Therese Chitty urged everyone to sign the petition.

"It will be a disaster for the town if the bridge is not reopened," she said.

"The shire wants the PTA to reopen it as soon as possible."

New councillors block secretive bid to raise rates

A SECRETIVE bid to raise shire rates last month was derailed when the attempt failed to gain absolute majority support in council.

New Crs Bill Manning, Craig Brook and Ben Bell voted against a proposed 0.9 per cent rates increase, which was passed 4-3.

However, it failed to gain a required absolute majority of more than half the council's nine members in the absence of Shire President Brian Rayner and Cr Paula Greenway at the monthly council meeting.

Cr Bell said it seemed counter-intuitive to raise money first and then work out how to spend it when the council had yet to decide how much it needed for this year's budget.

"This has never come up in any formal

discussion before now," Cr Bell said.

"There is zero information in front of us about what we're going to spend the money on, and no discussion about how we raise rates.

"We might work out something different but all we are doing here is voting on a lump sum."

"The officer's recommendation is just a predetermined number that none of us have discussed – we don't know what the number should be until we know how much we need to spend.

Acting-President Therese Chitty and Crs Judy Dow, Rob Welburn and Eric Twine voted in favour of a 0.9 rates increase.

"I have been to two budget workshops and been through the figures quite thoroughly," Cr Dow said.

"I am confident we can come in at 0.9."

The motion was moved by Cr Twine and seconded by Cr Welburn after the 5-2 defeat of an earlier motion for no increase.

The zero per cent increase was moved by Cr Manning and seconded by Cr Brook who were the only two councillors to support it.

There was no mention of a proposed rates increase in the published council agenda.

The item appeared only as the heading "differential general rates" in "new business of an urgent nature" listed at the end of the meeting, with no supporting documents.

The packed public gallery was denied any information when councillors started debating proposed new rates on two sheets of paper that had not been distributed to visitors at the back of the chamber.

When the *Herald* caught Cr Chitty's eye to bring it to her attention, she adjourned the meeting for five minutes to enable extra copies to be printed for the public gallery.

In answer to a question from Cr Bell, Shire CEO Stan Scott said there was enough time to advertise proposed new rates for 28 days' public comment by the August 30 deadline required by law if a decision was deferred until July, after the new budget is decided.

"The timetable is feasible but I wouldn't

recommend it," Mr Scott said.

"It's always been the council's choice to adopt a budget as early as possible.

"We've just received this year's new valuations but no modelling has been done."

Shire rates will now be set later this month.

Council voted 6-1 in May (Cr Bell against) for Mr Scott to identify "any factual errors" in Cr Bell's published call for an eight per cent rates cut and prepare a response for publication in the Herald and the shire's newsletter "to correct the public record" – no correction has been received. – Ed.

Bell fights official shire warning to shut up

THE SHIRE OF TOODYAY has warned new Cr Ben Bell to stop writing a new column for *The Toodyay Herald* and stop posting comments about the shire on *Facebook*.

Cr Bell said he received a written warning from Acting President Therese Chitty two days after last month's council meeting, saying that only the shire president is allowed to speak on behalf of the council.

The warning also said Cr Bell's *Facebook* criticism of a draft shire communications policy that appeared to give sweeping new

powers to Shire CEO Stan Scott (*story Page 3*) was an unlawful attempt by a councillor to influence shire workers who are answerable only to Mr Scott.

Cr Bell said he opposed being gagged from making public comments about shire matters and was seeking legal advice.

He also rejected a shire direction not to reveal or discuss the warning publicly.

Acting President Chitty declined to comment.

The Insider column censored, Page 5.

this month

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COUNTRY REALTY

The Toodyay Herald

The Toodyay Herald is a free monthly newspaper published and owned by a not-for-profit incorporated association - The Toodyay Herald Inc. Contributions via email or on flash drive are preferred. There is no charge for articles that appear in the paper.

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

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

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of *The Toodyay Herald* is available at \$15 (\$12 concession) per financial year, with members entitled to free advertising worth \$15 annually. Please send your name, phone number and residential, postal and email address with your membership fee to PO Box 100, Toodyay 6566 or leave it at 92B Stirling Terrace, Toodyay.

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

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Many thanks to the volunteers who helped produce this edition of *The Toodyay Herald*: Joseph Fernandez (Legal), Jean Witcombe, Richard Grant, Allan Gregory, Colleen Sheehan and Geoff Ebdon.

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RATES - NO GST IS APPLICABLE

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NEXT TOODYAY HERALD EDITION

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Noon Thursday July 19	Noon Tuesday July 24	Wednesday August 1

Please note our email addresses

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Articles and stories: news@toodyayherald.com.au

OI' Blind Joe

The stifling of truth

Stirling Hamilton

IN JANUARY 1931, the United Australia Party government of Joseph Lyons was contemplating the establishment of a national broadcasting service and received a deputation of prominent Melburnians, including a barrister and member of the Victorian Parliament, Robert Gordon Menzies.

'Pig Iron Bob' urged that the new broadcasting service "be organised on an independent basis and that cultural potentialities of the broadcast service be considered a matter of primary importance".

The broadcast service came to be named the Australian Broadcasting Commission and went to air for the first time on 1 July 1932, 86 momentous years ago.

Its charter was to provide ... innovative and comprehensive broadcasting services of a high standard ... and ... to provide broadcasting programs that contribute to a sense of national identity and inform and entertain, reflect the cultural diversity of the Australian community and broadcast programs of an educational nature.

I believe that the ABC has consistently fulfilled its charter above all others, excepting perhaps the Canadian public broadcaster which has an equally unblemished record.

It is a measure of how far today's Liberal Party has drifted away from the values and ideals of its founder, Bob Menzies, that the party's federal council should have last month resoundingly adopted a motion that the ABC should be privatised.

The ABC got \$1 billion from the Australian people last year and contributed more than \$1 billion to the national economy, employing 4000 staff and another 2500 people, including writers, artists, technicians and transport workers.

Folks, it's not about the money, it's about that effervescent and elusive creature called the truth.

Telling big enough lies

IT WAS the Nazi Party's Joseph Goebbels, Germany's World War 2 Minister of Propaganda, who said: "If you tell a lie big enough and keep repeating it, people will eventually come to believe it."

"The lie can be maintained only for such time as the State can shield the people from the political, economic and/or military consequences of the lie."

"It thus becomes vitally important for the State to use all of its powers to repress dissent, for the truth is the mortal enemy of the lie, and thus by extension, the truth is the greatest enemy of the State."

John Dewey (1859-1952) was an American philosopher, psychologist and educational journalist who believed that we should weigh the consequences of government policies being enacted, and this ethos is known as 'community journalism'.

A 'knowledge journalist' researches complicated issues of fact or science and gives an accurate and understandable version to the public and seeks to orient communication away from elite, corporate hegemony toward a civic public sphere.

We must ensure that the stories, issues and interests of the one-third of Australians who

live outside the capital cities have a stronger voice in national conversations.

Voters in regional, rural and remote parts of Australia have watched as the Abbott-Turnbull administrations have cut the ABC's funding by \$338 million since 2014.

The ABC isn't just a source of entertainment, it's a lifeline for our communities.

In times of disaster, the ABC is vital in keeping us connected with local news and emergency information.

However, we are becoming a kind of police state in which the government hands itself ever more power to prevent scrutiny, punish whistleblowers, smear opponents and hide its wrongdoings, using a legal framework justified in the name of national security.

Embarrassing the government or revealing its misconduct has become a dangerous occupation, as whistle blowers Julian Assange, Edward Snowden, Andrew Wilkie and Chelsea Manning can testify.

25 years in prison

WILKIE, the federal Independent Member for Denison in Tasmania, reckoned that he resigned his job as an Intelligence Analyst in Australia's Office of National Assessments in 2003 to blow the whistle on fraudulent claims the Howard Government was using to justify taking us to war in Iraq.

Federal Parliament is now on the verge of passing new draconian laws that further undermine government transparency, our civil liberties and freedom of the press.

Wilkie reckons that if this legislation (the Espionage and Foreign Interference Bill) had been in place in 2003 when he alerted the Australian people to our government's Iraq War deceit, he'd have faced 25 years in prison.

Whistleblowers and journalists help us hold power to account, and when those voices are silenced our democracy suffers.

In 2013, lawyer Bernard Collaery — then acting both for the East Timorese Government and for 'Witness K' — a former senior Australian Secret Intelligence Service (ASIS) officer — revealed that ASIS, at the instruction of the Howard government, had illegally bugged the East Timorese Cabinet in 2004 to secure an advantage to Australia in treaty negotiations with the fledgling state over natural resources in the Timor Sea.

Well, they're off to jail probably and only Australia's minor political parties were prepared to protest the prosecution.

When we write the history of how Australia became a police state, it will note that Labor colluded and collaborated in its creation.

Ordinary people participating in peaceful protest are also at risk of being charged with serious offences.

For example, if you blockaded Queensland's controversial new \$16.5 billion Adani coal mine, the Federal Attorney-General can now charge you with sabotage — which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

It is so important to a functioning democracy to maintain a credible public square if we are to remain a workable civic society.

It is with great sadness that I reflect on the fact that our own shire council chooses not to communicate with its residents through their own local newspaper.

Herald membership fees due

The Toodyay Herald (Inc)
Heather Appleby, Secretary

secretary at secretary@toodyayherald.com.au for a membership application form.

RENEWAL forms have been sent to members of The Toodyay Herald (Inc), with fees due and payable on July 2108.

If you are not currently a member but would like to join, please contact the

Our AGM will be held in September (date to be advised) and only members who have paid their annual fees by 31 August 2018 will be eligible to vote.

Membership fees for 2018-19 are \$15, and \$12 for concessions.

Office Hours are from 9am-1pm on highlighted days

July - August 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20
	22	23	24	25	26	27
	29	30	31	August 1	2	3
					4	

From spy base to Spano, Margot made it work for art

Ieva Tomsons

TOODYAY multi-media artist Margot Watkins lives in an 1859 heritage house which screams – artist-in-residence.

Paintings hang everywhere on lime-washed white walls, and from the high wooden rafters down to the cellar it's a visual feast as you walk through Margot's private gallery.

Even her four-acre block (1.618ha) has creative properties.

"In art," Margot explained, "the Golden Ratio is 1 to 1.618 which is the harmonious and ideal proportion; one-third sky, two-thirds land – it's easier to draw than explain."

Margot was born in Southern Cross in 1949 and came to Toodyay when she was one.

Her family bought Ellendale farm on Folewood Road and Margot went to St Aloysius Convent in Toodyay for her primary school years.

She completed high school as a boarder at Loreto Convent in Claremont and went on to study psychology at the University of WA.

"My parents were big on education and sold the farm in the mid-60s and moved to Nedlands because it was close to the uni," she said.

Although Margot completed her degree, she "wasn't cut out for it" and headed to Sydney where she worked in vocational guidance for two years.

Then it was on to Canberra and a four-year stint in the public service.

"The pay was great but I felt like a square peg in a round hole," she said.

At 27, Margot headed to England for two years where she based herself in London and travelled around Europe in her spare time.

A small advertisement in London's *Time Out* magazine drew Margot to France for two months where she joined a group of "hippy types" renovating a barn for an artist.

"Here was this dirt poor guy being an artist and it dawned on me that being one was possible."

She started sketching in France and set her sights on a career in art.

"I decided that if I was going to be an artist, and poor, it was better to go back to Perth."

Working odd jobs, Margot gave herself just a year "to make it".

"That was 1978 and I still haven't," she laughs.



Margot with some of her numerous artworks that jostle for space in her backyard studio.

Three years at Claremont TAFE exposed Margot to techniques and ideas, and she completed the Diploma in Fine Arts with majors in painting and sculpture in 1981.

Margot is a firm believer in the value of formal training and has gone on to complete a university degree in Visual Arts (Textiles) and a post-graduate degree in Art Therapy.

From 1978 to 1983 Margot was in the thick of the Northbridge art scene and contributed to many group exhibitions and solo exhibitions at His Majesty's Theatre, the Art Gallery of WA and other galleries of the time.

In 1983 she secured a travel grant from the Aboriginal Sacred Sites Authority to study indigenous culture in Darwin and Alice Springs in the Northern Territory.

Packing her camping gear into a "rust

bucket", Margot drove to Darwin where she met a wharfie who talked her into doing a mural of Kakadu elder Big Bill Neigi for the wall of the Darwin Workers' Club.

"I was idealistic and did it for nothing but they gave me petrol money and materials."

Thirty-five years later Margot recently completed another freebie, a vibrant mural for the CWA in Charcoal Lane.

"I never learn," she laughs.

From Darwin Margot drove south to Alice Springs where she ended up joining more than 700 women who had set up camp in November 1983 outside the Joint Defence Space Research Facility in Pine Gap, which the US Government operated in Australia as an electronic warfare spy base.

In protest to the location of an American spy base on Australian soil, more than

100 women scrambled over the fence on November 13 and were promptly arrested.

Two days later, Margot joined a second, much smaller, group which met the same fate.

"We were taken to Alice Springs lock-up, put into separate cells and charged with trespass on Commonwealth property.

"If you refused fingerprinting, they would use thumbscrews."

The women were given the option of a \$250 fine or 10 days in jail.

Given the amount of national and international coverage that the protesters were attracting, many women – including Margot – opted for jail to promote their cause.

She served her 10 days in WA's Bandyup Women's Prison and describes the experience as "interesting".

During the mid-80s Margot continued to campaign for nuclear disarmament, kept making art and stayed financially afloat by working as a graphic designer for Perth Museum.

In 1985 she started to work part time for TAFE, teaching art to prisoners.

"I've worked on and off in all of the prisons, including Wooroloo when I moved back to Toodyay," she said.

For more than a decade Margot was the stage manager of the Tuesday Morning Show variety program held in the Perth Town Hall and also did a short stint operating the spotlight for hypnotist Spano's South West shows.

Margot had a son when she was 41 years old and art took a back seat until Lucian started pre-school.

By then Margot was back in Toodyay helping her elderly father who restored historic Ellery House where Margot still lives.

At the rear of her "well-proportioned" block is her studio which she built from red dirt and recycled materials.

It is crammed with finished and unfinished projects, with sculptures, paintings and textile works all jostling for space.

Herald readers can join the Arts Toodyay Art Trail on the July 14-15 weekend and take peek into this award-winning artist's world.

New go at cat law after first effort botched

RESIDENTS will get a second chance to comment on new cat laws after the Shire of Toodyay botched its first attempt last year.

Councillors voted 7-0 last month to re-advertise a revised version after the State Government said last year's effort contained significant drafting difficulties.

These included that it was too restrictive and failed to define 'cat'.

The rewritten draft law lists shire nature and other reserves, and fauna protection zones where cat owners can be fined up to \$5000 for letting their pets roam.

Cats will still be allowed to roam on streets and enter other people's private properties unless they are a nuisance.

Cr Ben Bell said he didn't want to pass a law that placed an undue burden on cat owners who "can't control where a cat goes".

"If you can't stop a cat from walking on the street how can you stop it going on a reserve?" he said.

Shire CEO Stan Scott said owners would be responsible for keeping their cats out of nature reserves.

Facebook foils shire crackdown

THE COMMUNITY power of social media was demonstrated at last month's Toodyay Shire Council meeting when two proposed new administration policies to restrict free speech failed to get a single vote after strong public opposition on *Facebook*.

Councillors voted 7-0 to scrap CEO Stan Scott's recommendation to limit public question time to 15 minutes.

They also voted 7-0 to defer a new communications policy that appeared to give the CEO sweeping power to "monitor, approve and manage" personal *Facebook* pages and electronic devices used by elected councillors and shire workers.

New Cr Bill Manning said the plan to restrict public question time to 15 minutes was "frankly a nonsense".

"There is no justification for this policy," he said.

"It's tilting at a windmill that doesn't exist."

Cr Manning said Local Government Regulation 6(1) provided a 15-minute minimum time for asking questions.

"The proposal imposes a 15-minute maximum time limit and also attempts to restrict how an extension of time might be granted."

Cr Manning said time limits were inconsistent with local government regulations which required each member of the public to be given an equal and fair opportunity to ask a question and receive a response.

"Today was a perfect example – public question time went on longer than 15 minutes and did not disrupt the meeting," he said.

Mr Scott's recommendation to adopt the new policy was moved by Cr Rob Welburn and seconded by Cr Eric Twine.

However, nobody spoke in favour and the motion was lost 7-0 (Shire President Brian Rayner and Cr Paula Greenway absent).

A new shire communications policy recommended by Mr Scott failed to attract a mover after it was separated on the agenda paper from a vote on a new shire uniforms policy, which was carried 7-0.

The new communications policy was strongly opposed on social media by an unusually broad cross-section of Toodyay's online community after Cr Ben Bell criticised it that morning on his personal *Facebook* page.

There was silence when Acting-President Therese Chitty called for a mover, prompting her to support Mr Scott's suggestion to defer it to a council forum for further discussion.

The new policy was "borrowed mostly from the City of Joondalup – there is some confusion as to what it means," Mr Scott said.

There was no further debate when Cr Welburn's motion to defer the item to a "future forum", was carried 7-0.



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The Toodyay Herald

The empire strikes back

NEW SHIRE Cr Ben Bell has become the latest target of official attempts to stifle local public debate and crush dissent.

After nine months of alerting ratepayers to important issues of local concern, the heavy hand of officialdom is now trying to silence him.

The shire has issued an official warning to Cr Bell that he must not publish his new 'The Insider' column in this newspaper (see Pages 1 and 5) or use his personal Facebook page to comment on shire issues.

This followed his Facebook post on the morning of last month's council meeting in which he criticised a proposed new shire communications policy.

It sparked a storm of public protest that led later that same day to the draft policy being deferred to an unspecified future shire forum "due to a lot of public opinion".

Cr Bell had said that "The CEO is seeking the council to approve that my Facebook page (and the private Facebook page of every councillor and shire employee) will be managed by the CEO".

"So to every shire employee out there, if the council approves the communications policy tonight then your boss (the CEO) will be able to tell you what you can say on your own private page," Cr Bell said.

He said Acting Shire President Chitty sent him an official written warning two days later claiming that his Facebook comment had sought to unlawfully interfere with the management of shire workers, who are answerable only to Shire CEO Stan Scott.

The warning said also that only the shire president was allowed to speak on behalf of the council, and that he must not write any more columns for *The Toodyay Herald*.

Cr Bell said he rejected a shire direction not to tell anyone about the warning.

This follows six months of public controversy over the imposition of official Local Government Department monitoring after a Toodyay Progress Association call for a State inquiry, the shock resignation of former Cr Di Granger and Cr Bell's claim that rates could be cut by eight per cent – which the shire has yet to disprove.

In each case, instead of addressing ratepayers' concerns, the shire chose to either ignore the evidence before it or attack anyone with an opposing view.

As Stirling Hamilton writes in this month's *Ol' Blind Joe* column 'The stifling of truth', our government is handing itself "ever more power to prevent scrutiny, deter and punish whistleblowers, smear opponents and hide its wrongdoings" while claiming justification in law.

Toodyay it seems is not exempt from that.

Michael Sinclair-Jones
Editor

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.

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The way we were – A family party at Culham, which was the third homestead built in the 1870s. Samuel Pole Phillips with a white beard is pictured seated at the centre. Photo Newcastle Gaol Museum.

LETTERS

Childish, perilous behaviour

REGARDING the politics of alleged "bullying" in the Toodyay Shire Council.

Methinks Mr Stan Scott has done more damage to his employment as Shire CEO than any presumed influence of former Central Ward Cr Di Granger or any other member.

It is his job to guide and instruct any and every new councillor in procedures, etc..

Failure to do so can only be to his detriment. Comments alleged to have come from him challenging a councillor on her understanding of the role sounds childish and not the quality expected of a person in his position.

As a former town councillor and regional manager myself, I consider that he has placed himself in a perilous situation.

Brian Webb
former Northam Town Councillor
Northam

Bring back shire centrefold

I NOTE the absence of and quite miss the shire's centrefold spread in the *Herald*.

It was an ideal place for the shire to keep us informed on various snippets of relevance to residents.

I also recall the previous time when the shire chose to no longer contribute to the shire centrefold – that was in the days of former CEO Graham Merrick – remember?

Bring back the centrefold please.

Wayne Fletcher
Toodyay

Aboriginal input before mines

I AM CONCERNED that if new mining is allowed in Toodyay, many Aboriginal places of interest will be lost – areas should be checked by the government and Shire of Toodyay for sacred sites before new mines are allowed to proceed.

My great-grandfather's brother Thomas Waters came out from England in 1829 and was granted 1610 acres (651.5ha) of land in the Toodyay area and 150 acres (60.7ha) in Guildford.

His brother Robert came out from England in 1833 and took up land at the end of Waters Road.

Thomas' land was both sides of the Toodyay-Bindi Bindi Road from the Lee-Steere's property towards Coondle.

Aboriginals worked for all these men and also my grandfather Edwin James Waters.

Our men learnt their language and often went riding in the bush with them.

They showed our people all the places in the bush that were special to them such as the

Munipun Hollow, Yackeler Spring, Toogee Munny, Munyering Flat, Mount Anvill Spring and all along the Toogee Brook, Culham Hills and the highest hill at Coondle, Toogee Karta.

They told our people about the six-foot (1.8m) stone squares, the six-foot stone circles and the chop marks in the trees and what they meant to their people.

They taught our people all the plant foods, showed them the special rocks they used for knives and axes, the grindstones and flint stones for lighting fires.

They showed them how to make fire using timber, grass, bark and sticks and explained that when painting their stories on rocks in ochre, they first rubbed emu oil on the rock then let it dry so the painting stayed there forever.

Underground plants which would be lost if mining is allowed are the wild potato, yams, bullrush bulbs, windong and the white raddish; the echidna would not survive.

My father Albert Waters and uncle Jack Waters showed me all the Aboriginal sites.

Jack used to play his button accordion and sing in the Aboriginal language and my father taught my son Brooklyn some of the Aboriginal language when he was two years old.

Before mining is allowed please get Aboriginals to inspect the bush – there must be lots of burial grounds there.

Remember, north of Toodyay was once bush.

Ron E Waters
Toodyay

Stand up for footbridge

IN REGARD to the railway footbridge which is such an important issue.

Where were the rest of our councillors?

If you work away, don't put your hand up to go on council.

To the councillors who go to council meetings, forums and other meetings you are involved with, you deserve your money.

To the rest, I'm disgusted with you.

Give us back our footbridge, a bypass road and forget the swimming pool.

Thanks to the councillors who did turn up.

Jean Forsyth
Toodyay

Not-so-fantastic plastic

IMAGINE my surprise on Saturday night, visiting our only supermarket, to discover they were out of plastic bags, grey or white.

On offer, to purchase, were several carry-away grocery bags.

As a pensioner, my cash is limited and is used for essentials – food, fuel and fun.

My choice was limited to one carry-away

bag. The *I choose to re-use* bag is made of (clever clogs) yes, plastic.

Is this an even cleverer joke?

Moondyne Joe and plastic bags are the new outlaws.

Look around the supermarket and tick off the items covered with plastic.

Does it disintegrate like some plastic grey bags? I think not.

A great idea, but it has not been thought through.

Patricia de Soto-Phillips
Toodyay

Festival falls short on shorts

REFLECTIONS on the recent Fibre Festival 2018.

The committee responsible for the Fibre Festival deserves much praise and congratulations for the event.

It was well-planned and executed – but, where were the garments for the other half of the gender population?

Nothing for the boys, teenagers, young men or mature men.

How difficult is it to design, make and show garments for this population group?

Where are the long pants, shorts (various styles and lengths) caps, jackets, short-sleeved and sleeveless tops, waistcoats, sleeveless, full-length and other-length top coats.

You have a year to get the 'grey matter'; working, to design and make for the males in the community.

Is it too hard?

Patricia de Soto-Phillips
Toodyay

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Chitty apology to former shire councillor

ACTING Toodyay Shire President Therese Chitty has issued a public apology to former Central Ward Cr Di Granger who resigned from the council last March after serving less than five months in the role.

Ms Granger quit three days after receiving a Saturday afternoon email from Shire CEO Stan Scott who accused her of bullying him and said that he expected her to be "immediately jumped on" by the council leadership, which includes Cr Chitty.

"Really, how would you know what is usual or unusual behaviour in Local Government?" he wrote.

"CEO performance management is based in (sic) the processes set out in the Act and my contract – it is not a rolling maul or an all-in brawl where everyone should feel free to share their ill-considered opinions on a whim.

"Perhaps before denigrating me or the council leadership you should first take some advice from that leadership about what is and is not appropriate."

Mr Scott's email followed his refusal to release to councillors a Local Government Department letter criticising the shire for non-compliance in a number of key areas, including rates, land dealings and transparency in council decision making.

It said the shire had shown "not only a lack of understanding of the provisions of legislation but also a propensity to misinterpret other legalities and procedures".

Former Cr Granger had asked why the CEO was refusing to show the letter to councillors by claiming it was none of their business – a decision later reversed by the council after further departmental advice.

The issue resurfaced last month in a written reply to a ratepayer's question about "the reported bullying of Cr Granger".

It said "council has formed the view that the bullying allegations are not sustained".

It also described Mr Scott's email as part of a "forthright exchange" between him and former Cr Granger "but that exchange did not constitute bullying by the CEO".

Ms Granger had earlier described Mr Scott's email as "the last straw – all the joy has been sucked out of my life, I want it back".

"I did not feel bullied but I was on the receiving end of numerous repetitive, aggressive communications, feeling harangued, belittled, diminished and disrespected," she said.

"Cr Sally Craddock's resignation some weeks earlier gave me the impetus to remove myself from a hostile environment.

"I did not sign on to council to go into battle with and receive aggression from a CEO.

"I signed on to participate in a democratic process, driven by a legislative framework and backed up by due process."

Acting Shire President Chitty used

'announcements by the presiding officer' at last month's council meeting to apologise to former Cr Granger.

Cr Chitty said parts of the shire's written response to the ratepayer's question published in the agenda were "factually incorrect" and she wanted to correct the record.

"Others may have used the term bullying but it was not her," Cr Chitty said.

"I would like to offer a personal apology to Di if she felt that at any time she was not supported."

Mr Scott declined to comment except to say: "I am pleased that there has finally been confirmation that there was no accusation of bullying against me, and I trust the Herald will do all in its power to correct the public record."

Absolute majorities vote for change

TOODYAY voted for change for the second time in eight months with last month's election of newcomers Bill Manning and Craig Brook to the Toodyay Shire Council.

Fresh elections were needed after the resignation in March of former Central Ward Cr Di Granger after less than five months, and former veteran West Ward Cr Sally Craddock's resignation a month earlier.

New Central Ward Cr Manning polled 169 votes for the town-based seat, giving him a 50.5 per cent absolute majority win over former Shire Deputy President John Prater (99 votes) and Jeff Roberts (67).

In West Ward, new Cr Brook polled 232 votes in a 60 per cent absolute majority win over Tim Hale (87) and Andrew Walker (69).

The voter turn-out was 44 per cent in Central Ward and 41 per cent in West Ward.

This was down on last October's record 50 per cent across the shire but more than the state regional average of 39.6 per cent.

Cr Brook's win is the first time a resident from Morangup – where more than half of West Ward's 1017 registered voters live or own properties – has held a seat on the

nine-member council since 2011.

Cr Manning's term expires in October 2021 and Cr Brook's in October 2019 when elected terms end also for Crs Judy Dow, Rob Welburn, Eric Twine and Ben Bell.

The council decided in April to consider public calls to abolish electoral ward boundaries and reduce the number of councillors to seven before next year's elections.

Abolishing wards would enable all Toodyay electors to vote for every candidate in next year's elections instead of being allowed to vote only for those standing in

wards where they are registered to vote.

Shire President Brian Rayner and Deputy President Therese Chitty said in April that they both favour scrapping ward boundaries for council elections.

If the number of councillors is reduced too, all currently occupied seats will be declared vacant and Toodyay voters will gain a one-off right in 2019 to vote for all seven councillors on a single ballot paper.

Candidates polling the highest numbers of votes will win four-year terms, and those with the next highest numbers will be elected for two years.



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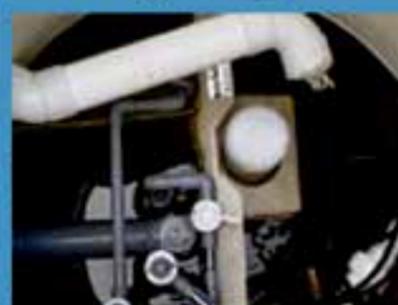
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Police raid nets Julimar stolen fishing tackle haul

Police Beat

With Sgt Dave Flaherty
Toodyay Police Station



TOODYAY police netted a big catch of stolen fishing tackle worth several thousand dollars in a surprise raid on a Julimar rental property last month.

Acting on information gained by Perth police, local officers uncovered a large-scale online home business trafficking in stolen fishing gear.

They found an 'Aladdin's Cave' of fishing lures, jigs and lines – some worth up to \$60 each – stacked in boxes for online sale, mostly on *Facebook*.

When questioned by police, the house occupant – a man in his early 30s – allegedly said that he only stole from shops because "if you do guns or drugs you go to jail".

Toodyay acting police chief Sgt Dave Flaherty said the man appeared to have been conducting a flourishing online business selling stolen fishing gear.

The business appeared to have been operating for many months, with unsuspecting buyers placing online orders worth up to \$200 a time for stolen fishing tackle.

"What we found may be just be the tip of the iceberg," Sgt Flaherty said.

"A spare room at the house was set up as a warehouse where stolen fishing tackle was being stored for online sale at about 10 per cent below market value.

The thefts were first reported by a BCF (Boating Fishing Camping) store in Perth and matched several video security camera sightings of the same man at other BCF stores across the metropolitan area.

Perth police used in-store video surveillance records to match the man's face to payment card transactions to reveal his name and address, which was forwarded to Toodyay police to obtain a search warrant.

Local officers conducted a daytime raid on the Julimar property and discovered the stolen haul.

The man was charged with 20 counts of stealing and was due to appear in court this month.

"People should always be wary of online sales, especially on *Facebook*, to ensure they are not buying stolen goods," Sgt Flaherty said.

"They risk forfeiting their purchases and not getting their money back if the sales are



Flames engulf the cab of a fully laden clay truck which caught fire on Toodyay Road.

tracked by police and found to be unlawful. "Other similar companies in Perth are being asked to check if they too have any video surveillance images of the same man in their store."

Truck fire

A DRIVER escaped unhurt when a fully laden clay truck towing a trailer was destroyed by fire on Toodyay Road last month.

The driver reported sudden heavy smoke from the truck engine which then caught fire and spread quickly to the cab, possibly due to failure of the diesel motor turbo drive.

Traffic was disrupted while local police and a fire brigade crew attended the scene.

The fire caused minor damage to Toodyay Road and the truck was destroyed but the trailer was undamaged.

Police are treating it as an accident.

Mini rail vandalism

CHILDREN aged 12 to 17 years old have been caught damaging property at the Toodyay Miniature Railway in Duidgee Park (full mini rail report, Page 14).

The offenders were identified after being caught on video surveillance cameras installed by the Shire of Toodyay.

"There were three daytime incidents in three weeks," Sgt Flaherty said.

"It was mainly pushing over poles, damaging signs and interfering with the signal box – nothing that stopped the trains from running but nuisance, juvenile stuff.

"Our message to all parents is that you should always know where your kids are and what they are doing.

"This is particularly important during the July school holidays."

Roo crash miracle escape

LOCAL police were amazed when a woman who crashed her motorcycle into a kangaroo at 80km/h on Julimar Road last month walked into Toodyay Police Station next morning, seemingly unscathed.

The motorcycle rider was wearing a leather jacket and jeans and was returning home from work in Northam on a Monday night at about 10.30pm.

"She was about 5km west of Coondle West Road doing about 80km/h in the 110km/h

speed zone when a roo came out of nowhere and she hit it," Sgt Flaherty said.

"A motorist following behind saw her drop the bike, hit the ground and skid about 20m along the road surface.

"Ambulance officers were called to the scene and took the woman to Northam Hospital with suspected spinal injuries.

"However, we were amazed the next morning when she walked into the police station with only a bruised leg.

"You'd have to call that a 'believe it or not' story – a truly miraculous escape."

Elder abuse magnet for morning tea

Toodyay Community Safety and Crime Prevention Association
Desraé Clarke

A FREE community morning tea will be held at 10am in the Cola Café on Thursday July 12.

Sgt Dave Flaherty, Officer-in-Charge of the Toodyay Police Station will be our guest so come along with your questions and opinions – the Toodyay Community Safety and Crime Prevention Association (CSCPA) members look forward to meeting you.

Elder abuse has recently been a much-discussed topic. Although unpleasant, some elder abuse can begin quite innocently with the following as an example.

Younger family members who live some distance from their older folk encourage the parents to sell their city home and move to their country property.

However, a family's circumstances can change.

Older members can be left alone for very long periods while the family is away working.

This often results in the elder being isolated from long-time acquaintances, familiar close-by shopping and no available transport.

This situation can be looked upon as elder abuse but not in a deliberate manner; the topic could be discussed in relation to the Choose Respect program which will be introduced to our community.

A fridge magnet with significant contact numbers has been developed by the Toodyay CSCPA and will be available at the free community morning tea.

As mentioned in the June edition of the *Herald*, the association's website is progressing and will soon be accessible.

In the meantime telephone numbers are available on the new fridge magnet: Police emergency, 131 444; Toodyay Police, 9574 9995 and, CrimeStoppers, 1800 333 000.

Beware 'princess' promises in online dating

Computer Safety
Phil Hart

ONLINE dating sites are becoming a common way of meeting people.

Some sites are free; other sites charge for extra services.

A list of dating sites aimed at Australians can be found at bit.ly/2JkcFNJ along with the age range that each is meant for.

Dating sites do, however, contain dangers. Some people join dating sites for all the wrong reasons.

This includes identity thieves, liars, bullies, blackmailers, sociopaths, psychopaths and sexual predators.

Check what somebody has written about himself or herself in their biography. If it seems or feels slightly off, it probably is.

See if you can find them elsewhere on the internet and check that everything matches. Check what they have written in the public areas of the dating site.

Try to work out what sort of person would write those words.

Stay as anonymous as possible. Avoid giving out contact details; street address, telephone numbers and email address.

If you agree to meet, make sure that it is in a public place and make your own way to it. Don't accept a lift until you know the other person properly.

Be patient. If the other person starts pushing you to go faster, then treat that as a warning sign.

Treat all claims of bereavement or divorce with suspicion. They could be trying to play on your emotions.

Beware of promises to "treat you like a princess" or promising you the earth.

Check out any skills or knowledge that they claim to have.

Anybody who claims to be a mental health professional and is not able to engage in a detailed discussion about a clinical condition should be dismissed.

Anybody who asks you for money should be blocked and immediately reported to the site's administrators.

More detailed information can be found at bit.ly/2ILBxt4.



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EMERGENCY SERVICES

Breathalyser investigated to ensure firies fit to drive

Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Coondle Nunile
Max J Heath

WHAT a change it has been with call outs now down to a minimum after a hectic time at the start of burning season.

A few things have been happening at the shed in recent times with a lot of discussion resulting from matters raised at meetings.

At the meeting before last there was talk of trying to work out if electronic devices are suitable for use in the two trucks and if they'd be helpful for tracking and GPS on the fire ground.

Also, there have been thoughts about our annual awards where we have names on our honour boards but as members don't have anything they can take home for the year there has been discussion of about an annual trophy.

To date, there have been some interesting ideas.

Inquiries have also been made as to the purchase of a breathalyser so as to make sure we are under the right limit when we drive fire fighting vehicles.

Another thing to come up was the purchase of another defibrillator for our other truck.

This will mean that we have equipped both of our units with these life-saving pieces of equipment.

Plans have been made to have a Christmas in July, as at the normal Christmas there is always the duty crew who can't relax.

This has been booked for the end of July and will be a bus trip to and evening in Northam.

Things in the volunteer service have definitely changed since I joined and at the recent Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting it apparently came up that now

volunteers have to have a criminal check before joining a brigade.

And now, to next fire season. Have you started to think about your fire breaks and if trees are over-hanging where they shouldn't be?

Now is the time for planning. Please remember that we are volunteers and need all the help and safe keeping that we can possibly have.

Law requires you to fit compliant smoke alarms

RESIDENTIAL property owners in WA need to be on the ball when it comes to smoke alarms and the laws governing them.

West Australian laws require the owner of a dwelling to have compliant smoke alarms and residual current devices (RCDs) installed before selling, transferring ownership, renting or hiring the dwelling.

The smoke alarms must be in working order, less than 10 years old and in most cases, permanently connected to mains power.

Landlords of rental properties must also ensure there are compliant smoke alarms fitted and maintained.

Tenants should report any concerns they have about smoke alarms to their landlord or managing agent.

For further information and fact sheets, visit buildingcommission.wa.gov.au or email bcinfo@dmirs.wa.gov.au or ring the Building and Energy Division on 1300 489 099.



Candles pose a winter fire danger..

Candles, blocked chimneys a danger for indoor fires

Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Morangup
Sue Maddrell

JUNE has been a quiet month for Morangup except for a truck fire (*story previous page*) which involved a couple of volunteers.

The Morangup brigade assisted Wundowie Fire and Rescue by transferring water to their unit until Wayne Weaver turned up with the Toodyay 12.2 and took over.

Winter is a catch-up for volunteers wanting to do extra training with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.

Winter is also a time for house fires caused by blocked chimneys and clothes left too close to heaters.

If your wood heater is not operating as it should, then maybe it's time to have the chimney checked.

Another common cause of house or

caravan fires is the candles. Candles should never be left unattended or burning near curtains, clothing or paper.

They should always be placed on a stable surface away from drafts and open windows. Make sure candles are extinguished before going to bed.

If the electricity is out, it is better to use a torch.

Many people burn candles for ambiance which is probably their principal use but if your house or caravan burns down and the fire was caused by a candle, ambiance is the least of your worries.

These fires are preventable. The brigade is looking forward to the annual dinner in July which will be held in the Morangup Community Hall.

Anyone interested in joining the Morangup fire brigade or seeking information should ring our captain, Jeff Venn on 0417 714 798.

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EMERGENCY SERVICES

Memory sticks best way to secure documents

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

AT THIS time of the year it's probably the right time to start planning for the next fire season and while there are plenty of sources of information regarding fire preparation around our properties, I don't see too much about the documents we should protect.

So, this is going to be a bit of a memory jogger for you.

Before I go into the 'what to protect' I'll offer some advice on the 'how to protect'.

First and foremost, all the important documents in their original form are the ones to protect most carefully, not the copies, but copies can save a lot of frustration and time if you have to organise replacements.

So, what's the best way of copying? The simplest way is to photocopy them. If you don't have access to facilities at home it's easy to take copies at a library, or the Toodyay Community Resource Centre. It's very inexpensive.

The way most people do their copying is to scan them using their computer printer, and this of course costs virtually nothing.

Scan them and save them in a folder as pdfs or jpeg documents making sure each is clearly named. Once you've done this store the file on a USB memory stick.

Once you have copied or scanned your documents, put copies or the USB in a clearly labelled envelope and store in a safe place; if possible away from your own home.

What to do with the original documents? These are the ones that really matter and there are a number of suggestions.

Once again, away from your home is the best solution, but because they are so valuable they should also be somewhere secure.

Most importantly, they should not be readily accessible to anyone other than you, or to someone to whom you have permitted access.

If you need to keep them with you then consider purchasing a small fireproof document safe.

What are your most important documents? For private individuals these are documents that prove your identity, prove your status or qualifications, allow you to transact property and investments, and determine the fate of your assets in the event of your demise.

Here are some typical documents you should consider, but you may think of others.

- * Birth certificate
- * Passport
- * Degrees or Certificates relating to academic and trade qualifications
- * Property titles
- * Investment certificates
- * Details of all bank accounts and credit cards
- * Your most recent tax assessment from the Australian Taxation Office
- * Insurance policies (car, home, health etc)
- * Certified copy of your Last Will and Testament

Last but not least, it's worth considering photographs. These are the memories of a lifetime.

However, in this digital age collections of photographs are frequently lost when computers are damaged, stolen or simply replaced.

You could store many photographs on a USB. The Bejoording Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade asks you to remember to always plan and prepare before lighting any fire for any reason and have a clear contingency strategy in place should things get out of control.

Even at the safest times of the year fires can pose a risk to people and property, whether it's burning off on your acreage or a backyard bonfire, so take care.

Our next meeting at the shed will be on Friday July 20 at 5.45pm.

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



Total fire bans are meant to prevent call-outs that endanger fire crews and vehicles.

Total fire ban justified by multiple local call-outs

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

JUNE has been relatively quiet for Toodyay Central Bush Fire Brigade but, although the weather has been wetter, we have had two call-outs.

Our brigade attended a shed fire at Coondle and a truck fire that destroyed a clay truck on the Toodyay Road (story Page 6).

We have all now had time to reflect on the shambles that occurred on Thursday and Friday May 24 and 25 when we had multiple call-outs in the shire.

This was especially disappointing because a total fire ban was declared for the Friday.

The ban was declared in several shires due to several factors, including a forecast of very windy weather ahead of a cold front late in the week.

Windy weather had been consistently predicted by the Bureau of Meteorology since at least the preceding weekend.

There was some criticism in social media that the ban was an over-reaction and that

people should be allowed to burn on both those days.

One posting asserted that people should be allowed to burn because they had enough common sense to judge for themselves whether or not to light up.

Subsequent events in Toodyay demonstrated the fallacy of this assertion.

In addition, bush fires at Albany on the Thursday and Friday, where property and livestock were lost, reinforced the wisdom of Toodyay's total fire ban.

If you need to receive SMS notifications of harvest, vehicle movement or hot works bans or variations to restricted and prohibited burning periods or total fire bans please send an SMS with the message BANS to 0408 017 439.

For information regarding emergency warnings visit the Department of Fire and Emergency Services website.

If you are interested in finding out more about our brigade or if you would like to join it, please get in touch with me on 0439 998 808 or contact brigade secretary Lorraine Hort on 0407 421 234.



St John

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Council now understands that it's in charge

Toodyay Progress Association
Larry Graham, Chair

USUALLY we attend every Toodyay Shire Council meeting in a cloud of gloom but last month it was heartening to see signs of progress.

A number of important decisions were listed, and different outcomes could have pushed our council in entirely the wrong direction.

This was the first ordinary meeting with the two newly elected councillors Bill Manning and Craig Brook in place.

The association congratulates both for winning with absolute majorities, and we also make the point that once again the town has voted for change.

It was apparent from this meeting that things have changed, so this time the town stands a chance of getting what it is seeking.

The rigid voting blocks have relaxed and the voting numbers are fluid, which is a good thing because it indicates that the personality-based factions are starting to fray at the edges.

The association hopes that this will continue as we hope that no new factions/groups are formed.

The association is pleased with this small step forward and we encourage councillors to not become anarchists but to responsibly exercise their authority to ensure that council operates in the public interest.

At this meeting there were some critical issues that had to be addressed – the report on those mammoth legal costs was tabled, and the policy to limit public question time, the highly controversial communications policy proposals and the vexed question of what rate increases are needed were all up for decisions by the council.

For the first time that I can recall, our councillors exerted their influence and voted to not do what they were told, and the association congratulates them for doing it.

Not because we agree with the outcomes but because it was a joy to hear some sensible, intelligent, non-aggressive discussion take place followed by the flexible voting patterns mentioned earlier.

It is way too early to say that our council has reformed itself but it was at the crossroads and the direction it has changed to is encouraging – the association congratulates the councillors for that.

For the association, the major matter dealt with related to those huge costs that arose from the council legal action taken against a former shire CEO and shire president.

After the association raised the matter months ago, your councillors unanimously voted to have an independent audit into those legal costs.

At this month's meeting councillors were presented with the report of that so-called "independent audit".

It did not tell us much except that it was neither independent nor an audit.

We are pleased to say that, after receiving a submission from the association, the councillors voted unanimously to refer the matter to the council's audit committee for a report.

The reason this is a good thing is that this committee is legally independent of the council administration.

It was the body that raised the matter in the first place and it is able to access all documents, legal advice, deeds and anything else necessary to competently audit and report on this debacle.

The association congratulates councillors for making this decision, and we trust this decision ends the covering up and secrecy that has been the dominant feature of this issue.

Until they get into public life, few people understand just how unforgiving and difficult it is.

After two years, the association is pleased to be able to write a column of this nature and we seriously hope that we can do more in the future because what our councillors are starting to do is what they are required to do – they are now understanding that the law puts them in charge.

And in closing, the association passes on its further congratulations to Cr Therese Chitty for the way she managed the meeting.

Cr Chitty demonstrated tolerance, kept things on track and the absence of previous aggressive and dogmatic behaviour was noticeable.

The positive changes were welcome and the comments from those attending after the meeting were mostly kind and congratulatory.

As always, we point out that we are a not-for-profit, volunteer public advocacy group that will not and has not, run, supported or endorsed candidates for elected office.



John Clarke (left) and Mick McKeown outside the former boys' dormitory at the site.

Local group forms to protect Catholic church precinct

Friends of the Toodyay Catholic Precinct
Mick McKeown and Frank Panizza

THE TOODYAY Catholic precinct, which includes all the beautiful old buildings around the Catholic Church in Stirling Terrace, is under threat of inappropriate development.

The WA Planning Commission has granted approval to the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth to subdivide the precinct.

Unfortunately, the process of obtaining the approval was conducted behind closed doors.

Although the process was legal according to the letter of the law, it meant there was no provision for public input or comment regarding the proposal.

The subdivision has been approved with conditions mainly related to access from the Goomalling Road and provision of services such as sewerage, power and water supply.

Once the conditions of the subdivision have been met, the Archdiocese will be permitted to sell each of the buildings on the site to the highest bidder.

Despite their history, the buildings have no State Heritage protection.

The blame for the lack of protection can be laid at the door of the State Heritage Office which has failed to complete an assessment for statutory heritage listing which it began

in July 2012.

A committee – known as The Friends of the Toodyay Catholic Precinct – was formed after a public meeting in May.

The committee includes parishioners and citizens, both Catholic and non-Catholic, who are committed to preserving the heritage of the Catholic precinct in Toodyay.

A glint of light has been cast on the precinct's future.

At last month's Toodyay Shire Council meeting, Shire CEO Stan Scott said he had received expert planning advice that the best way to protect the heritage buildings would be for the shire to create a special-use zone covering the precinct.

This would allow appropriate special planning rules to be enforced.

The CEO also promised that a representative of the Friends of the Toodyay Catholic Precinct would be invited onto a shire working group to formulate rules for a special-use zone.

The Friends would like to acknowledge the intent and continuing efforts of the shire to protect this very important part of Toodyay's Heritage.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Perth said it had received initial approval for the subdivision with a "number of conditions attached" which the Archdiocese would review and consider – Ed.

New shows coming to Toodyay radio



Toodyay Community Radio
Ken Stivey, Secretary

WE ARE pleased to announce that from Monday July 9 we will be adding new programs for particular types of music.

First cab off the rank is a new Jazz hour at 9.30am on Mondays and after Sunday night Swooners and Crooners, featuring selections from The Badger's collection.

Second is the addition of a Blues hour at 8.30pm on Wednesdays after Wide World of Folk, featuring more selections from The Badger's music library.

Thirdly there's Country on Friday nights between Ready 4 Retro and Ready 2 Rock, featuring an eclectic variety of modern country pop, rock and hick hop.

Another two hours of country will air at high noon on Saturdays featuring very distinct content, with the first hour being mostly easy-listening pre-2000 tracks, followed by an hour of music mainly from the 2000s to showcase the evolution of country music to the present day.

Work on a new 2J2AIR web page is underway – stay tuned in for launch date.

It's your resource centre – use it or lose it

Community Resource Centre
Bob Schrader

THE TOODYAY Community Resource Centre (CRC) is currently dealing with significantly reduced government funding as of July 2019.

We would like to hear from you as to how our services can assist you with your business and, in turn, you would be helping us to stay in business.

Your ongoing support and business is very important to the CRC and is a vital part of hopefully keeping the Toodyay Community Resource Centre open.

Did you know the Toodyay CRC has an excellent function centre available for workshops, social gatherings or stand-up functions for up to 50 people?

This well-equipped centre is available for hire at a very reasonable price to anyone or any business in Toodyay.

Need access to a computer, printer or copying facilities, or maybe just a quiet place to work for a few hours?

The Toodyay CRC has all the facilities you need to get things done.

Come to our Sundowner on Wednesday July 25 at 5.30pm in the CRC Function Room to hear what the centre can do for you and your business.

Light refreshments and drinks will be supplied by sponsors Coorinja Winery, Country Realty and the Toodyay Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

RSVP for catering purposes to the CRC on toodyay@crc.net.au or 9574 5357.




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Noongar leader takes us back to Ballardong country

Rev. Peggy Ludlow

NOONGAR business and community leader Oral McGuire recently visited the Toodyay Naturalists Club.

Oral, who is Gundi Consulting Managing Director, introduced his mob from Quairading, York and Tammin.

His musical and lyrical Welcome to Country remembered his beloved people and especially his grandparents.

This misty place, Toodyay, was for Oral a special place of pilgrimage in the heart of Ballardong country.

He talked about the 14 languages of the Noongar people from Geraldton to Esperance, which is the biggest geographical group of indigenous peoples in Australia.

Oral spoke movingly of the need to talk the truths of history and spoke of a people's spirits smashed by history.

Reforms begun under former Prime Minister Gough Whitlam (1972-75) created a new perspective and hope for the indigenous peoples of Australia, he said.

They had persevered and survived, with extraordinary achievements in recent years.

As Oral talked, we discovered that this is where opportunity had begun and still flourishes.

The Noongar Land Enterprise (cooperative) was created last February with six farms in Beverley and others, across WA's South-West, are on the horizon.

The cooperative aims to harness opportunities and economy of scale, and bring Noongar peoples 'back to country'.

Oral described attitudes that prevail against native title as 'hysterical', leaving Noongar peoples weak when it comes to land ownership.

He said groups in the state's north have had a stronger say in achieving exclusive rights for their people.

Oral talked with pictures about sacred spaces and the Avon River corridor which links different stories – all connected to



Oral McGuire addresses the Toodyay Naturalists Club. Photo: Beth Frayne.

each other.

His project is to work the land sympathetically, drawing together celebration, cultural connections, initiation and land management.

It is the place where people can again connect to country.

Oral described the six seasons of the year and indigenous familiarity with the climate, and also the landscape being farmed.

Its ochre red rock outcrops would have been the currency of past times.

Bees are farmed on cooperative landholdings and the honey branded under the Noongar label for the Chinese market.

One farm produces bush tucker for high-end restaurants.

All of us were encouraged to eat at the Wildflower Restaurant in Perth, where the produce is used.

Oral explained how cultural tourism can link with the cooperative's endeavours.

His own farm in Beverley is a special place and felt like that from our first visit with peace and a sense of well-being evident.

It's 21,000 acres (8500ha) of rugged hill

country where biodiversity and healthy country are key as Oral spoke about the Noongar spirit needing repair.

The pictures showed this regrowth and sympathetic treatment of worn and over-worked pastures, now with trees planted and growing in vast numbers.

"We can do it" is how Oral described the process of regeneration and healing over a land which needs custodians.

Photographs taken before and after show the newly created life and diversity of the land.

Oral described the Noongar people's history as being about agricultural practices – they were not hunter gatherers as thought in the past.

Marked places and spiritual spaces have been discovered within the pastures and continue to be found since the 2010 purchase.

Oral showed photos of physical marks such as triangle shapes with an identifiable central spiritual space.

Big pools in the Avon River course – 26 in all – are being excavated and bull rushes planted to allow the water fringes to be restored.

I loved his strong sense of the spiritual "Our Father who sits on high", and his deep longing for restoration for Noongar

people – "know the land, know the song".

Oral talked about the early creation of roads which followed the tracks of Aboriginal people.

Often where bends have been removed and straight roads created, it is across sacred places that are dangerous for men and women – quite a thought when there are so many accidents on WA roads.

This year 600,000 trees will be planted on the farm with 60 percent of the land now planted.

Oral discussed controlled burning and the indigenous method of mosaic burns which have created a diversity of landscape and ecology over thousands of years.

It has seen a gradual fall in wild oat growth and proliferation of native grasses, with the possibility native species being released onto the land.

How does the project and work get funded?

There are a growing number of school visits to Oral's place, which is a sanctuary for wildlife and plants that offers training possibilities and a connection to country for all who visit.

The last Noongar corroboree was performed in 1922 – its time to dance again.

Thank you Oral, for a challenging, interesting and wonderful talk.



Oral with members of the Toodyay Naturalists Club and interested local residents.

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The wool market continues to set records.

Riding on the sheep's back puts farmers back in clover

Toodyay Agricultural Alliance
Frank Panizza

WHAT a difference rain makes. The Toodyay landscape has been transformed into rolling green hills once again.

The good falls at the end of May and into June have been a boon for livestock producers and grain farmers alike.

Pastures have rebounded well although they are short and dominated by capeweed in many instances.

Reports from farmers indicate that clover has also germinated well, which is unusual because summer rain generally gives clover a false start.

Farmers who have marked lambs are reporting about-average lambing percentages and that stock is generally in good condition.

Feed rations are still expensive so farmers are relieved to see pastures improving.

Grain crops in the shire have all germinated well, apart from canola which has been a little patchy especially if the canola was sown dry.

Barley prices are at good levels currently.

Good prices encouraged farmers to sow more barley this year. This was very evident by the shortage of barley seed for this year's crop becoming a problem for many towards the end of the seeding season.

The wool market is still setting records. Multiple wool price records have been set over the past few weeks.

The benchmark Eastern Market indicator (Sydney) traded over 2000 cents per kilogram for the first time, catching the Western Market Indicator (WA) which broke the 2000-cent barrier the week before.

These strong prices bode well for the industry both in economic returns for the farmers and also to attract new investors and younger people into agriculture.

At the same time records for wool were being set, controversy again broke out over animal welfare on a live sheep carrier at sea.

I cannot give any justice to the whole live animal export debate in a few words in a newspaper column. I have only attempted to garner the thoughts of local producers who, at the end of the day will be the most affected.

Farmers take the welfare of their livestock seriously and understand the legal and moral responsibility of caring for their animals.

Many are frustrated by the ongoing controversy and feel they are being punished for things outside their control.

Some believe that the whole issue is now so marred in controversy and fixed positions, that no rational debate will ever be possible again.

Others have already left or will leave the livestock industry concerned that changes forced upon them by see-sawing government policy is too risky from a business perspective.

Many others are happy to look at whatever changes transpire and will work with them.

WIFE dips into tough territory to tackle succession planning

Women in Farming Enterprises
Alison Wroth

WE ARE organising a guest speaker from WA Property Lawyers to either attend one of our monthly meetings or if there is enough interest in the community, organise a seminar for local farming families.

Lawyer Corinne Adams will discuss estate planning with a focus on farm succession planning and will answer any questions brought up during the seminar.

We are looking at August or September for the seminar and believe it would be beneficial for all who are interested or have yet to discuss the topic of succession, which is sometimes difficult to bring up, let alone discuss in detail.

More information on this seminar will be available next issue and if you have any queries, please feel free to email toodyay@wife.org.au.

Farm safety and security is high on our

agenda and down the track a representative from our local WA police force is willing to discuss the issues that arise from living on a property with many assets, give us advice on how to make the property less attractive to potential thieves and how to use security cameras and much more.

This will relate to security around both farms and rural homes in the country.

Our WIFE banner is still in the works and is yet to find a sponsor but we are looking forward to owning and using it whenever we have seminars or events.

Dowerin Field Days are focussing on Women in Agriculture so this event is a definite to attend and enjoy, as well as the quickly approaching WIFE seminar in Dowerin in September.

These are events to look forward to, as well as attending meetings of other branches to see how they operate.

Good times are ahead for the Toodyay WIFE branch.

Size matters most when it comes to showing your sweet potato

Toodyay Agricultural Society
Alison Wroth, Senior Vice-President

SUCCULENTS and cacti have become so retro trendy that they are sure to attract many entries at this year's Show.

Plants that our grannies had growing around the corner of the house are now being grown by everybody in fancy pots.

The varieties of cacti and succulents are amazing, so please enter the best you have to stun this year's judge; add a bit of competition to the Floriculture and see how you go.

If not succulents, which are great for kids to enter as well, try putting a hanging basket together as they add so much colour and greenery to the hall.

We have been a bit short on hanging baskets in the past few years so there is always the worry that the class may be cut from the schedule.

If the season and the parrots have been working with you, the roses will be ready just in time, so consider entering them; come on people, let's liven up the Floriculture section and give the stewards some work to do.

Asian Greens and Giant Sweet Potatoes which have been left in the ground just for the Show, are making the children (and bigger kids) quite keen to enter these two new classes.

Taking no time to grow, the variety of Asian Greens that you can plant is endless; plant on July 9, add a bit of TLC and you will hopefully have a Best Exhibit to enter.

To exhibit the plant, half fill a small jar with water when you get to the Show and stand the trimmed base of the vegetable in it.

Also remember that the Sweet Potato class



Sweet potato –bigger is better for Show. is being judged on size alone. For this class, size does matter.

The Cookery benches will be all new and renovated this year, owing to the donation by the Toodyay Op Shop of \$2000 to continue the maintenance in the Lee Steere Pavilion.

Since this section will be so new, we will definitely require exhibits to show off the benches.

Baking can be done anytime if you are busy as exhibits can be frozen.

Bread, however, is a different story and most regulars prefer to bake their loaves on the morning or the previous night.

Either way, there is nothing like seeing many loaves, machine or hand made, in competition.

So, think about entering the cooking section – new classes this year, so a lot of variety to bake.

After competition, you can leave it for the auction or take it home for the family.

Remember our Annual Exhibitors' Workshop coming up on Saturday, August 25.

The sections covered are Floriculture, Needlework (which includes Knitting, Crochet and Sewing) and finally Patchwork and Quilting.

Qualified Show judges will be giving advice on what they look for and how to improve your skills to obtain that Best Exhibit sash.

Bring your pen and paper. It's definitely a day to mark on the calendar.



Time now to plant Asian greens.



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If you think you would like more information about these Farmstays and the requirements, please contact us as soon as possible.

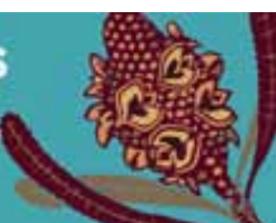
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Trapdoor reveals treasure trove of old photographs

Toodyay Historical Society
Robyn Taylor

IT'S SURPRISING what ends up at the tip, and not just the one in Toodyay.

When I arrived in WA I was lucky to land a job with the 150th Anniversary Board.

Preparations were well under way for the state's big birthday in 1979 and one of my jobs was to liaise with the public.

A chap came in one day carrying a family album he had rescued from the local tip.

The photos appeared to date from the turn of the 20th century, c.1910, and provided a touching glimpse of the life and times of a young well-to-do family living somewhere around South Perth.

The album captured their home life, the children in the garden posed with toys while dressed in their Sunday best, and playing on a sandy beach bordering the Swan River.

Unfortunately, there were no identifying names with the album, so it was decided to donate it to a museum specialising in WA childhood.

There must be many such albums that have been lost because family circumstances have changed or old black and white albums hold no interest for a younger generation.

Often it is a matter of luck that saves these treasures.

Some years ago, a cache of more than 90



Robert Faust, Toodyay Club steward from 1911 to 1931, operates a treadle machine in the back yard of his Stirling Terrace residence.

quarter plate glass negatives was found in a cellar in West Perth.

A charity had been undertaking the task of clearing out the house when a trapdoor was discovered under the linoleum.

Not only bottles of wine were revealed but a very expensive camera and the glass negatives accompanied by cards recording the subjects, locations and dates. What a find.

Rick Mason, a lecturer in photography at

Murdoch University, researched the collection and presented his findings in a talk he gave in 2015.

The house once belonged to Robert and Catherine Faust and a number of photographs were identified as having been taken in and around Toodyay.

Research undertaken by our member Beth Frayne found the Fausts had lived in Stirling Terrace and Robert had been the Club Steward of the Toodyay Club (now the Curry Club) from 1911 to 1931.

The photographs suggest the couple lived on the premises.

The collection is a treasure trove for the social historian, not only revealing the fashions and pastimes of this bygone era, but how our now historic buildings appeared at that time.

One of my favourites is Robert Faust sitting at a treadle machine.

Seated in the side garden, which was also the club's bowling-green, he appears to be winding balls of wool from a large skein, or perhaps it's a spinning machine?

In the background are the buildings on the other side of Stirling Terrace.

Other photos based in town show the Newcastle Bridge in flood, Butterly House can be seen in the background and Monger's Store and Connor's Mill with its chimney stack. There are many more.

For our June event the video produced by Rick Mason about his research into the Faust Collection was shown to fascinated members followed by afternoon tea.

Our annual raffle fundraiser will be outside the IGA on Friday and Saturday July 6 and 7.

Next meeting: Wednesday July 18, 7pm at Drummond House next to the bank.

End of month excursion: Saturday July 28 at Coorinja Winery and Ringa Bridge.

Meet at the winery at 2pm for tour of both sites, followed by bring-and-share afternoon tea.

For more information contact: secretary.2j.ths@gmail.com; Robyn Taylor, rdtaylor@inet.net.au, 9574 2578 or, Beth Frayne toobide4@inet.net.au, 9574 5971.

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

There are displays of books and other items at Drummond House which is open on Saturday mornings.

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

Six massive stockpots of home-made soup

Bejoording Community Group News
From the desk of The Badger

THERE were a couple of events in June; our annual 'Woodchop' and annual Soup Feast.

The main 'shed event' of the month was our annual Soup Feast.

Six massive stock pots of classic home-made soups.

Pasta and meatball, tomato, pea and ham, mushroom, pumpkin and, roast veggie soup were prepared by our members and served with loaves of heated crusty bread from the Toodyay Bakery.

There was hardly a drop left and the folks were coming back for seconds and thirds.

Standing around the open pit fire on a freezing cold night with a mug of hot homemade soup and a chunk of hot crusty bread has to be one

of life's delights.

Our thanks to all the cooks and to Lee Baird for organising the night.

Our annual woodchop was well attended and at least four 'ute' loads of logs were cut and stacked by members, enough to keep our fire pit running through the winter.

A big thankyou to all the chain saw guys and the stackers.

Next month's social is our annual American Independence Day Hot Dog night on Wednesday July 4, homemade of course, and the following weekend will be our annual 4WD mystery weekend (camping of course) organised by Kim Leonhardt.

More on those next month. There's never a dull moment in Bejoording.

A quick reminder to members who haven't paid their annual fees, they are now overdue.

The modest fee ensures we can sustain all the fun events throughout the year, so get your dosh to Linda as soon as possible.

Your monthly reminder - we meet every Wednesday evening (except in January) at the Bejoording Community Centre which shares premises with the local volunteer bush fire brigade in Bejoording Road.

Come along from 6pm and leave when it suits you.

It's strictly 'come as you are' casual, kids are welcome, and there are fun events every month. If you aren't yet a member, come along, we'd love to get to know you.

If you want to know more, you can contact president Barry Grey on 9574 2149 or call The Badger on 9574 4834.

Hope to see you soon.

jane brook *fresh*

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Morangup volunteer groups enjoy each others' company at a get-together at the community hall. Photo: Phil Hart.

Recycled waste, trucks and quarries raised with shire

Morangup Matters
Jo Hart

THE MORANGUP Progress Association (MPA) has had a busy time since early May. Firstly there was the shire information session in the community hall on Saturday May 12.

Presiding were Deputy Shire President, Therese Chitty and Shire CEO, Stan Scott. Councillors Greenway, Dow and Twine attended with apologies from President Rayner and Cr Welburn.

There were fewer residents than on past occasions.

Craig Brook, West Ward candidate and now newly elected councillor, attended the session to listen to community concerns.

There were a number of questions pre-submitted by residents and also additional spur-of-the-moment questions.

All questions generated lively discussion and the CEO provided a number of responses with more comprehensive answers promised by email for some questions.

Questions raised included: waste recycling; truck movements and the extractive industry;

sealing Morangup roads and subsequent potential drainage issues; buildings and facilities (ambulance station and modifications to the community hall); feral cats; the need for a helipad for the rescue helicopter and, of course, rates.

Also, in May the MPA hosted a Sunday morning Cuppa and a Chat session in the Hall, which provided residents with the opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones over morning tea.

This was the first of many such occasions and was much enjoyed by participants.

Other local events being held at the same time, plus a miserably wet morning combined to make attendance quite low.

Many residents and the MPA were busy in May submitting concerns about the Boral planning application for a massive increase to their hard rock quarry.

The potential impact on the Morangup community is huge.

A major event for the MPA in June was hosting the community groups' get together which gave local volunteer groups the chance to meet over a meal and develop stronger ties.

It was a very family friendly evening with many thanks due to the playgroup volunteers who organised activities for the youngsters.

Coming events in Morangup in the next few months: mosaic art at the community

hall on July 11 from 2-3:30pm (register at toodyay.wa.gov.au) and, MPA/playgroup Car Boot Sale on October 21 (details still to be finalised).

Watch this space for our local news.

Double fun for Bolgart 21st birthday

Bolgart News
Serena Syred and Nolene Kaszanski

Nolene Kaszanski won novelties and Serena Syred and Vivienne Camerer won the raffles.

ABBIEY and Jordie Kaszanski celebrated their 21st birthday on their parents block in Bejoording on June 2.

Perfect weather, great company and wonderful food saw 80 guests enjoy a wonderful evening with 40 spending the night and attending a recovery breakfast.

Bolgart Primary School students were inducted as convicts at the Newcastle Gaol recently.

Hard labour included a 'muddle' of objects that were associated with old time Toodyay occupations.

Good behaviour resulted in all students being eventually granted tickets of leave by the end of the day.

Seven golfers travelled to Cunderdin for their Holley Cup.

They all won something with Pam Meston and Joy Hamilton coming runners-up on a countback.

Jenny Knowles, Waveney Jones and Abbey (left) and Jordie Kaszanski.



Woodturners came from around the state to attend the Toodyay workshop.

Terrific turners turn it on for top-class show

Avon Woodturners
Max J Heath

HI THERE from 2J Junction and the Avon Woodturners.

Well, what a month we have had. After a lot of planning and worry we have now had our Toodyay WA Woodturners Association (WAWA) workshop.

There were a lot of phone calls and organising for the weekend and it was a great team effort with support from WAWA, our governing body.

They had organised some terrific turners to put on demonstrations at the workshop.

The day turned out perfect weather wise and so we were able to put all the participating businesses out under gazebos which freed up the shed interior.

We had cleaned and set up much on the previous Wednesday and on Friday we were able to put up gazebos and other items which took a load off Saturday morning.

About 90 to 100 people attended and they came from as far away as Collie, Busselton and Bunbury as well as the metropolitan clubs.

The competition for the day was a hand-held mirror and there were approximately 60 entries divided into three main categories.

The turning was of a high standard. Anyway, now we can get back to normal.

The turners who come on both days are going along well with different projects.

It is pleasing to see some of the work our new turners are producing and in the next couple of years we should see some extra entries at our annual show.

At our monthly meeting on June 24 we started to do some future planning and have got things organised for setting up our dust-extraction system which will make turning a lot more comfortable with less dust floating around the shed – a much healthier environment.

It will also have a system attached to make the cleaning of our premises a lot easier.

Also, at our meeting it was decided to attend The Taste of Chittering day to show what we can do.

We also decided to support our local show again by the sponsoring the Woodworking section.

We hope to have good entries although it has been a busy year for us and a lot of us would like to have done more turning to this point for the show.

Well that is about all from the Woodturners for now and so remember – please don't drive tired.



Do Derby Day with Transwa No matter what side you're on

On Sunday 5 August, we'll be operating special services to get you to and from the Derby at Optus Stadium.

Road Coach

A service will travel between Dunsborough and Optus Stadium stopping in Busselton and Bunbury. It is set to arrive at Optus Stadium at 1.40pm and depart after the match at 6.00pm.

AvonLink Rail

A special AvonLink service will travel between Northam and East Perth Station stopping at Toodyay and Midland. It is set to arrive at East Perth Station at 1.30pm and depart after the match from East Perth Station at 6.15pm. Passengers can connect to Transperth services where travel is free for all match ticketholders.

Discounts Available

Discounts are available to families, Seniors, WA Pensioners, Health Care Card holders and WA full-time students. For more information or to book, visit transwa.wa.gov.au today.

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Gidgegannup eagle's maiden flight clocks up 3400km

Ieva Tomsons

IN NOVEMBER 2017, the *Herald* had the rare opportunity of observing Murdoch PhD student Simon Cherriman attaching a GPS satellite transmitter to a juvenile Wedge-tailed Eagle which had hatched in a 30m Wandoo in Gidgegannup.

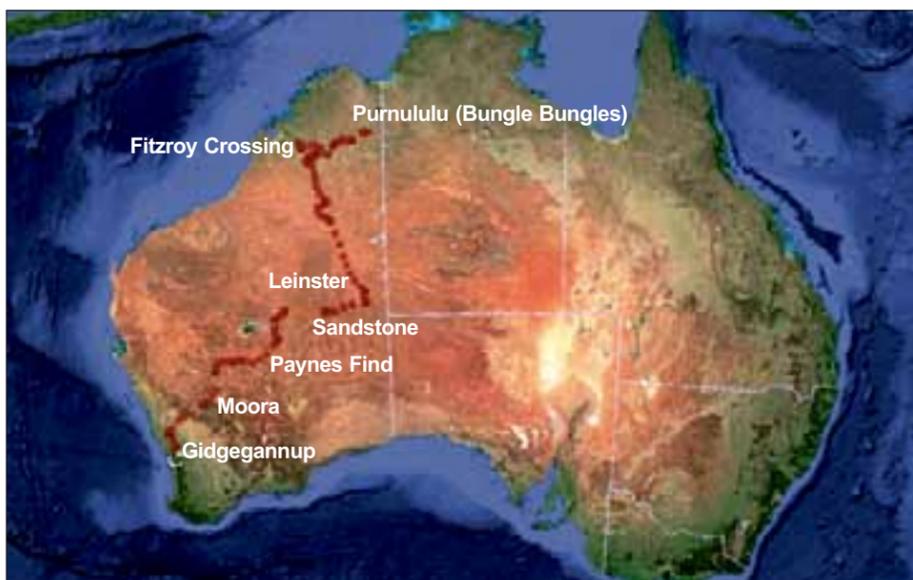
While fitting the transmitter to the nine-week-old eaglet, Simon was pecked numerous times by the feisty bird which was aptly given the Noongar name for biting – Baakininy.

Simon started tracking Wedge-tailed Eagle movements in 2013 and his research reveals that the eagles travel thousands of kilometres into central and northern Australia.

“Baakininy’s dispersal journey began on April 25 and for the past two months she has travelled 3400km, covering a vast range of habitats,” said Simon.

From her Gidgegannup eyrie she initially flew 755km in just nine days to reach the Pilbara region.

“She roosted near Moora on May 1, then cranked up her wind speed reaching Payne’s Find on the evening of May 2, then Sandstone on May 3 and was just north of Leinster on May 4.



Baakininy's two-month journey from her Gidgegannup nest to Purnululu National Park (The Bungle Bungles) in the Kimberley.

“There was obviously a very strong urge to head north, because Baakininy added 1900km to her odometer moving through

arid WA to reach Fitzroy Crossing in the Kimberley.”

In late June Baakininy was west of

Purnululu National Park (The Bungle Bungles) but Simon believes she could possibly cross into the Northern Territory.

“One bird flew from Whiteman Park and crossed the WA border near Lake Argyle just three weeks later – a distance of 3000km,” Simon reported.

“Satellite tracking has completely changed our understanding of how raptors use the landscape and the data from Wedge-tailed Eagles is no different. It’s really amazing.”

“As the crow flies”, Baakininy is only 2000km from her Morangup launch pad but she’s clocked up 3400km taking in the sights of the Wheatbelt, Mid West, Pilbara and Kimberley regions.

Simon is keen to hear reports from *Herald* readers of Wedge-tailed Eagle sightings in the Gidgegannup/Morangup area and would like to visit nests on local properties.

He can be contacted on 0422 916 747 or email aquila84@iinet.net.au or write to 180 Glendower Street, Parkerville WA 6081.

Baakininy’s progress can be tracked online at simoncherriman.blogspot.com/2017/11/baakininy-ironox-eagle.html.

Other long-distance eagle flights can be seen at [facebook.com/simon.cherriman.1](https://www.facebook.com/simon.cherriman.1) or [instagram.com/aquila84wa/](https://www.instagram.com/aquila84wa/).

Local rights activist stood up for others



Glen circa 1940.

2 June 1925-30 May 2018

GLEN COOK was the third child of seven children born to Ernest and Holly Charman in Harvey.

She grew up during the depression/pre-war era when making the most of every skill and opportunity was important to survival.

At age 16, Glen took the public service exam and scored in the top 25 per cent of applicants, landing a job with the taxation department in Perth.

Just before she turned 19, Glen met Bill Cook at a dance in Perth.

Bill, who had grown up on the Cook family farm in Coondle, was an RAAF radar mechanic on leave from Pearce Airbase

during World War 2.

Glen and Bill married in November 1944 and after the war moved to Toodyay.

During the 1960s Glen made significant contributions to the local community.

First as an active member of the Tree Society, raising native tree seedlings from seeds collected by Bill, and planting and supplying trees in the Toodyay district and beyond, including trees for the playground adjacent the school footbridge and Newcastle Gaol.

Then as a member of the Toodyay primary school P&C, Glen was a leading advocate in successfully lobbying for a junior high school to be established in Toodyay.

During the 1960s and 70s Glen was an active supporter with Bill of campaigns against the Vietnam War, logging of native forests and uranium mining.

Glen also regularly helped out at a centre for children with disabilities in Northam.

In 1979, with the children all left home, a new chapter in Glen’s life began as she joined Bill to help with their beekeeping business – travelling together around the south-west forests, towing the caravan with the 4WD while Bill drove the truck.



Beekeeping in the bush.



Enjoying a coffee at the Toodyay Bakery.

In later years Glen cared for Bill until he passed away in 2011, and then Glen maintained an independent life at home with the aid of family and carers.

In recent years Glen would be regularly seen having coffee in Stirling Terrace or inspecting the latest offerings at local op shops, engaging in conversation that was always full of much fun and laughter.

Glen was a forerunner as a conservationist and consumer advocate, standing up for the rights of others.

Her work ethic, generosity of spirit and witty sense of humour are qualities for which she will be remembered.

Glen is survived by brother Jack and sister Joyce, children Ted, Gary, Peter and Jenni, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Peter Cook

Vandals rip up gardens, derail train

Toodyay Miniature Railway
June Eastwood

UNFORTUNATELY, there has been an upsurge in vandalism (*see Police Beat, Page 6*) after a relatively quiet three years.

Our security cameras caught two culprits using their scooters to smash the covers shielding the underground signal system and giving ‘the fingers’ to our cameras.

Maybe they thought they were shams. Luckily for us, they aren’t.

A new sign was broken from its base and thrown away and a black metal sheep, the only attraction not bolted to iron pickets set in concrete, was pulled from its mount and no doubt thrown in the river.

Plants were trampled, a sign warning to be careful of them torn up and a wire fence to protect them squashed down.

The vandals tore down a plant trellis over the tunnel which once held our hardenbergas which sadly died.

At least this was not a disaster although the intention was there for it to be so.

Our Sunday run day was also spoilt for some passengers when their carriage derailed, giving them a fright.

The cause was a line of carefully-placed large sticks laid over the line.

With them being brown and in the shadow of trees lining the track, it was not possible to see them and stop the train fast enough to avoid contact.

We think this may be a separate incident and have been given names.

On a brighter note, the weather has been kind giving us pleasant run days between the bursts of rain.

It is also very pleasing to have at least 10 members available on most run days which makes it easier on the old stalwarts.

We even have Mark and Graham volunteering to learn the signal system which Barry Keens has modified in line with his redecoration of the signal box interior.

We run on the first and third Sundays of the month, public holidays and Wednesdays in the school term holidays.

We sometimes run a fifth Sunday but please check with either us or the Toodyay Visitors Centre in Piesse Street rather than turn up and be disappointed.

Time is 11am to 3pm on run days. Children are \$2 and adults \$3.

Contact 0427 744 462 for any inquiries.

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Sign on for Sandakan, for the trip of a lifetime

RSL Toodyay Sub Branch
Bruce Guthrie

RSL TOODYAY Sub Branch has spent the past month in 'quiet achiever mode' where preparations for future events and activities are happening.

We will be involved in supporting the Dowerin Machinery Field Day in late August and the Toodyay Agricultural Show on October 6.

The 2019 Sandakan Scholarship tour is launched in this paper.

Please refer to the full page coloured advertisement on Page 16.

Entries will close on September 21 and full details are shown in the advert.

Students considering applying would do well to contact Peter or Lou to discuss in more detail any aspect they require clarified.

Our two scholarship recipients this year had a great time on this a trip of a lifetime.

As the RSL membership group we met on June 23 at our new home – The Old Gardeners Depot at 5/7 Clinton Street.

About 12 members, supported by Graeme Bissett from the shire, Shelly from Front Door Design and builders Andrea and Dave Carling were present.

We discussed the planning and work required to convert a terrific shed into our clubhouse.

Items included layout, fit-out, toilets, outdoor area, parking and landscaping.

This was a most productive session.

The enthusiasm has not waned since the meeting on June 23 and a willing band of members has embarked on removing all redundant fixtures and debris from the shed and its surrounds in preparation for our refurbishment program.

RSL will meet at 1pm on Saturday July 14 for our next general meeting at 5/7 Clinton Street.

We welcome all members, ex-service people, family and friends.

We wish all great health during these cold winter months.

Contact Facebook Toodyay RSL, toodyayrsl@gmail.com or ring 9574 2102.



Many hands make light work at the kindy and pre-primary school playground.

Parents pitch in to clean-up

Toodyay Kindergarten and Pre-primary School
Clare Withers

Hardware and Mitre 10 Northam for their generous donations for our project.

The garden area looks tidy, weed free and the fruit trees are thankful for fresh soil and fertiliser.

Thank you to all the kind parents who donated their time, support and care to this project.

We are so very fortunate to have such a wonderful community of parents and families that work beside us to make a positive difference in our children's education.

AFTER school on June 22, the kindy and pre-primary families, some early childhood staff and principal, David Ball, worked together to tidy-up our kindy and pre-primary playground.

Thank you to all the families for their generous donations of fertilisers, soil, plants, paint and even a large cable reel.

Also, a big thank you to Toodyay Makit

Pots and pans bang-on for play

Early Childhood Team
Lynda De Ruiter

THE EARLY Childhood team at Toodyay District High School would like to thank Rob Broderick, Vicki and Donna from Toodyay's Waste Transfer Station for their enthusiasm and assistance in helping staff choose a trailerload of materials to improve our playground.

Some of the items donated included, pots, pans, sinks, cutlery, cake pans, dish racks, sieves, colanders, mixing bowls, frying pans and kitchen appliances.

We also received steering wheels, pool noodles, timber, hoses, hard hats, chairs, plastic cable spools as well as PVC pipe and fittings.

We are looking forward to utilising these materials in mud kitchens, a music and water



One person's trash is another's treasure.

wall and for imaginative play.

Thank you for helping the children of Toodyay.

We really appreciate your support.

School chaplaincy secured

Toodyay YouthCARE Council (Chaplaincy)
Vivienne Freeman, Secretary

communication, controlling emotions and working as a team as well as integrating into a community.

It also builds confidence and self-esteem in the participants.

All being well, there will be a performance at the end which parents will be invited to.

A teachers' appreciation morning tea was organised by the Toodyay YouthCARE Council on May 30.

This event recognised the teachers' contribution for their untiring efforts with our students.

Our recent YouthCARE raffle results were: 1st prize trailer load of wood, Suzette Geary and, 2nd prize hand-crafted rug, Lois Leeder. A total of \$847 was raised.

Thank you again to everyone who supported YouthCARE School Chaplaincy.

Our next Big Breakfast will be held on Monday July 23, 8am-8.45am on the school grassed area through from the office. Parents and friends are welcome.

AS A follow-up on the Federal Government's funding for the National School Chaplaincy Program, it's very exciting to know that the funding has been guaranteed into the future.

This can now only be changed with an Act of Parliament.

Thank you to the many people around Australia who voiced their support of the Chaplaincy Program in our schools.

Our school chaplain, Doug McGhee and YouthCARE committee member Brian Ludlow have been involved in a three-day drumbeat facilitators' course.

We hope to start the program in either Term 3 or 4 this year.

The 10-week course allows participants to learn how to play Djembe drums in unison while exploring key issues such as life-rhythms, relationships, harmony,



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are having a

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