

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.

November 2019
Edition 385

Daredevil thrills enthrall bumper crowds at 2019 Toodyay Show



Sideshow Alley rides (above) were a popular attraction at last month's Toodyay Show while this rooster (below) had lots to crow about in the Poultry Shed. More pictures and full Show results pages 16 and 17.



Voters demand change

New president elected as shire awaits outcome of State Government inquiry

Michael Sinclair-Jones

NEW SHIRE President Bill Manning says he is confident all members of a radically altered Toodyay council elected last month can "work together as a united team".

His statement followed the swearing in of four new councillors after a big turn-out of local voters backed a united call for change.

President Manning and Cr Ben Bell were also sworn in after retaining their seats with a similar reform agenda at the October 19 WA local government elections.

The new-look council signals a major shift in policy direction after years of division and rancour.

It culminated this year in heated disputes over repeated rate rises and a secret council backflip to reverse a decision not to offer Shire CEO Stan Scott a new contract and award him a 2.5 per cent pay rise instead.

Crs Manning and Bell opposed both decisions but were outvoted 6-2 by the

former council in May and July.

Toodyay's new council now faces the impending outcome of a year-long State Government inquiry into the shire administration and former council's operations, actions and culture over the past six years.

A report and recommendations are expected to go to WA Local Government Minister David Templeman by the end of next month to decide if further action is required.

Three former councillors who served for four years during the investigation period – Judy Dow, Eric Twine and Rob Welburn – did not re-contest their seats when their terms expired last month.

The four new and two re-elected councillors in order of votes received were:

Benjamin Bell (re-elected) 1126

Rosemary Madacsi 920

Susan Pearce 893

Phil Hart 869

Beth Ruthven 834

Bill Manning (re-elected) 832

President Manning was elected for two years to resume his previous four-year term after resigning on principle to contest last month's election, and the others until 2023.

The unsuccessful candidates were:

Bruce Guthrie 730

Bruce Campbell 449

Brian Chambers 394

Continued on Page 9.

**Toodyay Car and Motorcycle
Show
Sunday November 10**

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COUNTRY REALTY

The Toodyay Herald

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

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

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

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 Editorial/Layout: Ieva Tomsons

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NEXT TOODYAY HERALD EDITION

ADVERTISING DEADLINE	STORY DEADLINE	DISTRIBUTED
Noon Thursday November 21	Noon Tuesday November 26	Wednesday December 4

Please note our email addresses

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 Articles and stories: news@toodyayherald.com.au

Ol' Blind Joe

Art of strategic restraint

Stirling Hamilton

AMERICAN novelist Pearl Buck grew up in China, won a Pulitzer Prize in 1932 and Nobel Prize for Literature in 1938 and said "If you want to understand today, you have to search yesterday".

Hong Kong became part of China during the Qin Dynasty in 220 BC.

It served from the 1500s as an international maritime trading centre between China and European colonial powers.

The East India Tea Company started operations in 1711 and trade flourished in tea, porcelain, and silk.

The British began smuggling opium as a means of exchange, proudly becoming the world's first and foremost drug pushers.

The Qin dynasty sought to ban opium after the drug addicted millions of people and corrupted the administrative state.

The first European-Chinese conflict, known as the Opium War in 1841, ended with a defeated China forced to cede Hong Kong island to the Britain as part of the Treaty of Nanjing.

Britain installed a capitalist economic system but had to transfer sovereignty back to China when its lease over Hong Kong expired in 1997.

A departure agreement was negotiated that prevents China from changing Hong Kong's political and economic systems for 50 years.

Since then the island territory's Basic Law has been 'one country, two systems' and is one of the most extreme examples of big finance, neoliberal capitalism in the world.

Half the seats in Hong Kong's legislature are required to represent business interests, meaning corporate interests vote on legislation.

Hong Kong has 1200 US companies doing business there and is a centre for big finance and financial crimes with 100,000 suspicious transactions and only 100 prosecutions.

It is the most unequal of all developed economies in the world with 93 billionaires, the second highest of any city.

It's the second-most expensive city in the world after London but 21 per cent of Hong Kong's 7.4 million people live below the poverty line and another 20 per cent live on the verge of poverty.

Compared with its developed world peers, the Hong Kong government spends among the least on health care, education, housing, and other social programs.

Far from a uniquely Chinese problem, however, the current chaos should be viewed as a bell wether for capitalist systems that fail to address inequality.

As one of the world's richest cities, it has for months been engulfed by anti-government protests that have blocked roads, paralysed the airport, and descended into violence.

The need for Hong Kong to introduce new extradition laws became obvious when a young man took his pregnant girlfriend from Hong Kong to Taiwan, murdered her, buried her dismembered remains there and returned to Hong Kong knowing that he couldn't be extradited back to Taiwan to face justice.

Lady Justice is an allegorical personification of the moral force in judicial systems.

She has a blindfold, scales and a sword – in

a scene in which a deceased person's heart is weighed against the feather of truth.

Not even ABC News has mentioned this fact and sure, there are the old China elites – people who fled former Chinese leader Mao Zedong's revolution in 1949 and corrupt Chinese officials who have fled justice.

Local billionaire media tycoon Jimmy Lai – widely described as the Rupert Murdoch of Asia – and protest leaders have been in Washington, hanging out with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and former National Security Advisor John Bolton.

A total of \$29 million from US regime-change outfits such as the National Endowment for Democracy have flowed into civil society and political organisations that form the backbone of Hong Kong's anti-government mobilisation.

Lai has supplemented it with his own fortune while instructing protesters on tactics through his various media outlets.

They embrace a strategy called Marginal Violence Theory which uses 'mild force' to provoke security services into attacking protesters with the aim of shifting international sympathy away from the state.

Protesters have thrown molotov cocktails into intersections to block traffic, attacked vehicles and their drivers at roadblocks, beaten opponents with truncheons, attacked a wounded man with a US flag, menaced a reporter into deleting her photos, kidnapped and beat a journalist senseless, beat a mainland traveller unconscious and prevented paramedics from reaching the victim, and hurled petrol bombs at police officers and stations.

The Hong Kong economy has ground to a halt as the media praises rioters as freedom fighters.

China's government is well aware that if Hong Kong becomes a political or ideological battleground, peace and prosperity will suffer in both the city and on the mainland.

Outnumbered Hong Kong police have for months faced millions of protesters and, with great restraint, have made only 420 arrests.

Those who think that China's government will resort to a military-led crackdown in Hong Kong forget Chinese military philosopher Sun Tzu's dictum that winning wars without fighting is the "acme of skill".

The Chinese model of state-controlled capitalism has lifted 800 million people out of poverty and built a middle class of more than 420 million people, growing from four per cent in 2002, to 31 per cent today.

China is led by engineers and scientists, not by lawyers and business people.

Of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, China is the only one among them that has not fired a single shot across its border in the 30 years since a brief naval battle with Vietnam in 1988.

By contrast, even during former US president Barack Obama's relatively peaceful eight years in office, America's military dropped 26,000 bombs on seven countries in a single year.

Evidently, the Chinese understand well the art of strategic restraint.

"The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision" – Helen Keller (1880-1968), blind and deaf American author, political activist and lecturer.

Brickbats or Bouquets we value your opinion

Suggestions and comments are welcome please forward to: feedback@toodyayherald.com.au or post to: PO Box 100, Toodyay WA 6566

The Toodyay Herald



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November - December 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15
	17	18	19	20	21	22
	24	25	26	27	28	29
Dec 1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Army 'sprog' became radical hippy activist

Ieva Tomsons

TOODYAY couple Dr Despina Weston and John Zawada are refugees from opposite ends of the world with complicated life stories which *The Herald* will run in two parts, beginning with John.

John was born in a displaced persons camp in West Germany in 1946 before migrating to Australia with his Polish family when he was four years old.

Arriving by ship at Fremantle in 1951, the Zawadas were despatched to Northam Migrant Accommodation Centre before John's father was allocated to work at Bailup Farm Mill in Gidgegannup where they lived in small cottages with 14 other Polish families.

John struggled at Mt Helena Primary School for two years but fondly remembers the orange school bus driver who could roll a cigarette with one hand while driving.

"Mr Barnes had two Pekinese dogs and liked to stop on the way to school to shoot roos so by the time he had rounded us all up we sometimes wouldn't get to school until noon," laughs John.

The family moved to Bayswater when John was almost seven and his battle with English and school continued until he left Governor Stirling Senior High School at 16 to join the army.

"I was one of those kids who found it difficult to assimilate."

Of the three Zawada children, John was the most religious and at 14 considered becoming a Catholic priest which he decided wasn't for him once he discovered girls.

John's nine-year army career started with a four-year fitting and turning apprenticeship at Victoria's Balcombe Army Apprentices School which was investigated by the 2016 Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

He was at the school during a period when bastardisation was rife and accepted as the norm.

"The sprogs (juniors) had to run the gauntlet. They break you down to rebuild you in the army's image – that's the logic, but I don't bear a grudge."

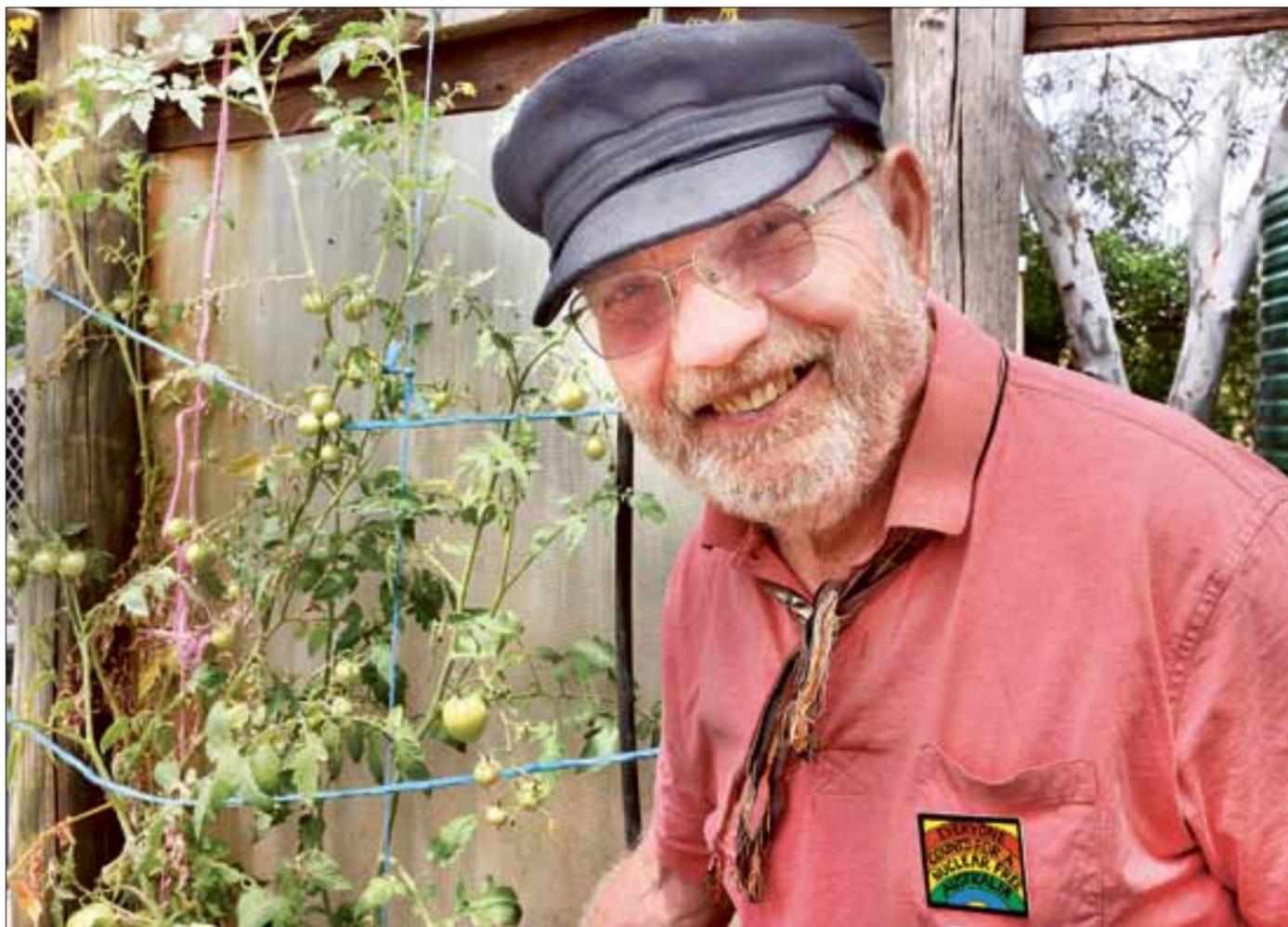
In the 1960s the army desperately needed refrigeration mechanics so John volunteered for two years' training by correspondence at Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology.

While awaiting his first deployment to Vietnam, John was sick of the "hurry up and wait" army life and he went AWOL from Holsworthy Army Base in NSW and travelled around NSW and Tasmania for a month.

"After 21 days you are classified as a deserter and it was only a good word from my priest that saved me."

Soon after, John was promoted to corporal and sent to Nui Dat in Vietnam as a refrigeration mechanic. He was 22 and still very religious.

Later, as part of the 1st Australian Logistics



Anti-nuclear campaigner John Zawada tends his Toodyay permaculture garden.

Support Group in Vung Tau, John led a small team which enjoyed a fair degree of autonomy as they moved around the base maintaining refrigeration and airconditioning equipment at the hospital, mortuary, communications transmitter and the Rest-in-Country Infantry Centre.

"We were like McHale's Navy but in the army; we had free rein and didn't have to attend morning parade."

They got to know the Americans and traded Aussie boots for T-bone steaks and engaged in other bootlegging activities.

The autonomy suited John but his second tour of duty, 1970-1971, was another matter.

His freedom was knocked on the head and he recalls joining the Americans on semi-authorised missions including one to the Viet Cong stronghold of Parrot's Beak on the Cambodian border.

"As soon as we arrived in the Herc (Hercules aircraft) we were met with wailing sirens and exploding incoming rockets and we had to run for cover.

"During the weekly patrols spotlights were on all night and we would try to move forward each day.

"We thought we were invincible."

R&R breaks in Bangkok introduced John to drinking and girls but he was also beginning to understand the futility of war and started writing letters to his commanding officer questioning Australia's involvement in the so-called 'American War'.

John left the army in 1972 and married the following year.

He was spending up to six months in the Pilbara working in refrigeration and air conditioning and the prolonged separations impacted his marriage.

After three kids and 10 years of trying to make the marriage work, the couple called it a day.

John had already started to lecture in his trade at Perth TAFE and went on to obtain his teaching degree.

From 1980 to 1996 he enjoyed teaching the apprentices but was also looking into alternative lifestyles and got involved with the anti-nuclear movement and environmental groups such as Men of the Trees and the Great Walk Networking Group which opposed logging old-growth forests.

"In the late 1980s it was seen as radical

to plant trees on farms," laughs John who volunteered for Men of the Trees at the Dowerin Field Days.

"I did a lot of soul searching during the TAFE holidays and in 1991 spent three months in Indonesia, Malaysia and Nepal where I helped to set up the Permaculture Principles in Biratnagar Village."

Taking early retirement from TAFE in 1996, John was free to pursue an alternative lifestyle and travelled Australia working on organic farms and campaigning to stop logging in far-east Gippsland's Erinunderra Forest in Victoria.

"It was a very hippyish lifestyle; a lot of radical activism with lock-ons (to forestry machinery), tree sits and other disruptive activities."

A year later he had married an English woman and was in Ireland working with a broad-based Christian group which ran farms for people with disabilities.

On their return the couple settled in Bega NSW where John continued to work and train people with disabilities, and immersed himself in various alternative groups.

When his second marriage ended in 2006 he returned to WA to train indigenous volunteers at a remote Aboriginal community in the Gascoyne.

Despina and John first met in the late '80s at a mutual friend's dinner party.

Twenty-six years later they met again during one of John's trips to Perth to visit his children and they decided that the time was right to be together.

The couple bought the historic Shoemaker's House in Stirling Terrace in 2009 and after extensive renovations to accommodate Despina's art studio and consultancy rooms they moved in in 2011.

Today you'll find John either behind the wheel of the school bus a couple of days a week or working in his permaculture garden, that is if he isn't out and about with Friends of the River, Arts Toodyay, Toodyay Historical Society or the Toodyay Naturalists' Club.

"I am still an old hippy," said John who is now fantasising about moving to the Greek island of Ikaria where residents live to 100 – but only if Despina will join him.



From left: Shelagh and Don Garratt, and Karen and Luigi Jacomelli use the re-opened Duke Street footbridge that links two parts of Toodyay separated by the busy east-west railway line.

Duke Street footbridge re-opens after 18-month closure

TOODYAY'S Duke Street footbridge has re-opened a year after it was closed amid threats to demolish it over safety concerns.

Weathered timber decking has been replaced and approach ramps repaired for safer pedestrian and wheelchair access.

Ownership of the bridge was transferred last month from the State Public Transport Authority (PTA) – which contributed more than \$145,000 to the upgrade – to the Shire of Toodyay, which budgeted \$56,000 for its share of the work.

The PTA says it hopes plans for a new controlled rail crossing at Toodyay station will be completed next February.

Thanks from BILL MANNING

Thank you to the electors of Toodyay who participated in the recent election and in particular those who supported my appointment to Council.

My aim is to think independently but work co-operatively with the other Councillors for the betterment of all people in the Shire of Toodyay.

The goal is to ensure provision of the services which people require balancing quality and cost.

I encourage you to contact me on any issues you wish to discuss either by phone or email or we can meet in person.

0411 519 472

cr.manning@toodyay.wa.gov.au

www.thebookshed.com.au

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Factory: 42 Oliver Street, Northam

Shop: 232 Fitzgerald Street E, Northam

Laura's Wine Bar: 4 Gordon Pl, Northam

Contact: kaz@thebookshed.com.au



THE BOOK SHED

The Toodyay Herald

Call for unity

LIKE the rooster crowing on Page 1 of this newspaper, recent shire elections herald a new dawn for Toodyay.

The election of four new councillors who campaigned for change creates a radically different new nine-member chamber.

New Shire President Bill Manning and firebrand Cr Ben Bell were often lone voices of dissent on previous big decisions such as repeated rate rises and the shire CEO's job.

President Manning can now expect greater council support after being elected unopposed as leader last month.

But it was not without controversy. A secret ballot for president at the first council meeting three days after the election (Cr Paula Greenway absent on council-approved leave) resulted in a shock 4-4 deadlock between former deputy president Therese Chitty and new Cr Rosemary Madacsi.

The stand-off arose after Cr Bell polled the highest number of votes in the October 19 council elections and announced on Facebook next day that he would run for president.

Cr Madacsi, who previously served four years on the council before losing her now-abolished North Ward seat to former Cr Eric Twine in 2015, had weeks earlier gained the support of other new councillors to run for president.

Cr Bell withdrew his nomination on the morning of the ballot, leaving Cr Madacsi to face a second bid for president by Cr Chitty, who two years ago was defeated 5-4 by former shire president Brian Rayner.

Last month's tied vote resulted in community disbelief, anger and dismay, seemingly dashing hopes for an end to divisions that wracked the previous council.

Tensions simmered for a week until Crs Chitty and Madacsi both withdrew, enabling Cr Manning to stand unchallenged for president on October 29 when a second ballot was called.

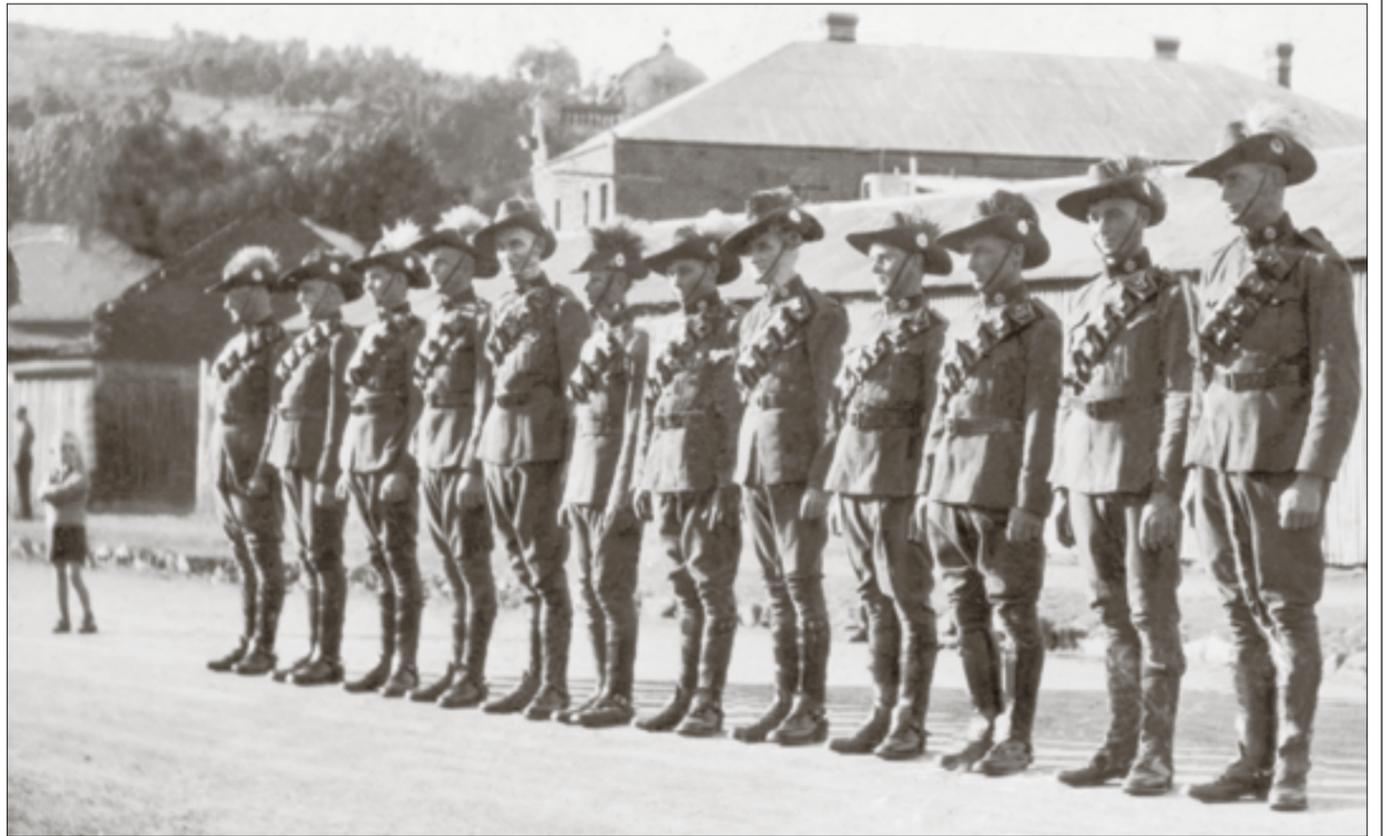
His first announcement as the council's new presiding officer was a call for unity.

"The community expects us to work together as a united team and I am confident we can do that," President Manning said.

"There will be differences of opinion, of course, but these need to be handled in a polite and respectful manner, and the majority decision needs to be respected."

A new absolute majority of like-minded councillors should help make that job easier.

Michael Sinclair-Jones
Editor



The way we were – A small boy watches Australian Light Horse troops in traditional emu-plumed hats stand to attention in former Clinton Street (now Piesse Street) with the Freemasons Hotel and former stables behind, possibly in the 1930s. Photo: Newcastle Gaol Museum.

LETTERS

Hold Shire CEO to account

WITH a new shire president and a number of new councillors elected, Toodyay's new council team will need some time to settle in.

Because all newly elected and re-elected councillors campaigned on increasing council and shire transparency, the question now is how will the new council deliver this transparency?

Being based in Perth, I have seen the City of Vincent's approach to its CEO Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which are published in full and publicly accessible on the city's website.

Given this example, I don't know what barrier there could be to the Shire of Toodyay doing the same with its own CEO KPIs.

Another widespread complaint during recent shire elections was the issue of ever-increasing rates.

Will the new council set a KPI for the CEO to keep all rates below the official Consumer Price Index annual increase?

If not – why not?

The former Barnett State Government when faced with the reality of the end of the mining boom set a target to reduce government expenditure by three per cent.

Could the new council consider this?

Of course, all other matters of council and shire business should also be fully transparent to ratepayers – what is the council's plan to achieve this?

Additionally, the mycouncil.gov online page states that the Shire of Toodyay's total value of assets in 2017-2018 was \$148,800,983, which certainly includes essential community assets.

Are any assets within this \$148 million superfluous to the good governance of the shire?

Bruce Campbell
Beckenham

Ol' Blind Joe blinkered

FOR YEARS readers of *The Herald* have had to endure Stirling Hamilton's views of the world which try to portray him as a philosopher but instead are blatantly left wing and anti-conservative (and indeed anti-freedom) rantings.

His increasing extremism is evident in last month's article criticising intently democratic nations such as the US and Israel and glorifying the despotic regime that is Iran.

If Iran is such a nice, well-run country why doesn't he go and live there?

Does he spare a thought for women in Iran (and most Islamic countries) who have little or no freedom and can expect to have their existence terminated if they express their freedom in ways that Western women do?

Socialism doesn't work, Stirling.

Look at Venezuela, look at former Soviet ruler Josef Stalin – once a hip, intellectual atheist socialist who wanted equality for the people but when he got into government killed 60 million of his own citizens.

And Ol' Blind Joe certainly puts on the blinkers when it comes to falling hook line

and sinker for Aunty ABC's green religion – climate change.

No, the science is not settled, CO2 (carbon dioxide) is a harmless gas and is helping greening of the planet, sea levels are not rising and the Paris Agreement will severely damage our economy while doing no measurable benefit whatsoever to the world's climate.

And doomsayer predictions of runaway warming, environmental catastrophe etc. are continually proved hopelessly wrong, just like the Millennium Bug, acid rain, hole in the ozone layer, etc..

Yet I do agree with Stirling that Julian Assange is a hero and unfairly treated – for the reason, however, that Stirling insidiously omits.

Assange blew the whistle via *WikiLeaks* on the grubby, dirty cheating and lying tactics used by University of East Anglia boffins and the International Panel on Climate Change to shut down dissenters to the mantra of global warming, known as Climate Gate Scandal.

It would be a breath of fresh air for *The Herald* to have a contributor to counter Ol' Joe's loony left ravings.

Paul Michael
Wattening

Excellent Herald editorial

MY CONGRATULATIONS on last month's excellent *Herald* editorial.

I am providing it to every member of my widely dispersed family.

Suzanne Blumer
Gidgegannup

Toodyay fuel too costly

THANKS to the writer of last month's letter to the editor regarding local fuel prices.

At least people get a choice in Gidgegannup and the city in general – take it or go to the cheaper outlet.

We cop it tough in Toodyay.

Unless you shop at Coles or Woolworths, (four cents cheaper than Northam prices) it's much cheaper in Gidgegannup.

Let's all join the club.

Neil Fancourt
Toodyay

Furies help make school safer

TO THE amazing volunteers of the Coondle-Nunile Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade and Captain Nick Griggs a huge and heartfelt thank you for showing that community spirit is alive and well in Toodyay.

On October 22 six volunteers and two trucks came to Toodyay District High School and carried out a controlled burn to make our school safer for the coming fire season.

This is just part of the story.

I ran into Nick at the Toodyay Agricultural Show where kids (including my own) were having a blast trying out the fire hoses.

Nick made it so easy to admit I hadn't felt comfortable carrying out the burn in winter and to ask him for help.

He checked the pile to burn in his own time and helped organise the permit required and

sorted out volunteers and all the equipment.

It felt so reassuring to be given advice on better ways to manage the green waste from our long-term clean-up at the school.

Best of all was the moment I arrived to work and saw the end result – a clean and safe burn.

I feel so thankful to the team for helping keep our students safer.

Now to get on top of the wild oats – a work in progress that feels a lot more achievable thanks to our local volunteers.

Thank you all for your help.

Nat Kielbasa
Coondle

Calling all Nashos

FORMER National Servicemen in the Nashos WA group will have their end-of-year reunion in early December.

The group formed in 2008 with only five members but is growing, with members in all Australian states.

We help to bring ex-servicemen together and form a long-lasting mateship.

The group will meet in Perth's Gosnells Hotel dining at midday on Saturday December 7.

All former Nashos and their partners are welcome to mix in and join the group and you would be most welcome.

Any ex-Nasho wishing to contact us please phone 9497 9879, 0402 576 086 or 9459 3020. The email address is nashoswa71@gmail.com.

We are also saving our national service history in platoon or section photos and if you have any to contribute, please email them to us.

If you want to view our website and the photos that we have managed to save, the address is wanashos.wikidot.com/.

Bob McGuire
Nashos WA

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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Toodyay's new shire council gets to work

Michael Sinclair-Jones

THE FIRST meeting of Toodyay's new shire council (right) was relatively uncontentious although incoming Shire President Bill Manning was required to use his casting vote twice to break two 4-4 voting deadlocks.

The first occurred at an earlier special meeting when new Cr Susan Pearce, seconded by new Deputy President Rosemary Madacsi, moved that ordinary monthly council meetings start an hour later at 5pm for a six-month trial period.

They said more working people could attend if council meetings started later.

Fellow new Crs Phil Hart and Beth Ruthven agreed but were opposed by President Manning and Crs Brian Rayner, Therese Chitty and Ben Bell.

Former president Rayner said some senior shire staff lived in Perth and it would "eat into their time" to stay back until 8pm to attend later council meetings.

"We also have to consider staff occupational health and safety," he said.

President Manning used his additional casting vote to defeat the change 5-4.

The four new councillors were later required to confirm the minutes of a September ordinary council meeting in which they took no part.

The motion was carried 8-0 (Cr Paula Greenway absent on approved leave).

The four newcomers were also required to vote on a confidential item from the September meeting, in which they took no part, to confirm 'Key Result Areas' for Shire CEO Stan Scott's new 12-month contract.

Cr Ruthven said that if she didn't understand what was in the previous month's unconfirmed minutes, how could she vote to confirm them?

The result was a second 4-4 deadlock with Deputy President Madacsi and Crs Pearce, Ruthven and Hart against, and President Manning and Crs Bell, Rayner and Chitty in favour.

President Manning again used his casting vote to carry the motion 5-4.

President Manning ruled that last month's questions from Deputy President Madacsi (before she was elected) about council policy on waived rates and subsidies for groups such as the Toodyay's Mens' Shed and Freemasons Lodge had not been answered in a written response prepared by Mr Scott.

"I don't think the answers address any of the questions," President Manning said.

He said revised answers would be provided to next month's meeting.

The meeting took an hour to approve an application to allow six dogs instead of three on a Morangup property and to allow a townsite outbuilding, retaining wall and 1.8m fence topped by a 300mm screen.

The council's next ordinary meeting is at 4pm on Tuesday November 26.

A shire community meeting will be held in the Morangup Community Centre at 10.30am on Saturday November 30.



Toodyay's new shire council at its first meeting last month: President Bill Manning (top table, second from right) next to Deputy President Rosemary Madacsi. Front table, from left: Crs Susan Pearce, Phil Hart, Beth Ruthven, Brian Rayner, Ben Bell and Therese Chitty (Cr Paula Greenway absent on approved leave). Executive Assistant Maria Rebane and Shire CEO Stan Scott are seated next to President Manning.

Email virus spreads widespread confusion

Phil Hart

A LOT of local people were recently victims of a rather nasty computer virus.

It goes by the name of 'Emotet' and it became a serious issue on October 24.

Once it is in a computer, it goes through the address book and emails itself out to everybody that it finds.

It uses the names of the people in the address book as the 'sender' of the email and makes it look like it came from somebody else's computer.

That other person can end up being blamed for sending out an email that they never sent.

This caused a lot of confusion on Facebook for a few days.

While this computer virus appeared to be localised to Toodyay, it affected computers across the whole of Australia.

The Australian Signals Director's Australian Cyber Security Centre became involved.

The incident was raised to Level 3, meaning that it was an alert. More information about the levels can be found at bit.ly/32PTuRw.

There is also more information about what happened with Emotet from Stay Smart Online at bit.ly/2BLKocG.

Impacts on people in Toodyay and elsewhere were wide ranging and there was a lot of frustration and anger.

At least one person's computer locked up and it took a lot of effort to make it work again.

People could still be at risk of their bank

accounts being emptied and at least one person had their email address suspended.

A lot of people were very concerned about what was going to happen in the future.

However, like all such things, this particular version of Emotet seems to have run its course.

Looking at some of the technical information, it appears as if it had only recently been changed by a gang of cyber criminals and then unleashed on this country.

It is worthwhile dispelling two myths about email and viruses:

Just receiving an email cannot allow the virus to start.

Having all apps such as Word and Excel at their default settings of not editing attachments also means the virus cannot start.

People can do a lot to protect both themselves and other people by adopting good practices.

Make sure that your anti-virus software is up to date.

Always read the email properly before you do anything else with it.

Ask yourself if the email makes sense, and if you are expecting anything like it from the sender.

If it seems in any way strange, or if you are not expecting it, contact the sender by telephone or SMS.

If everything still looks good, look at the attachments and ask yourself if they seem relevant.

If there are any links in the email, hover

your mouse over them and check that the link goes to where it says it goes: do the two addresses match up with each other?

Is the link address well-known by many people or is it an address that you already know about and use regularly?

If you follow a link, check that the address in your web browser is the same as in the email.

Only ever enter your credit card details if you are buying something over the internet from a supplier that you trust.

Any other website that asks you for your credit card details is almost certainly fraudulent.

If you think that you have become a victim of such a virus, call your bank and/or credit card company immediately.

They will advise you what you can do to protect yourself financially.

You can always ask a local computer expert to check out your computer for you.

There are usually ways of removing viruses.

If your device has become infected all your other susceptible devices should also be checked, otherwise they can re-infect a recently cleaned device.

If the data on your device is important, make sure that you make backups at regular intervals – some people will want to make a backup every day.

A backup every week is often sufficient for other people.

Make it a habit to treat all incoming emails as suspicious.

Registered Repairer MRB6464

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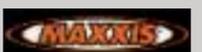
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Every vehicle stopped and nobody tested positive

Police Beat

With Sgt Dave Flaherty
Toodyay Police Station



LOCAL police stopped every vehicle entering and leaving Toodyay from the south in a five-hour traffic blitz last month.

Drivers and riders of more than 600 cars, trucks, motorcycles and buses were stopped for alcohol and/or drug tests.

This was a pleasing outcome because alcohol and drugs are a significant cause of crashes and Wheatbelt roads have the state's highest fatality rate.

Toodyay police stopped all passing vehicles from 9am to noon on Wednesday October 23 at the Tourist Information Bay in Stirling Terrace and from 1pm to 3pm at the Northam turn-off on Toodyay Road.

A small number of minor infringement notices and vehicle cautions were issued for defects such as fishing rod holders bolted onto the front of bull bars or LED light bars mounted illegally on top.

It's illegal to fit anything that protrudes from the front or on top of a bull bar because it can cause further injury in the event of a crash.

Mounting equipment on top of a bull bar also reduces driver road visibility.

Many drivers don't know this so we usually issue only a caution for the owner to get it fixed.

Another problem is expired vehicle registrations because windscreen stickers are no longer issued and we accept that motorists often forget that their registration has lapsed.

We mostly issue cautions unless the registration has lapsed for extended period.

People should note expiry dates in calendars or use a phone app to remind them when renewal is due.

All in all, we're going alright in Toodyay.

Coronial care

THE CHANGE of season is expected to bring an increase in local police responses to sudden deaths in the community, particularly among older or unwell people.

Reports to police often follow a call from a visiting relative, neighbour or someone such as a Silver Chain support worker who finds a person after they have passed away at home.

Police have to move the body from where it was found to enable it to be transported to Perth for post-mortem examination.

It can be a particularly difficult task if a person has been deceased for several days.

In such cases a doctor's medical certificate stating the cause of death is usually delayed pending further inquiries.

We recognise this can be a difficult time for families and we are there to help them through the process, if they ask.

We generally aim to notify families on the same day/night that a person has been found to have passed away and we encourage them to talk to us about what they may need to do and what happens next.

We can provide them with helpful information about coronial matters and how to get further assistance if required.

If a deceased person owned firearms, the law requires us to seize them until an executor of a will or public trustee decides whether to pass them onto someone else, offer them for sale or – if the firearms are not wanted – authorise their destruction.

Unforeseen matters can arise from a sudden death and we are always ready to help families deal with the consequences.

Red faces on Facebook

PEOPLE are urged to call police first before spreading false rumours on Facebook about suspicious behaviour.

This follows an incident last month when a red car broke down near the Duidgee Park children's playground and public toilets.

The stranded motorist had no money to buy petrol or pay for accommodation, and had to sleep in his car while waiting for money due to arrive at the end of the week.

It prompted Facebook posts that publicly accused the man of suspicious behaviour.

As a result, some people went to Duidgee Park making threats.

Local police engaged with the man on a number of occasions, liaising with his family and friends to get him some help and, with no help coming and realising the man's plight, we arranged for him to obtain a meal prepared by Toodyay Locals Care.

Eventually, to keep things calm a local officer police gave him fuel so he could leave town safely.

Rumour mongering by posting false accusations on Facebook can harm innocent people and ruin Toodyay's reputation.

People should first call police if they have any concerns about anything they think may be suspicious.

Wrangling reptiles

WITH THE onset of the summer reptile season, police wish to remind people that officers are not qualified to handle snakes and should not be called if a person wants a snake to be removed from their property.

The correct handlers to call are registered local snake relocators, including Brian Foley on 0419 933 721 or John Hansen on 0491 228 742.

Signature relief

FINALLY, we thank readers for responding to a call in last month's *Police Beat* to



Please don't call police for help if you want a snake removed from your property – the correct contacts are registered Toodyay snake relocators Brian Foley on 0419 933 721 and John Hansen, 0491 228 742. Pictured: Registered Chidlow snake handler Bob Cooper.

ask police officers be a last resort when documents need to be witnessed or signed.

We have gone from getting dozens of front counter requests to sign documents every week to none in the past month.

This gives us more valuable time for local law enforcement and we thank everyone for their understanding and cooperation.

Certified documents can be signed by a range of people other than police, including pharmacists, priests, Justices of the Peace, shire councillors and CEOs, post office managers, real estate agents, vets and many others. Depending on the documents you need signed, police officers should be the last resort.

Choosing respect is keeping your cool

SaferToodyay
Wayne Clarke

WITH summer fast approaching it's a good time to reflect on what Choose Respect means.

Every member of our community is encouraged to Choose Respect – that means treating others with respect, irrespective of their views, their colour or their ethnic background.

Choose Respect means treating the people you work with, shopkeepers, customers and road users with respect and consideration.

Choosing respect also means treating yourself with respect – making good healthy choices.

A person choosing respect will eat a good, balanced diet, will exercise regularly, will choose not to smoke or will make plans to quit.

A person choosing respect will not stay in an

unhealthy and demeaning relationship. A person choosing respect will make good choices about the consumption of alcohol and use of drugs.

Choosing respect is to make a conscious effort to resist the desire to pay back or take revenge.

Choosing respect is to forgive others who don't treat you with respect.

Choose Respect is also about respecting property, positions of authority and the environment, or when using social media.

Keeping cool this summer is also about keeping your cool when other people do not treat you with respect.

Brighten up this festive season by fostering a culture of respect at home, at work, on the road and in the Toodyay community.

Contact: safertoodyay.org.au.

Protect yourself from email 'spoofing'

Computer Safety
Phil Hart

THE RECENT widespread hacking of local email addresses serves as a timely reminder to treat all incoming emails with caution.

Even if an email comes from a trusted source, it is possible that the email is fake.

This is known as 'spoofing' and happens when somebody else uses your friend's email address instead of their own.

Your friend's email address has been stolen or 'harvested' from any vulnerable computer anywhere in the world and your friend probably does not know about it to begin with.

Every email includes 'header information' that you do not normally see.

'Spoofing' includes changing some of the header information to your friend's email address.

It is a form of forgery as such emails almost

never come from where they claim to come from.

You can protect yourself by being vigilant. Ask yourself if any email that you receive has the same 'feel' to it as they usually do from your friend.

Avoid clicking on any links that are in the email.

You can check that a link goes to where it says it goes by hovering your mouse over it but even if it goes there the web site could still be unsafe.

Check the names of any attachments. Something such as 'invoice.docx' from a friend would not normally make any sense.

Use an antivirus package such as Norton, Avast, Kaspersky, Trend Micro or McAfee.

If you are the victim of 'spoofing', it will help other people if you let them somehow know. Using social media can be helpful.

See story Page 5.

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EMERGENCY SERVICES



New fire station near the corner of Toodyay and O'Brien Roads in West Gidgegannup.

West Gidgie station opens for business

**Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
West Gidgegannup**

IT'S OFFICIAL—the new West Gidgegannup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade \$2.5m station is open for business.

This is the biggest investment in a stand-alone bush fire brigade station in WA by the

State Government and the City of Swan.

From now on, the station will be open on Saturdays from 8.30am to 10am when permits can be obtained.

If you'd like to see the facility, there will be a community open day on Saturday November 23 from noon until 5pm.

Put the date in your diary.

Five new firies sign on at Julimar street meet

**Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Julimar**

Alison Wroth

WITH the days heating up as we head into summer, it is the long waist-high grass which was neither sprayed nor slashed when it was green, that becomes perfect fuel for a fire over the summer months.

Many residents in the Julimar area have taken the initiative and requested that the brigade attends their block of land to conduct controlled burns.

It was good to see that all firebreaks on these blocks were accessible by our trucks.

Our Street Meet at the Dawn Atwell Reserve, organised by the Shire of Toodyay, took place in our area on October 13 and was very well attended by up to 25 Julimar residents.

Information brochures were distributed and we signed up five new members – four firefighters and one auxiliary member.

The new firefighters-to-be are David and Heidi Malone, Jimmy (Cricket) Liddle and Les Davies who are all doing their training over the first two weekends in November.

This means they should be qualified to step onto the fireground before Christmas.

Sandy Wessley has joined the brigade as a member of the catering team.

We look forward to seeing all the new Julimar 'family members' down at the shed.

Lucas McLerie is only a new firefighter but it does feel as if he has always been around.

Attending a few small fires and two controlled burns, Lucas shows the gusto and dedication you want to see in a team player.

As a 17 year old, his politeness and good manners make him a pleasure to deal with in any situation and an inspiration for others his age.

Speaking of inspiration, Corri did an excellent job filling in for Wade when he was away.

From my reliable source, I hear that Corri multi-tasked like only she can and Simon did a great job in his role of first lady.

Radios and all communications are the training regime right now and then we will move onto all water skills.

Our training procedure will be especially important for any of the new firefighters to familiarise themselves with essential firefighting equipment and skills, so that when they hit the fireground they have both the self-belief and competence to carry out basic firefighting roles.

All the firefighting members on the fireground will feel much more confidence in their team members and this helps also to build team work and camaraderie within the brigade.

Let's hope all those firebreaks are done and that your family's fire plans have been thought about. This way if you do ever need to leave in a hurry, the bag with medications, copies of your ID, passport, marriage certificate, important photos, health insurance policy, spare clothing and your dog's leash will be all packed ready to grab and go if you don't intend to stay and defend your home. It's something to think about.

Coondle shed now at lock-up stage

**Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Coondle-Nunile**
Max J Heath

WELL, we are still in the old shed but the new one is close to completion and at the lock-up stage with only the driveways etc. to be completed.

On the last day of open burning a few of us got together for a barbecue and open fire for the last time at the current shed.

Toodyay Agricultural Show was a good turnout for the brigade and the members were kept busy with the children having a go with the hose etc..

This is a good public relations day as people get to see what we have at our disposal for fire-fighting.

When they see the size of the new unit they can understand what we are saying about firebreaks and the clearance needed if we have to access a property.

The last meeting was after the Show and a modest number turned out.

The general meeting went fairly quickly and then the District Officer from Northam gave a talk on introducing breathing apparatus for the new 3.4 Urban.

A number of members have put up their hands to become involved and so the possibility of providing back up for the Toodyay Fire and Rescue is a strong possibility in the long term.

The open days that have been held around the district were quite successful and about 23 turned out to Kane Road for the Coondle meeting.

We even had a couple of people join up on the day and with training being available in the near future we will have more people available on roster and to crew our vehicles.

Rest assured that we won't throw them in at the deep end and they will be looked after.

In closing, we at Coondle-Nunile would like to welcome our recently joined members Bill Fletcher, Heather McNamara and Clint Fricker to our midst.

Brigade primed and ready to roll

**Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Bejoording**

From the desk of The Badger

THERE'S no doubt the fire season is with us.

There were a number of call-outs last month, some followed by stand-downs, some were real events but Bejoording was able to field a crew each time.

Most frustrating of all have been a few attempts to undertake controlled permit burn-offs to get our newer members fully fire-ready.

We even had a terrific inter-brigade training opportunity jointly with Coondle-Nunile Brigade, only to have each attempt thwarted by either too much moisture or too much wind.

With only a couple of days left in the month as I write, we may or may not succeed.

From then it will just be the real thing but we are happy with our new team who are eager to get into the trenches, so to speak.

Our members enjoyed the induction day at the Toodyay Shire Depot and were most impressed by the newly installed truck-wash

facility at the depot.

Nothing else to report, except to remind members that the first Sunday of every month, at the fire shed, is training for an hour (or more if needed).

All active members are encouraged to attend as often as possible.

As you read this, the next training session will be on Sunday December 1 at 2pm.

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 regular meeting is at 5.45pm, at the shed, on Friday November 15.

Advice is free but getting it wrong can be expensive.

If you have any questions remember you can contact captain Brian Rigby on 0417 984 324, or Richard Hazlewood on 0414 250 484.

Please leave a message if we're not there.



Good turnout at the Morangup fire information street meet. Photo Peter Harms.

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EMERGENCY SERVICES

Donated Christmas hampers will bring cheer to needy families

Wheatbelt St John Ambulance

CHRISTMAS has come early to St John WA in the Wheatbelt as the region's 975 volunteers prepare for a special Christmas hamper drive that may just help to save a life.

St John WA has 43 sub-centres stretching from Jurien Bay in the north, east to Southern Cross, south to Lake King and west to Wundowie.

This Christmas, each sub-centre will prepare and donate hampers that will be distributed to those in need through local welfare agencies.

In addition to non-perishable food and drink, hampers will include three potentially lifesaving items – a first aid kit, free access to a first aid training course and a St John WA family ambulance membership.

In total, it is hoped around 340 hampers will be delivered across the Wheatbelt, with all consumable items donated by the region's hardworking volunteers.

St John Wheatbelt Regional Manager Simon Burke said the initiative was a meaningful way for St John and its volunteers to support their communities during the festive season.

"The idea actually came from our volunteers who were looking for a way to help local families doing it tough at Christmas," Mr Burke said.

"When you think about it, it's an incredibly selfless gesture from a group of people who already make such a valuable and often lifesaving contribution to their communities.

"The inclusion of things like a first aid kit, first aid course and country ambulance membership are perhaps the most important items.

"Often, families might not have a great understanding of first aid, or be able to afford ambulance cover so these hampers provide peace-of-mind that if something were to go wrong, at least families are prepared."

St John WA has more than 9000 volunteers across the state, with the Wheatbelt having the largest contribution in terms of volunteer numbers and service hours.

In regional WA, volunteers are the lifeblood of the country ambulance service, travelling more than 2 million kilometres and transporting 64,000 injured or sick patients each year.

"The response from our Wheatbelt sub-centres has been incredible and we'd really like to see the drive grow into an annual initiative," Mr Burke said.

"We're fortunate enough to have excellent support from a number of community organisations who will make sure our hampers get to those who need them most."

Toodyay finalist in tourism awards

THE shires of Toodyay and Northam are finalists in the Perth Airport WA Tourism Awards in the Excellence in Local Government Tourism category.

The awards have been recognising and rewarding business excellence, innovation and professionalism in tourism for 47 years.

Tourism operators from all sectors of the industry were invited to nominate their business.

Entrants are expected to provide answers to

questions relating to their product, business planning, marketing, customer service and sustainability.

Support is provided throughout the entire awards process including workshops, webinars, draft submission reviews and fortnightly email updates.

The winners of this year's Perth Airport WA Tourism Awards will be announced at a gala dinner on Saturday November 9 at the Crown Perth Hotel.

Northam gets two new brigades

THE SHIRE of Northam recently consulted local volunteer bush fire brigade representatives and the Northam and Wundowie Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service and identified a number of strategies to address areas of risks.

As a result of the review, several efficiencies were identified and recommended to council which has endorsed the reallocation of five appliances across the Shire of Northam.

The reallocation enabled council to provide a much-needed second unit to the Grass Valley Volunteer Bush Fire Service as well as the creation and allocation of two new bush fire brigades, the Northam Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade and the Wundowie Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade.

Now that the reallocation of appliances has been finalised, the Shire of Northam has been liaising with brigades to get the appliances ready for the coming fire season and will work with brigades to ensure they have access to any additional training they may need on their new appliance.

Shire of Northam CEO Jason Whiteaker said "Volunteer fire fighters play a critical role in our community and it was important that each brigade was able to use their intimate knowledge of their districts to assist with the reallocation process."

The Shire of Northam currently has nine volunteer bush fire brigades within the district, including the new Northam Central and the Wundowie Bush Fire Brigades.

Dramatic rescue skills displayed at Show



Toodyay ambulance and fire and rescue volunteers re-enact a car being cut open with the 'Jaws of Life' to provide emergency care and rescue seriously injured occupants.

New video security system doubles town surveillance

A NEW video security upgrade costing more than \$300,000 is expected to become operational in Toodyay this month.

New monitors at Toodyay Police Station will enable 24-hour surveillance of the town's approach roads, public spaces and main business and shopping areas.

A new network of 41 cameras owned and operated by the Shire of Toodyay will more than double the capacity of the old network, which has been dismantled.

The upgrade will address the concerns of local business owners who complained in August that none of the old shire-owned cameras were working because a central computer server had not been repaired or replaced after breaking down several weeks earlier.

A shire spokesperson said the upgrade included installation of new five-metre 'break back' poles (enabling mounted equipment to be lowered to the ground).

The old camera and wireless links were being replaced with newly designed 'end-to-end' wireless links between each device and a central controller.

The system was being tested earlier this month before being handed over to the shire.

The shire had secured a \$300,000 grant to fund the project, which was a partnership between the shire, local police, Telstra and local community organisation Safer Toodyay (formerly Toodyay Community Safety and Crime Prevention Association).



A workman installs a new shire video security camera near the Victoria Hotel.

Community Transport Service

This service does not replace urgent Ambulance transport. Please call 000 for emergencies

The SJA Community Transport Service (CTS) is now available for residents of Toodyay Shire for one way or return travel to medical and allied health appointments at Toodyay, Northam, Midland, Perth and suburban hospitals, specialists or doctors.

Reasonable rates apply • Book early to confirm travel

Phone Community Transport Service Coordinator on 0418 918 192

toodyay.cts@stjohnambulance.com.au

For full details and conditions, contact 9574 2390

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Toodyay Memorial Hall sparkles for the RSL Centenary Ball.

RSL members celebrate Toodyay ball of century

RSL Toodyay Sub-Branch Ball
Heather Brennan

RSL TOODYAY Sub-Branch celebrated its 100th year of Charter with what was certainly the ball of the century.

Invited guests listened to a poignant speech from sub-branch president Peter Brennan AM CSM as to the reason our sub-branch exists and continues to strive to support veterans and their families and the significance of establishing a permanent home.

The second speaker Beth Frayne from the Toodyay Historical Society gave a very informative and witty speech on the sub-branch history.

The third and final speaker for the evening, RSL WA State President Peter Aspinall AM spoke about the establishment of the RSL at national and state level and why it was created and continues to improve on the original aims and objectives.

Invited dignitaries Peter and Carolyn Aspinall, Brian Rayner and Jeanette Young, Darren and Lesley West and guests enjoyed an evening of fine dining topped off with a delicious slice of centennial cake and bottles of red and white centennial wine, followed by dancing the night away to the sound of the Army Band Perth.

Our poppy wall photo booth got a good workout and photographic fun ensued with additional props adding to the hilarity.

The evening was all held together by a delightful MC John Adams and complemented by an entertaining Lou Kidd as he explained and gave the Loyal Toast.

The sub-branch would like to pass on a huge thank you to both these men, the ball committee and everyone that made the evening a success.

Congratulations to those who received

certificates marking 25 years plus as an RSL WA financial member.

Certificates were presented on the night to Edna Browne (33 years), Max Howard (41 years), Bruce Prior (29 years) and Rick Turner 26 years.

Certificates will also be presented to members who could not attend the night; Mario Bernasconi (32 years), Athol Donegan (39 years), Graeme Haywood (46 years), Robert Mattin (45 years), Peter North (48 years) and, Michael Stanford (32 years).

Cheers to all the lucky individuals who took home one of the commemorative door prizes or an orchid.

The sub-branch extends a special thank you to the Army Band Perth, Richard's Christmas 360, Toodyay Shire, Toodyay Club, Toodyay Bakery, Coorinja Winery, Citrons Catering and everyone who participated in making the night a huge success.



Toodyay RSL President Air Commodore Peter Brennan cuts the Centennial Cake.

Big election turn-out

Continued from Page 1.

TOODYAY'S 45 per cent voter turn-out for last month's postal ballot of 3425 electors conducted by the WA Electoral Commission was well above the state average of 28.5 per cent for WA's 139 councils.

It was the first time all Toodyay voters were allowed to vote for all candidates after the council decided last January to abolish shire electoral ward boundaries.

Three other councillors – former shire president Brian Rayner (who nobody voted for in 2017 because he was former North Ward's only nominee), former deputy president Therese Chitty (East Ward) and Cr Paula Greenway (West Ward) – have two more years left to serve.

A secret ballot to elect a shire president at the first meeting of the new council last month resulted in a 4-4 deadlock between Cr Madacsi and former deputy president Chitty (Cr Greenway absent on council-approved leave) after former president Rayner said he would not re-nominate for the shire's top job.

It is understood that President Manning and Crs Ruthven and Pearce voted for Cr Madacsi, and Crs Rayner, Bell and Hart voted for Cr Chitty.

The special council meeting was adjourned for a week.

Crs Chitty and Madacsi withdrew their nominations at the resumed meeting to enable Cr Manning to be elected unopposed as new shire president.

A second secret ballot for deputy president resulted in the election of Cr Madacsi (five

votes), followed by Cr Chitty (two) and Cr Bell (one).

It is understood President Manning and Crs Ruthven, Pearce and Hart voted for Cr Madacsi, Cr Rayner voted for Cr Chitty, and no other councillors voted for Cr Bell.

President Manning thanked Cr Rayner for his two years' service as shire president.

At the new council's first ordinary meeting next day, President Manning said he was pleased "to have the opportunity to work with all of you as representatives of the community".

"You all bring to the council table your intelligence, your experience, your skills and, most of all, your enthusiasm to make Toodyay a better place in which to live," he said.

"The broad range of skills and experience includes areas such as agriculture, fire control, tourism, environmental science, education, accounting, business, information technology and law.

"The community expects us to work together as a united team and I am confident we can do that.

"There will be differences of opinion, of course, but these need to be handled in a polite and respectful manner, and the majority decision needs to be accepted.

"At the end of the day, our collective responsibility is to represent the interests of the community as a whole.

"When we are considering matters before us, the question we always need to ask ourselves is 'what is in the best interests of the community?'"

\$15,000 Lotterywest grant cures frequent headaches

Heather Appleby
Secretary, The Toodyay Herald Inc.

YOUR LOCAL newspaper is over the moon after receiving a \$15,000 Lotterywest grant to update its ageing computer systems.

New hardware has been ordered and outdated software will be replaced.

Computer crashes and program failures over the past 10 years have caused frequent headaches for our team and, of course, seem to occur only during production when volunteers are working under pressure to meet deadlines.

The newspaper's entire computer system will be upgraded after next month's *Herald* and fully tested in time for the following paper in February (no January edition).

Local Labor MP Laurie Graham described *The Toodyay Herald* as an important channel for sharing local stories and news services as well as providing the community with opportunities to join in upcoming cultural activities and events.

"The Lotterywest grant will go towards new computer equipment and software to support raised community connection and participation," Mr Graham said during a recent presentation in *The Herald's* Stirling Terrace newsroom.

"Not-for-profit community groups such as *The Toodyay Herald* and local government authorities play a valuable role in making WA a better place for us all.

"Lotterywest is the only lottery in Australia – and one of the few in the world – where all the profits are returned back to the Western Australian community.

"When you play Lotterywest games, there's a ripple effect that benefits the entire community."

Mr Graham said more than \$455 million was handed out in Lotterywest prizes last financial year, and community grants totalling more than \$281 million were presented.

The committee and members of *The Toodyay Herald* Inc. appreciate Lotterywest's support for us to continue to serve our local community.



Local Labor MP Laurie Graham (left) presents *The Toodyay Herald* Inc. President Peter Aspinall with a certificate to mark the grant of a \$15,000 Lotterywest cheque.

Show wheel spins for lucky winners

RSL Toodyay Sub-Branch
Heather Brennan

RSL TOODYAY celebrated our sub-branch's 100th Year of Charter with a Centenary Ball in the Memorial Hall on October 5 where we had an outstanding night and our sincere thanks goes to all those who helped us celebrate such a milestone.

Special thanks go to the ball committee, MC John Adams, guest speakers RSL WA President Peter Aspinall AM and Beth Frayne from Toodyay Historical Society, the dignitaries and everyone involved in making this night happen. Please see our full report on this page.

RSL Toodyay would like to thank the Toodyay community for its wonderful support of our chocolate wheel and information stall at the Toodyay Agricultural Show.

In recognition of our 100th Year of Charter, our president Peter Brennan AM CSM was honoured to be invited to open this year's show.

Congratulations to all those who took home a prize from the chocolate wheel or joined in the fun with bubbles and balloons.

Thank you also to visitors to the information stall where we promoted information on niche wall plaques, our collectable stubby holders, memberships, and RSL welfare services.

Our commemorative port can now only be obtained from the Coorinja Winery cellar door and it isn't too late for a last-minute dash to Coorinja to pick up a few bottles to enjoy or give as Christmas gifts; act now as the



One of many lucky winners with a prize from the RSL chocolate wheel at last month's Toodyay Agricultural Show.

Commemorative Port is only available this year.

On the completion of our meeting on October 26 there was an opportunity to see the ball photographs and make a selection. Selections can still be made by contacting Heather at toodyayrsl@gmail.com or by phone on 0408 284 852.

Our Poppy Day Appeal will be held on Friday and Saturday November 8 and 9 outside the IGA and we would love to see you drop by.

Monday November 11, Remembrance Day, will see our ceremony held at 10.30am at Anzac Park; all are welcome to attend.

A reminder for members is that the Christmas party Sunday December 1 at the Memorial Hall commences at noon.

The Christmas party and Remembrance Day are two opportunities to renew your affiliate membership which is due on Wednesday January 1.

SHIRE OF TOODYAY EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Council Committees

If you have ever wanted to participate in a Council Committee now is your opportunity to do so.

We are seeking expressions of interest for community members on the:

- Audit Committee;
- Museum Advisory Committee;
- and the
- Environmental Advisory Committee.

Information in relation to Council Committees is available on Council's website at <http://www.toodyay.wa.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings/Council-Committees>

Please submit your Expressions of Interest in writing, addressed to the CEO via email to records@toodyay.wa.gov.au or PO Box 96, Toodyay, WA, 6566.

Expressions of Interest close midday on Friday 22 November 2019.

STAN SCOTT
Chief Executive Officer

Local member joins Avon natural resources board

AT THE recent AGM of the Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management (WNRM), Toodyay local Helen Shanks was endorsed as a board member for a three-year term.

The WNRM was seeking a new board member with experience in community



Helen Shanks. Photo: Wheatbelt NRM.

capacity building and Aboriginal engagement.

With many years of experience in these fields (including at grass-roots and senior government levels), along with a passion for permaculture, healthy environments, regenerative agriculture, Aboriginal heritage and promoting the Avon Valley region, Helen fitted the bill.

The WNRM is an independent community-based organisation leading natural resource management endeavours within the Avon River Basin.

The organisation operates from its Northam office and is the second largest of seven NRM regional organisations in the state, with responsibility for the 12 million hectares of the Avon River Basin.

Through its three-year strategic direction (2018-2021) the WNRM delivers a program of works designed to get the community of the Avon Valley/Wheatbelt active in improving their environment.

To check out the exciting projects underway or to keep up to date on current events, funding opportunities and NRM in the region, you can follow the WNRM Facebook page or subscribe to the e-newsletter via wheatbeltnrm.org.au.

Helen's contact details are on the WNRM website.

Community pitches in for Butterly

Butterly Cottages Association
Therese Chitty

THE AGM of Butterly Cottages Association Inc. was held on October 28.

The Committee of Management is as follows: president, Gretta Sauta; vice-president, Judy Dow; secretary, Jenny Perkins; treasurer, Maggie Parsons with committee members Karyn Dymond, Sally Martin, Shirley Patton, Roma Heath and Therese Chitty.

Tenant representatives are Christeen Donegan and Jim Short.

President Gretta Sauta made particular mention of her executive committee and the work all the sub-committees did throughout the year.

Gretta made special thanks to Peter Edward, Allan Giles, Glenn Rodger, Greg Warburton and Scott Patterson from the Shire of Toodyay for their ongoing support

in assisting Butterly.

She also thanked David Dow who coordinated a property review of units B-K with Jenny Perkins and Maggie Parsons; some of the identified items have been addressed and others are ongoing.

Thanks were also extended to the Woorloo Work Crew, Shire of Toodyay, community volunteers Edith Costello, Andrew Carr, Samantha McClelland and Wes Miller-Smith and all the Toodyay businesses for their ongoing support.

The Toodyay Op Shop also was very generous and donated towards the new ramp at the Ashby on Avon units and towards the installation of a website.

Butterly Cottages Association Inc. is a volunteer-run organisation which provides affordable housing for older people who are able to live independently.

We are always on the lookout for more volunteers.



Awards finalists Rob Broderick and Vicki Haggarty.



From left: Employee of the Year finalist Vicki Haggarty with Donna Pulfer and Nikki Wybrow from the Toodyay Waste Transfer Station.

Local waste managers make business awards finals

Avon Valley Business Excellence Awards
Tenielle Hughes

ON FRIDAY October 18 a combined team from Broderick Waste Solutions Pty Ltd and Avon Skip Bins trekked over to the Northam Race Club to attend the 2019 Avon Valley Business Excellence Awards hosted by the Northam Chamber of Commerce.

As the owner of both businesses, Rob Broderick was humbled to have made finals in two categories.

Avon Skip Bins made it as a finalist in the People's Choice category and our vibrant,

bubbly, Vicki Haggarty from Broderick Waste Solutions Pty Ltd (Toodyay Waste Transfer Station) was a well-deserved finalist for the Employee of the Year category.

Rob would like to thank customers, friends and supporters who cast a vote for Avon Skip Bins in the People's Choice category and thank our happy customers who wrote testimonials to support Vicki's nomination, as well as the wider community for their support and encouragement.



Employee of the Year finalist Vicki Haggarty at the Toodyay Waste Transfer Station.

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First task – start process to hire new Shire CEO

Toodyay Progress Association
Lesley-Jane (L J) Campbell
 Acting Chair

LARRY Graham has resigned from all positions in the Toodyay Progress Association and on behalf of the executive committee and all members and friends I thank Lazza for his tremendous contribution during the past three years in laying the groundwork for positive changes in the civic life of Toodyay.

Last month's local government poll saw the election of four new councillors and two who had served previously. On behalf of the association I congratulate all six councillors.

Congratulations also to Cr Bill Manning on his election as Shire President and Cr Rosemary Madaesi as Deputy President.

While the six councillors ran independent campaigns, it is a fact that all were elected on a platform of 'change'.

The residents of the Shire of Toodyay also

deserve a pat on the back because they turned out to vote at nearly double the rate of the state average, and for the third election in a row, they voted for change.

They are now entitled to expect it.

The most important task for the new council is to start the process of hiring a permanent CEO and the planning should start without delay.

The present acting-CEO's contract ends mid-2020, and for a smooth transition to take place it is essential to complete the hiring process well in advance of that time.

Secondly, the council should order an immediate and totally independent audit into the finances and the implications of the recreational precinct.

Several prominent and highly qualified people have analysed the figures and concluded that there appears to be far too much 'blue sky' vagueness.

The third priority should be to address the

automatic 2.5 per cent yearly rate rises which are written into the long-term financial plan.

This will continue to increase rates until 2028 and still result in a deficit budget.

Cr Ben Bell made some very sensible suggestions to reduce costs which were ignored by the previous council.

The new council must now take control of the budgetary processes and decide where cuts can be made to prevent any further increases.

There should be no rate rises, and it is incumbent on the 'council for change' to honour its election commitments.

A positive initiative would be to invoke

Section 5.37 of the *WA Local Government Act* and designate the shire's executive managers as 'senior employees'.

At present the council has only one employee, the CEO, and it has no control over the advertising, appointment or dismissal of other senior staff.

It would take a simple council resolution to remove the CEO's carte blanche and give the council a say in the hiring and performance of its senior staff.

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

Local radio station invites presenters

2J2AIR 105.3FM
 Ken Stivey

IT HAS been most gratifying to see that the viewing of our web page 2j2air.org.au and our Facebook page has risen sharply over the past two months as have positive comments on other local Facebook pages.

As a non-profit organisation we rely heavily on local support, either as a sponsor member or as a business owner promoting products.

So we urge local business owners to come to the party and support us as we move towards an online presence and ensure we survive in the future.

We are also looking for new presenters to come on board and share their music preference, or hobby, or anything else that may be of interest to our community.

Even if you have no radio experience we can provide the training to get you on air quickly.

Also a reminder that if you belong to a non-profit community group we offer free advertising for your meetings or events

in *What's On in Toodyay*, or if you would like to hear your business promoted on 105.3FM contact us at 2j2air@gmail.com for information on our fantastic introductory promotional package opportunities.

Program guide

MONDAYS: 11am *The Green Hour*; 1pm *Swooners and Crooners* and 2pm *Jazz*.

Tuesdays: 8pm *Hooked on Classics*.

Wednesdays: 11am *The Green Hour* (repeat); 8pm *Wide World of Folk* and 9pm *Blues*.

Thursdays: Noon *Wide World of Folk* (repeat).

Fridays: 11am *The Green Hour* (repeat); 7pm *Ready 4 Country*; 8pm *Ready 4 Retro*, and, 9pm *Ready 2 Rock*.

Saturdays: Noon *Country* (old) and 1pm *Country* (new).

Sundays: 9am *Hooked on Classics* (repeat); noon *Ready 4 Country* (repeat); 8pm *Swooners and Crooners* (repeat) and 9pm *Jazz*.

Daily 10am and 3pm *What's On in Toodyay* community information.



Billiards, snooker and pool are popular with Toodyay Club members.

Second pool table adds to refurbished green

Toodyay Club
 Barrie Bywater

TOODYAY Club is enjoying a great run at the moment.

The shire has a capital works program to

refurbish the kitchen, upgrade the lighting for the green to LED lights and do paving around the green.

The Toodyay Bowling Club received a grant earlier this year for a new green which was completed in August.

The club recently purchased another pool table, giving us the only two pool tables in town, along with the full-size billiard table already in the building.

With meals on Friday nights, Jag the Joker draw on Saturday night (currently \$1800), a plan to start free barefoot bowls and a sausage sizzle on Sunday afternoons commencing at 4pm, all that's needed is for you to just bring your mates or your family; we have all the equipment and will give you free instruction.

Also, the club is now having Happy Hours on Thursdays and Sundays between 4.30-5.30pm when all drinks will be \$1 cheaper.

We are endeavouring to make the club a place where you can bring your family to relax and have a bit of fun and we look forward to seeing you at the almost-new Toodyay Club.

As a result of the green replacement, the club has a quantity of second-hand bowling green for sale at \$5 per square metre.

Worth a look if you want some artificial lawn.

Phone Barrie Bywater on 0427 323 047.

101-year-old poet notches up wins

WA Bush Poets and Yarn Spinners
 Bill Gordon

ROGER Cracknell emerged from a strong field to become the 2019 WA Bush Poets State Champion at the Act Belong Commit Toodyay Bush Poetry Festival held in the Toodyay Memorial Hall in early November.

Bill Gordon was second with Peter Blyth third.

Poets came from as far as Geraldton and Albany, while two of the judges travelled from Victoria for the event.

The yarn spinning section was won by Bill Gordon with 101 year old Arthur Leggett a close second.

Arthur featured in several of the awards and was the winner of the Original Humorous and third in the Modern category.

Organisers were pleased to have three juniors entering this year.

They all came from Mandurah as a result of contact between local poets and schools in the district.

They hope to see this section increase in the future and would like to see students from Toodyay come forward again.

Judges praised all the poets for the excellent standard of performance and commented on the friendly nature of the weekend.

Everyone who attended had a good time and while the competition was fierce, the harmony among all the people involved is something that

is not always evident in similar events in the eastern states.

Newly elected Shire President Bill Manning opened the festival, while Cr Susan Pearce attended the closing ceremony and presented certificates and trophies to successful poets.

Both expressed appreciation to the WA Bush Poets for selecting Toodyay for their competition weekend.

Rhonda Sullivan from Toodyay Festivals Inc. first approached the bush poets in 2012 and a poetry day resulted.

The following year she and Andrew McCann were the local contacts for the first Bush Poetry Festival.

Since then the festival has become firmly entrenched in Toodyay and receives great support from local businesses and organisations, both financial and physical.

The Toodyay Historical Society manned a display in the foyer of the Memorial Hall and attracted a deal of attention from the many visitors who attended the weekend.

WA Bush Poets president Bill Gordon expressed thanks to the sponsors, particularly Toodyay Shire and Visitors Centre for their continuing support since the first festival.

Other local sponsors were the Toodyay Op Shop, Makit Hardware and the Toodyay Caravan Park.

With sponsorship through Healthway and RoadWise all this assistance ensures the bush poets will be back in Toodyay again next year.

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THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Thank you to everyone who voted in the council election.

Thank you to everyone who gave me their support and voted for me to help create a new Council.

Beth Ruthven

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Catholic precinct needs miracle to survive

Toodyay Historical Society
Robyn Taylor

A REWARDING feature of Toodyay's volunteer groups and societies is the sharing and support we give to each other.

For example, the Toodyay Environment and History Centre in Drummond House on Stirling Terrace is home to three groups, the Toodyay Naturalists' Club, the Toodyay Friends of the River and the Toodyay Historical Society.

A number of our members belong to all three organisations and we work together to mutual advantage.

Recently we welcomed the relatively 'new kid on the block', the Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal Corporation and have offered our support for their plans in the Toodyay region, both historical and environmental.

On a different tack, the historical society has long had an interest in the Roman Catholic Precinct, formerly the Sisters of Mercy Convent, later known as Avondown, then The Friary.

Back in 1982, The Toodyay Society as it was then called, commenced the restoration of 'The Ship' (built for Dr Growse in the 1860s) hoping to lease the building.

During the 1990s, the Toodyay Naturalists' Club used St Aloysius' (1921), that once contained the boys' school and dormitory, for its meetings. This was prior to the arrival of the friars.

Our Society has undertaken research into the precinct's history, organised excursions that were open to former students who wanted to revisit the buildings; and presented talks and displays.

These events were undertaken when Avondown operated as the Franciscan friary, and our interest was warmly received and encouraged.

Since its closure in 2017 the place has stood empty and now subdivision of each building on its separate lot and sale by the Archdiocese is pending.

It is worth making the point that the convent and school buildings were built, maintained and paid for by the entrepreneurial Catholic sisters through fundraising, popular balls and concerts, major donations from Toodyay's Connor and Quinlan families, and assistance



Mercy House. Source: Toodyay District Chronicle, 23 December 1905.

from parishioners and others.

The Franciscans continued this legacy, seeking grants and donations to conserve the buildings and undertaking much of the physical work themselves.

The issue here is not just about bricks and mortar and heritage-listed buildings, but the people involved.

It is the social history running like a thread that binds the place together.

Since its formation last year, the Friends of the Toodyay Roman Catholic Precinct, made up of Catholics and non-Catholics, has worked to prepare a business plan for the place to enable the precinct to remain intact and the buildings put to good use. But time is now running out.

Our society has been invited by the St John the Baptist Parish to attend an open day at the precinct on Sunday November 17 from 11am to 3pm.

One of the aims of the open day is sharing memories and mementoes.

This may well be the last opportunity to walk through the grounds and hopefully revisit some of the buildings.

Needless to say, everyone who has had a connection with the place is saddened by this turn of events, but remains hopeful something good will happen – perhaps a miracle?

Due to unforeseen circumstances, our October Fremantle excursion had to be put on hold for another time.

We will be enjoying our end-of-year sundowner at Donegan's Cottage on Sunday November 24 from 6pm.

Bring a plate to share. Tea, coffee and chairs provided. BYO cold drinks.

Contacts: secretary.2j.ths@gmail.com; Robyn Taylor, rdtaylor@iinet.net.au, phone 9574 2578, or Beth Frayne, toobide4@iinet.net.au, phone 9574 5971.

Donegan's Cottage Research Centre in the showgrounds is open on Thursdays from 1-3pm.

Postal address: PO 32 Toodyay. Website: toodyayhistoricalsociety.org.au. Books and displays are at Drummond House which is open on Saturdays from 10am to noon.

Membership is \$10 per annum.

Last chance to visit Mercy Convent

St John the Baptist Parish, Toodyay
John Clarke

TOODYAY'S St John the Baptist Parish is holding an open day on Sunday November 17 to remember people who have been associated with the Mercy Convent and the Catholic School in Toodyay which was run for many years by the Sisters of Mercy.

This will be an opportunity to gather to remember former pupils, parishioners, community members, nuns, friars and priests and to recognise the mighty effort that has been involved in their work over the past 135 years.

Everybody is welcome to come along.

If you have any old photos or newspaper clippings or anything else that may be of interest, please bring them to share with others.

The Sisters of Mercy arrived in town in 1884 when Toodyay was still called Newcastle. They lived with the Hassell family in Folewood Road until they purchased the house at 96 Stirling Terrace where the dentist is now located.

In 1902 Bishop Gibney purchased the current site for the establishment of a convent for educational purposes.

By 1903, the new convent, now known as Mercy House, had been built and was open.

The St Aloysius boys' boarding house was added in 1921 and girls' boarding house was opened in 1929.

The sisters were industrious and enterprising and the Catholic parishioners worked hard to fund the building program.

Light refreshments will be provided at the Open Day which will run from 11am-3pm. The grounds and at least the boys' boarding house and the current church will be open to the public.

The event will provide an opportunity to catch up with the plans of the Archdiocese to subdivide and sell the buildings on the site.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

For more information, please phone Mick McKeown on 0439 998 808.

See story (left).



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Chaplain doesn't miss a beat in busy school term

Toodyay YouthCARE Council (Chaplaincy)
Vivienne Freeman, Secretary

HERE we are, nearly at the end of another busy year.

On October 20 a combined churches service was held at the Baptist Church to inform people about school chaplain Doug McGhee's role and to offer continued support.

Toodyay YouthCARE held a morning tea on October 23 to thank the Friends of Chaplaincy for their support during the past year.

About 35 folk came along and were served a delicious morning tea catered for by Roz Davidson and Sarah with the help of the Toodyay District High School's home economics students and Mr Bartholomew.

Our school chaplain Doug is at the school four days a week.

His activities last term included leading a cadets' camp to Kalbarri with 40 students, and a St John Ambulance first aid course where 13 cadets gained their certificates.

Following the Wilderness Adventure Program where 12 students completed their Bibbulmun Track walk, there was a celebration night.

The Drumbeat class performed at a school open night.

The school Breakfast Club continues to be available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings before the school day starts.

Our final raffle for the year will be held on Friday and Saturday November 29 and 30 outside IGA; there are some lovely Christmas prizes.

Thank you for your past generosity.



Netti guards the CWA display at the Toodyay Agriculture Show.

Gnomes and piglets help Netti guard display

Country Womens' Association
Elizabeth Mansom

DID YOU visit the CWA display at the Show?

As always, Netti sat guard in her finery and this year had some gnomish and porcine company.

Thanks and admiration are due to Viv who sets up the display and looks after Netti between outings.

She never tells us what she's doing so it's a special part of our visit to the Show to head for the pavilion.

As always, the display was informative and delightful.

We are very pleased to report that we have once again passed our annual health inspection by the shire.

All food outlets in town will be familiar with this routine procedure which means Toodyay residents and visitors can be confident they are receiving food prepared correctly in hygienic conditions.

Our sister city branch, Bayswater, invited us to a Friendship Day on the day we normally hold our meeting and as we never miss an outing if we can help it we moved our meeting to the following week.

Six of us went down and had a thoroughly enjoyable day.

We came home with five prizes and winning a prize, regardless of what it is, always brings out our delighted inner child.

Once we had had a cuppa and something from the scone, slice and cake-laden morning tea table, we were treated to a talk by Bob Hunter from the Cactus and Succulent Society of Western Australia.

It seems the rule for these plants is "If in doubt, go without" so if your plants are not doing well you're probably killing them with kindness.

If you are interested in these types of plants, the 2019 State Championship and Show will be held on Saturday November 16 from 10am-4pm at the South Perth Community Centre.

After a hectic few weeks of too many functions to choose from, November seems

only to contain our craft day on the second Thursday and our meeting on the fourth Thursday.

This will give us plenty of time to prepare items for the CWA table at the Christmas Street Party, so please come and find us for a practical gift for that hard-to-buy-for person in your life.

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

There is plenty of parking in Charcoal Lane with disabled access at the side of the hall.

To book the hall please contact Meg Mills on 9574 2245.

Local groups win at the races

FOUR local not-for-profit groups joined winners at this year's Toodyay Picnic Races as the result of a donor partnership between Toodyay Race Club and Racing and Wagering WA's Community TAB.

Toodyay St John Ambulance, Toodyay Lions Club, Avon Valley Karate Club and Toodyay Cricket Club all received funds from the annual September race day donor program.

"This program means that we are provided with an opportunity to properly thank and showcase the good work that our local community groups are doing," Toodyay Race Club Chairman John Prater said.

"These local community groups not only provide services that assist with running the Toodyay Race Club each year but they also provide vital services to the Toodyay community.

"We value the contribution they make, and providing this additional funding is the least we can do to thank them."

Race club donations to the four local community groups were matched by Community TAB funds.

Toodyay Miniature Railway
June Eastwood

MOST of our members have reached the allotted three score and ten (even four score and five) so it is nice to report we have two young men in William and Lachie join the ranks.

Ask William about any engine, train, railway or associated invention and he can beat Google to the answer.

William is also a whiz on *Thomas the Tank Engine* tales and had the McCulloch's two small grandchildren enthralled.

They did not want the current story halted when William had to attend guard duties so they jumped into the rear carriage with William and rolled off down the track as he continued the tale while voicing the various characters.

This not only kept the children happy but gave the passengers a bright spot to their day.

Lachie began his association with the railway at a very tender age and mum Rita spent countless hours sitting on that hard bench so he could ride up and down.

In early November Lachie will turn 21 and we

wish him all the best for his future – may he have many more happy hours driving and riding the Toodyay trains.

Anyone coming to Duidjee Park can only be impressed by the lush Mini Rail gardens.

What is more, Vern was way ahead of the community garden idea.

For the past two years Vern has interspersed the native shrubs and flowers with big healthy broad bean plants.

The overall green colour not only makes the gardens appear very lush but Vern also distributes the bounty among staff and even the odd nostalgic passenger.

"We remember my grandpa growing these ..."

Well done, Vern.

Jetty jarrah turns into ostrich egg stand

Avon Woodturners
Max J Heath

HI FROM 2J Junction and Avon Woodturners. It has been quite a busy time at woodturning trying to get things done for the Show as well as general woodturning going on.

We are in the throes of designing a lathe for people who can't stand at a lathe for an extended period and we are looking into different possibilities.

At last, we have come up with a design that we hope will achieve this.

We are altering a frame which we hope will do the trick.

If it works, we will distribute our design to the WA Woodturners Association so other clubs can do the same.

Our stand at the Show created a lot of interest and members crafted a number of give-away items which made a few people happy.

It seems that one doesn't see many give-aways at shows these days.

Others among us demonstrated the making of pens and other items of interest.

We also acquired some timber that we needed for a project that we were about to get involved in.

The woodturning entries were down a little this year but there was still a lot of design variations in the entries.

Among our other projects, we are making a couple of stands for ostrich eggs that one of our associates needs for display purposes.

One of the stands is crafted from some jarrah which was part of the Carnarvon Jetty. The stand is surrounded by some sandalwood and has come up quite nicely.

We also were approached to make some items that will be put up on the Memorial Hall ceiling and this is why we needed to access the timber from the timber mill on display at the Show.

In closing folk, we ask you to remember our motto – Don't Drive Tired.



Wesley scores a swag load of tools

CONGRATULATIONS to Wesley Street (above), the winner of the Toodyay Home Hardware Win a Boot Load of Tools competition sponsored by Makita Tools.

Owner Bob Ashley (above left) presented Wesley with the \$500-plus prize package which included a Makita 18V brushless hammer drill.

Well done Wesley, and thanks to everyone who entered the competition.

Thank you Toodyay

I wish to thank everyone for the support and faith shown in me to represent you. As a councillor, I am honoured to support our Shire President Cr Bill Manning and fellow councillors.

This is a strong council with the will and capacity to lead Toodyay into a new era and I am proud to be a part of it. Undoubtedly difficulties will be encountered however, the council is committed to working together to resolve these and effect the changes that the community has been clearly asking for. My thanks to former councillors Andrew McCann, Chris Firms and Sally Craddock, whose knowledge was invaluable and whose integrity, diligence and compassion were an outstanding example of service while under duress in their personal lives.



Cr Rosemary Madacsi



Enjoy lunch in Springtime at Trees!
Looking forward to seeing you again!

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Light shed on horse regiment

Toodyay Probus Club
Norm Green

LAST month's guest speaker provided interesting facts about the 10th Light Horse regiment.

Phil Sullivan related the history and some of the regiment's activities, especially in relation to the two world wars.



Phil Sullivan's replica of 10th Light Horse Regiment mount at the Toodyay Agricultural Show.

I always thought that the horsemen charged into battle on their mounts; however, this was not the case as the horses were used to transport the infantrymen to the action.

They were divided into troops of four men – to look after the horses and keep them in a safe spot while the others would go and fight.

Phil told us that he did displays with his horse at a lot of shows including the recent Toodyay Agricultural Show.

You may have seen him on the oval with many photos on display.

I patted his horse and there was no reaction at all. Not surprising because it was made of fibreglass.

This month, Richard Wilkinson will talk about his work for Westrail where he helped to improve the organisation's management.

On a previous occasion Richard gave interesting insights into his work in the aviation industry.

Recent outings were a trip to Woodman Point with Ellenbrook Probus and a trip to tour the Royal Flying Doctor facility at Jandakot airport with Swan View Probus.

We will also be making some trips to music concerts down in the big smoke.

Our Coffee at Amy's last month had 12 of us chatting away.

On the subject of coffee. If your eyes hurt after you drink coffee you have to take the spoon out of the cup.

If you like chatting, meeting different people, having meals in restaurants, visiting interesting places and learning from interesting guest speakers, then the Probos Club is definitely for you.

For information please contact president, Joan on 0417 171 606.

Morangup catches up to declutter

Morangup Matters
Morangup Progress Association
Jo Hart

WE HAD a very successful car boot sale at Morangup Hall on October 13.

Perfect weather, sunny with scattered clouds, so it wasn't too hot.

It was a great event for buying a range of 'goodies' and Christmas presents, catching up with friends and neighbours and tucking into a sausage sizzle at the barbie.

We hope to make the car boot sale a more regular event perhaps two to three times a

year, giving us all an opportunity to declutter and meet with our neighbours.

Our Rural Watch network is developing steadily and will help us all have a greater awareness of unusual activity around the area.

By the time this goes to press we will have had our Cuppa and a Chat on November 3 with the next one due on Sunday January 5.

Check out our association's Facebook page facebook.com.morangupmpa/ where we regularly share items of local interest.

If you are a local resident then please join the Morangup Progress Association; annual Membership is \$10 per family.



Ladies golf closing day from left (back): Noelene Kazanski, Alison McGuinness, Serena Syred, Jenni Knowles, Bridget Moore, Waveny Jones, Deb Campbell and Vivienne Camerer; (front) Pam McGill, Joy Hamilton and Pam Meston.

Tricky shots played at season's end

Bolgart News
Pam McGill

CONGRATULATIONS to Amanda Martin and Joshua Cook on the arrival of their daughter Zari Ann Cook.

Zari was born on September 30 and is a little sister for her brothers Tayt and Jace, a granddaughter for Ron and Vicki Martin and a great-granddaughter for Doris Martin.

Congratulations to Hannah Martin, granddaughter of Lindsay and Luanne Martin, on winning the Champion Girl Trophy at her school faction sports.

Bolgart residents were saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Lesley Brockhurst on October 6.

Lesley was a very talented sports lady and will be remembered by all who knew her.

Condolences go to her family, husband Deryk, children Tony, Ricky, Christine, Robbie and Steve and all their families.

During the October school holidays Molly Snooke competed in the That's Entertainment Festival of Dance in Perth and achieved the following results in the 10 years and under category: 1st Acrobatic Solo (open); 1st Modern Jazz Duo; 2nd Ballet Solo (novice) and 3rd Lyrical Solo (intermediate).

Molly is now rehearsing for the Toodyay Ballet School 25th Annual Recital Concert.

Golf finished for the season and some very interesting shots had to be played on the day.

Great fun was had by everyone who dressed to the theme Spring Has Sprung and some very colourful outfits were worn.

Serena Syred took out Best Dressed.

A lovely ploughman's lunch was served and enjoyed after all the fun.

A small group of ladies attended our Ladies' Bowls Opening Day on October 10 and had an enjoyable afternoon.

The ladies' first pennant match was away in Quairading and Bolgart won 3-1.

Ladies' second pennants game was at home against Beverley and Bolgart won 4-0.

Men's pennants started their season with a home game against Dowerin but lost 0-8.

Calingiri Bowling Club hosted an Open Day at Bolgart on October 13, sponsoring all the trophies.

There were 56 men playing, with teams coming from Wanneroo, York, Calingiri, Moora, Wongan Hills and Belmont.

The winners were Team Three from Wanneroo with players Derek Griffen, Peter Salter, Barry Atkins and Greg Sarich.

A composite team of Wanneroo Team One and Bolgart were runners-up with players Tony Syred, Glen McGill, Darren Manuel and Brian French.

Bolgart players Todd Meston, Ed Ludemann, Justin Edmonds, and Lester Snooke came third.

A very enjoyable day was had by all.

Man cave pool eases pain of no footy

Bejoording Community Group News
From the desk of The Badger

EVENTS start to come thick and fast at this time of the year.

At the beginning of October we had our annual seafood feast and the mob enthusiastically consumed two large golden snapper, a few kilos of prawns, a big pot of mussels and a seafood lasagne.

There were probably other dishes as well but I've forgotten now.

Doug Colfer kept up a continual supply of hot chips.

Instead of a revolving feast we have had a revolving pool competition, playing out in a different shed or man cave every Friday and this has certainly eased the pain of no footy.

It should continue for a few more Fridays.

The other event which drew a small but enthusiastic crowd of petrolheads was the all-day screening on our mega monitor of the annual Bathurst 1000 race.

There's been a respectable turn-up at the shed every Wednesday, which is a good measure of community togetherness and this is the place where all other social activities are talked about and arranged.

Leftovers from the Melbourne Cup Day will be consumed at our usual Wednesday gathering – we always over-cater.

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, we'd love to get to know you.

If you want to know more you can contact president Barry Grey on 0428 742 149 or call The Badger on 0414 250 484.

Hope to see you soon.

36 board casino bus

Casino Bus
Rae Vigar

AFTER a late start, 36 people boarded the bus for a trip to the casino on October 21.

We welcomed aboard some new travellers from surrounding districts.

I will try to get a busload organised for January 2020 and would like to thank all the regulars and the new friends for their support during the past year.

Everyone seemed happy on last month's return trip so I hope they had a win – yours truly did.

For \$20 we had a great day with a three-course lunch and friendly people.

To book a seat and for information on the January excursion date please phone Rae on 9574 2356.

... and now for something completely different!

AROUND THE WORLD

IN 18 Songs!

Two Performances:
Saturday 7pm (Doors 6:30pm)
23rd November
&
Sunday 2pm (Doors 1:30pm)
24th November

Toodyay Community Singers

Join us for a show filled with laughter and song!

Where: Toodyay Town Hall
Tickets: \$15 from Makit Hardware, Toodyay

Thank you for your support



Susan Pearce

My sincere thanks to the Toodyay community who voted at the Council elections and elected me to represent their interests on Council. I truly appreciate your support and encouragement. I thank outgoing Councillors Dow, Twine and Welburn for their dedication and contribution to the Toodyay community. The community has my commitment to work with fellow Councillors who see a future in accountability, transparency, openness and communication between the Shire and the community. I expect the role of Councillor to be challenging with many new learning opportunities in the policies and procedures of Council business and look forward to meeting and engaging with the community.

Show success cheats rain

Toodyay Agricultural Society
Alison Wroth

WHEN the skies opened on the Friday night before the Show and down came that steady rain, I believe everybody on the committee of the Toodyay Agricultural Society had everything crossed, praying to the weatherman that it would clear and the day would be fine on Saturday.

Sure enough, we got what we asked for and were blessed with a warm day that drew the crowds through the gates.

This year the committee rolled with a few punches in the effort to get the 166th Show to be autism friendly on our first attempt.

The success of the day and seeing the regular locals plus the visitors who have made our agricultural Show the one they attend year after year, preferring our historic showground atmosphere to any other Show, makes the effort all worthwhile.

An amazing variety of trade displays and sideshows featured once again on the hockey oval and surrounded the main stage.

Our entry count was similar to last year but, as usual, was down in some sections and through the roof in others.

Wool, dairy goats and sheep saw a huge improvement in exhibits and attracted crowds all day, especially during the dairy goat judging which was so interesting.

Both exhibition halls were consistent drawcards, colourful and bright with craft, quilts, floriculture and the wonderful school displays.

Heartfelt thanks must go to all the stewards

and judges who make the hard decisions before the exhibits are put on display.

You are all volunteers and the Show would not run as smoothly if you did not volunteer your time over the two days of judging.

Toodyay Agricultural Society wishes to thank all our sponsors for their continuing support of the annual Show. Toodyay and Districts Bendigo Community Bank, CBH Group, Road Safety Commission, Toodyay Op Shop, Shire of Toodyay, Dunning and Morgan Feed Supplies have been behind us all the way this year and we are extremely grateful for the support and interest these businesses offer us.

Many thanks also to the grounds staff at the Shire of Toodyay.

The showgrounds were immaculate and great comments were made when looking down on the Show from the Youth Hall morning tea, especially after the official opening by RSL President Peter Brennan.

The equestrian rings were full of activity this year with the return of show jumping and kids' games, both favourite events for spectators.

We are looking for an equestrian coordinator soon, so if you are interested in this position and becoming a member of our committee please refer to the advertisement on Page 31.

On behalf of the president and committee, we hope you enjoyed the entertainment, attractions and exhibits, be they in the exhibition halls or in a goat pen.

We are already looking forward to next year's 167th Show.

New ideas and opportunities are being thought of so that we can put on the best possible Toodyay Agricultural Show.



Canola swaths left for drying near Nunile. Photo: Frank Panizza.

Late rains halt canola harvest

Toodyay Agricultural Alliance
Frank Panizza

THE LANDSCAPE around our shire has now taken the familiar look of summer.

Hay is in paddocks waiting for collection and crops are ripening ready for harvest.

All hay programs have been now been completed.

Local farmers report hay quality to be good this year, however hay yields are down by as much as 30 per cent.

Hay and other feed prices are likely to be higher than average because of increased demand over summer due to poor dry feed in paddocks and lower hay and feed grain yields.

Recent late spring rains have stopped canola harvesting that had just begun in our shire.

The cool and wet few days have halted harvest and raised concerns that malt barley may become 'stained' from the recent wet weather. Late rains can cause a yellowing of the barley grain which can be an issue in the malting process.

Harvest has now been underway statewide for a few weeks with yields expected to be well down on last year's near-record crop.

Many local farmers have been busy over the past month familiarising themselves with new changes to requirements for movement of oversized vehicles.

Many, including myself have recently completed a three-day course to become a 'licensed pilot'.

It is imperative that all road users who intend to move oversized equipment study recent changes made by Main Roads WA.

It has been common practice for a person assisting another to transport an oversized agricultural machine to drive in front of the oversized load with a vehicle warning oncoming traffic with rotating beacons and an Oversize Load Ahead sign placed on the roof of their vehicle.

Now, in certain circumstances, the person escorting the oversized load must be a 'licensed pilot'.

All transport of oversized agricultural equipment is now subject to new width and zone requirements.

If a road a person wishes to transport an oversized load on falls within these new requirements, a 'licensed pilot' may be required.

These requirements, however, are complex but a flowchart table is available on the Main Roads WA website at mainroads.wa.gov.au.

The easiest place to start is to determine whether the road you intend to use is a 'green' road or an 'orange' road.

For example, the Toodyay Bindi-Bindi Road is an 'orange' road. An exhaustive list of roads is also available at the Main Roads WA website.

As a timely reminder that harvest will bring an increase in heavy-vehicle movements as well as movements of oversized agricultural machinery, I urge all road users to exercise caution during this busy time.

African jackals may hold key to controlling wild WA dogs

A GRASS Valley wild dog researcher has been awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study management of predator species in South Africa.

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development research officer Tracey Kreplins researches wild dog management to better protect livestock, including sheep and goats.

The fellowship will allow her to examine the management and ecology of jackals and caracals and assess whether any of these techniques could be applied to wild dog control in WA.

"I will investigate methods such as non-lethal deterrents and fencing, which could provide an alternative or value-add to the main methods used in WA which include baiting, shooting and trapping," Dr Kreplins said.

"Studies will also compare predator species from the two countries, including home range movements, diet and mesopredator interactions.

"This opportunity will allow me to examine how predator control is undertaken in a

situation where producers are not reliant on baiting and where control efforts are generally undertaken at a property level rather than through co-ordinated landscape-scale control."

Dr Kreplins said finding more predator management options for WA farmers would help ensure that farming enterprises were sustained into the future and the welfare of livestock was kept to a high standard.

She will present the findings of her investigations next year to the WA livestock industry.



Dr Tracey Kreplins.

Local oils turn into silver and gold

Margaret McKeown

TWO OF Toodyay's olive growers achieved outstanding success in the recent 2019 West Australian Olive Awards.

The competition included oils from all over Australia and judges commended the high calibre of this year's entries and affirmed WA's capacity to produce award-winning oils.

The local groves at Esslemont Estate and Place of Plenty have been producing extra virgin olive oil for many years.

Extra virgin olive oil is the highest grade of olive oil and is produced by pressing good quality olives.

Olive oil is judged taking into account the aroma and the palate which is the taste and the sensation of pungency in the throat.

Esslemont Estate, located on the corner of Julimar Road and Timberden Drive, planted 2000 trees in 2000 and gained organic

certification in 2004.

Esslemont Estate won a gold medal for certified organic oil blended from Frantoio, Mission and Lecino olives and a silver medal for Frantoio olive oil.

The judges described Esslemont's blended oil as having aromas of rose petal, zucchini flower and banana, a creamy texture with mild balance of bitterness and pungency – good complexity in the oil.

Place of Plenty, located on the Northam-Toodyay Road less than a kilometre from the Toodyay Road intersection, was planted in the mid-1990s and the first oil from the grove was produced 20 years ago in 1999.

Place of Plenty won a silver medal for their oil from Corregiola olives.

The judges described Place of Plenty's oil as having a fruity aroma with hints of green melon that transferred to the palate with herbaceous, honey dew melon flavours.

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166th Toodyay Agricultural Show Results

THE PRESIDENT'S TROPHY
Kevin Hutchings
 Most points in Sections A, B, C and E
 WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS
Toodyay Agricultural Society Inc Prize
 Best Commercial Exhibit/Display
 WALKERS STEEL ART

SECTION A SHEEP
The Patrons Trophy – David Chitty
 Most points – Sheep Section A
 EDWARD LUDEMANN
Fern Valley Transport Trophy
 Best Lamb Exhibit
 REG SMITH

GROUP A2 FARMER CLASSES
R K Bowden Prize
 Best Exhibit – Farmer Classes
 EDWARD LUDEMANN



SECTION B WOOL
Elders Northam Trophy
 Most points in wool section
 PHIL WILSON
Doug Wood Memorial Trophy
 Champion Fleece
 ALLAN CHITTY

SECTION C CATTLE
Heartland Veterinary Hospital Trophy
 Class 25 – Pen 3 females, 2018 drop commercial for breeding
 WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS
Warragenny Rural Contractors Trophy
 Class 26 – Pen 3 baby beef, 2019 drop
 WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS



Toodyay Hardware and Farm Trophy
 Class 27 – Single baby beef – 2019 drop
 WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS
Vernice Pty Ltd Trophy
 Class 28 – Single baby beef, 2019 drop bred in Toodyay Shire
 WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS
Primaries CRT – Northam Trophy
 Class 29 – Single female, 2018 drop for breeding
 WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS
Toodyay Hardware & Farm Prize
 Class 30 – Pen 3 yearling steers, 2018 drop
 WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS
The Meat Hook Toodyay Trophy
 Class 31 – Single steer, 2018 drop, grainfed
 WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS

SECTION E AGRICULTURE
Toodyay Agricultural Alliance Trophy
 Most Points in Agriculture Section E
 WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS
Phil's Soft Serve Ice Cream Trophy
 Best Exhibit in Agriculture Section E
 DAVID COLLINS

SECTION F POULTRY
John Lucas Prize
 Best Exhibit in Poultry Section F
 J AND A O'BRIEN
Shire of Toodyay Prize
 Best Exhibit Group F1- Pair
 ANDREW RYALL
Shire of Toodyay Prize
 Best Exhibit Group F2 – Large Fowl Heavy Breed
 LIBERTY DYMOND

Shire of Toodyay Prize
 Best Exhibit Group F3 – Large Fowl Light Breed
 GR AND SG IRELAND
Shire of Toodyay Prize
 Best Exhibit Group F4 – Large Game Bird
 GR AND SG IRELAND
Shire of Toodyay Prize
 Best Exhibit Group F5 – Game Bantam
 J AND A O'BRIEN
Shire of Toodyay Prize
 Best Exhibit Group F6 – Soft Feathered Bantam
 LIBERTY DYMOND
Shire of Toodyay Prize
 Best Exhibit Group F7 – Water Bird
 J AND A O'BRIEN
Shire of Toodyay Prize
 Best Exhibit Group F8 – Backyard Chook
 JADE AKTINSON
Toodyay Hair Studio Prize
 Best Exhibit Group F9 – Turkey
 J & A O'BRIEN
Shire of Toodyay Prize
 Best Exhibit Group F10 – Junior Section
 LIAM RYALL

SECTION G PIGEONS
Dynamic Reticulation Prize
 Champion bird Section G
 IMRE UNGVARY
Shire of Toodyay Prize
 Best Exhibit Group G1 – Best working pair
 IMRE UNGVARY
Shire of Toodyay Prize
 Best Exhibit – Group G2 – Working Homers
 IMRE UNGVARY

Megasys Prize
 Best Exhibit Group G3A – Fancy Pigeons
 IMRE UNGVARY
Dynamic Reticulation Prize
 Best Exhibit Group G3B – Fancy Pigeons
 IMRE UNGVARY
Dynamic Reticulation Prize
 Best Exhibit Group G3C – Fancy Pigeons
 IMRE UNGVARY
Dynamic Reticulation Prize
 Best Exhibit Group G3D – Fancy Pigeons
 IMRE UNGVARY

SECTION H ALPACA FLEECES
Sue and Gary Golding Prize
 Best Exhibit – Huacaya Alpaca Fleece
 CAROL LEATHLEY
Toodyay Locals Care Prize (donated by Roz Davidson)
 Best Exhibit – Suri Alpaca Fleece
 CAROL LEATHLEY

SECTION I HOME PRODUCE
Ian Stannard Prize
 Most Points in Section I
 ROBYN TAUKULIS
Shire of Toodyay Prize
 Best Exhibit in Section I
 KERRY GREGORY
Dr Richard Walkey Memorial Trophy
 Best Exhibit Group II – Eggs
 LAUREN PIKE



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- Double bowl undermount sink
- 1200mm wide entry door