

# 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,  
Woorloo, Wundowie, Gidgegannup and local districts.

November 2022  
Edition 418

## Rescue chopper thumbs up at action-packed Toodyay Agricultural Show



St John Ambulance mascot Kura Bear was a big hit with kids on a beautifully sunny day at last month's Toodyay Agricultural Show. More pictures and results, Pages 9 and 13-15.

## Last year's harvest still stuck at Northam

**Local farmers fear transport  
bottlenecks may force this year's  
crop to be dumped on ground**

**Frank Panizza**

TRANSPORT delays have angered local farmers gearing up for another big harvest.

They say that up to a fifth of last year's record crop has yet to be shifted from major storage sites at railheads such as Northam.

Many believe another record crop will overwhelm WA's struggling transport network and cause it to fail.

It has raised fears that some of this year's harvest may have to be dumped on the ground, where it can be used only for stock feed instead of milling.

Toodyay relies on agriculture to sustain its local economy.

Most grain grown in the Central Wheatbelt is trucked to local receival depots, shifted to Northam and railed to Kwinana for shipment to overseas markets.

Buyers are offering \$50 a tonne more to ship grain from newer, faster grain handling facilities in Esperance and Geraldton.

Local farmers blame grain handler CBH and the state government for failure to

modernise local grain handling networks.

Large amounts of bulk grain stored under tarpaulins at Northam are from last year's harvest – some of it already triple-handled.

CBH's Kwinana Zone – which has 72 receival sites stretching from Coorow to Dalwallinu, Lake King and Williams, including Northam – produces about half the state's grain harvest.

Most of it – not just wheat – is exported through the port of Kwinana to Asian countries including Japan, Korea, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, China and the Philippines.

Less than 10 per cent of the harvest is sold to the WA domestic market.

Esperance has only six receival sites but these were built in the 1980s and are far more modern and can handle bigger trucks than those in the Kwinana Zone, which were built 60 to 80 years ago.

Annual WA crop sizes have grown significantly in the last 10 years, from 12-14 million tonnes to more than 20 million tonnes in just the past two years.

Many farmers believe the added strain will overwhelm WA's outdated grain handling facilities and cause them to fail.

They say it is absurd that local grain is highly sought after by overseas buyers but can't reach the port fast enough to meet demand.

It highlighted the urgent need for concerted action by government and industry to build

better truck and rail access to the port.

Farmers say while WA has enough space to store grain, it can't be shifted fast enough and ends up clogging the system.

They say fixing this logistical problem is of paramount importance for regional WA and the state economy.

*Agriculture Minister Alannah MacTiernan and CBH response, Page 9.*



Part of last year's record Wheatbelt harvest still waiting to be cleared at Northam.

### coming events

**Toodyay Farmers Market**  
Sunday 20 November 9am - 1pm  
**Christmas Street Party**  
Friday 2 December 6pm - 9pm

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# COUNTRY REALTY

# The Toodyay Herald

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

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

All advertising should be emailed to [advertising@toodyayherald.com.au](mailto:advertising@toodyayherald.com.au). Editorial contributions and photographs should be emailed to [news@toodyayherald.com.au](mailto:news@toodyayherald.com.au).

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

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

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## DISTRIBUTION

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

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## THANK YOU

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped produce this edition of *The Toodyay Herald*: Joseph Fernandez (Legal), Peter Ruthven, Richard Grant, Laraine Brindle, Allan Gregory, and Judy Morrissey.

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## NEXT TOODYAY HERALD EDITION

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

STORY DEADLINE

DISTRIBUTED

Noon Friday  
November 11

Noon Wednesday  
November 23

Thursday  
December 1

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

## Suspect sandals

Roger Simms

LOVE your dollars, but ...

Two giant resource companies have recently felt the sting of social discontent over sponsorship deals.

First, a group of Fremantle Dockers supporters, including former WA premier Carmen Lawrence, urged the football club to end its association with oil and gas producer Woodside.

Then Hancock Prospecting pulled out of a proposed \$15 million deal with Netball Australia because of opposition among players supporting an Indigenous teammate with a conscientious objection to wearing a Hancock logo.

There can be great mutual benefit in sponsorship but plenty of scope too for things to go wrong.

The American cyclist Lance Armstrong served up a classic rise-and-fall example.

Feted in 2005 as one of the greatest cyclists of all time after winning his seventh consecutive Tour de France, he had a steady stream of sponsors on his wheel.

But once Armstrong confessed that he had been using performance-enhancing drugs throughout his career, sponsors dropped him like a hot handle bar.

He reportedly lost deals worth \$75 million in a single day.

Speaking of classic examples, let's go classical.

Wolfgang Mozart and Joseph Haydn, two giants of the music scene in the era of European patronage, experienced very different fortunes.

Without a sponsor, or more correctly a patron, a young composer in those times – the second half of the 18th century – was going nowhere.

Haydn proved a solid servant under the patronage system, working 30 years for the wealthy Austrian Esterhazy family.

He thrived, steadily composing symphonies and string quartets.

And he managed his business affairs well, ending up in London writing symphonies for an impresario and making lots of money.

Mozart rejected such an opportunity in favour of personal freedom.

The 17-year-old had a position as court musician in Salzburg but gave it up to travel and work more or less as a freelancer.

Despite the brilliance of the music he would compose – operas, symphonies and concertos – he never secured the returns he deserved and was almost always in debt.

But the concept of sponsorship goes further back to Roman times when elites would sponsor gladiator games to garner public affection.

Hmm ... I feel a tug on the imagination.

I'm channelling Flavius Maximus, the Roman private eye who solved the Big Julie caper in Wayne and Schuster's hit *Rinse the Blood off my Toga* (can't believe this great piece of comedy was written 77 years ago).

I imagine Flavius consoling his old charioteer agent mate Marcellus in his office under the Colosseum.

It seems Androcles, the hottest new star on Rome's big-league chariot circuit, has upset some of his fans with a new sponsor, Saul the Sandal Maker.

"Bloody elites, Flav," says Marcellus, "they're always causing trouble."

"I've just done a beaut deal for Androcles and now this."

"It came this morning, delivered by a bloke with a mean and hungry look – might have been that old conspirator Cassius."

He shows Flavius a freshly chiselled message on an A4 stone tablet: "DON'T HITCH YOUR CHARIOT TO A SUSPECT SANDAL".

"Nothing wrong with the sandals," says Flavius.

"A centurion mate of mine has just marched to Hadrian's Wall and back on one pair."

"They look brand new."

"It's not the sandals," says Marcellus.

"It's the tanneries."

"Saul's just put a new one up by the Tiber and the demand for leather has gone through the roof."

"The trouble is some Tiber-side heavies don't like the smell."

"Yeah," Flavius replies.

"And the Emperor has just put out that new slogan: 'AD 33, Rome Tannery-Free'."

"Bloody hypocrites," grumbles Marcellus.

"Bet all those protesting fans will be wearing Sauls when they have to walk to Naples for the Androcles away races," Flavius says.

"Well, we'll just let 'em go – Androcles says he'll stick with Sauls," says Marcellus.

"And you never know, that crazy inventor fellow Plutonium might come good with his talk about an amazing new sandal-making product he calls rubber."

"Comes from trees apparently."

"Grab the end of this banner, Flav, and help me get it up behind Nero's box in the members section."

"Hmm, I like that," says Flavius, reading: "ALL ROADS LEAD TO ROME AND YOU GET THERE ON SAULS!"

"And when in Rome ..."

But enough of this fantasy, I've reached my word count.

Nice to catch up, Flav – see you next time my mind wanders down the Appian Way.



Marcellus tells Flavius he'll stick with Saul's suspect sandals for chariot champ Androcles.

Office Hours are from 9.30am - 12.30pm on highlighted days

November - December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3

The Herald office will be closed from December 1 2022 until January 12, 2023

# Happy wanderer saw writing on the wall

EARLY birds may have noticed most mornings a local couple walking a pair of big fluffy dogs in town – not really the place you'd expect to see Arctic sled dogs.

Steve and Sue are often asked this question after moving to Toodyay four years ago

Quite simply the dogs' double coats are just as good for keeping out Toodyay's extreme summer heat as they are on cold mornings for keeping in winter warmth.

The couple's connection to Toodyay began in 2005 when Steve saw cheap land advertised in Bejoording which they bought.

Toodyay's vibrancy and charm grew on them as they travelled from the city each weekend to work on their new rural block.

The intention back then was to build in Bejoording but times and priorities changed, and their interest turned to the townsite.

It resulted in 2018 with the purchase of the former vet hospital in Stirling Terrace next to *The Toodyay Herald*, which is part of the same property.

It marked the start of a long process of restoration to impart new life to the 1860s mud brick cottage and its many incarnations.

Steve, who had mud brick experience as a member of the Earth Builders Association of Australia, knew how to work with challenges thrown up by their unusual new home.

Steve had been a bit of an interstate nomad while Sue is a born and bred West Aussie.

They met at Fremantle's former Arc of Joan – a 'new age' shop, much like the Blue Moon Crystal shop here in Toodyay.

So, how did this small-town Victorian wanderer end up settling in Toodyay with Sue and two distinctively large dogs?

Steve has always lived life with the motto 'if an opportunity presents itself, take it'.

It stood out from an early age when his academic achievements at school pointed to higher education and some sort of professional pathway.

But Steve knew there was something else in life, and music became a springboard to break other people's expectations of what they thought he should do.

Drums and percussion caught his attention at age eight and, to the neighbours' horror, he began taking lessons.

Steve began working in live bands four years later, and then semi-professionally as a studio session drummer for other bands.

He dropped out of school in Year 10 to further a career in music while supplementing his income with factory jobs in his hometown of Benalla, about 200km north of Melbourne.

Steve describes the late 1970s and '80s as "somewhat bleary" as music, the party lifestyle and associated friends took its toll.



Steve and Sue with shaggy friends Lecter (left) and Hendrix.

By the time he turned 21, a not-so-happy or long life was emerging.

Steve saw the writing on the wall and decided to walk away from it all and start looking for something else.

His musical experience with electronics renewed an interest in education and study. Steve dabbled in guitar, embraced Tai Chi and learnt photography, which formed the foundation for a future change of direction.

New qualifications got him work in Melbourne as a Telecom switching and transmission designer and a regular income that enabled him to travel around Australia.

It seemed a very busy time but Steve still managed to find time to take up classical opera before joining a modern singing academy for vocal training.

Telecom was not quite the career Steve had in mind and further study at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) created an opportunity for him to work

elsewhere as a radio electronics technician.

He saw it as a time to again bring some order into many aspects of work and play.

Martial arts moved to a more formal regime with a black belt in Tae Kwon Do – his first of three black belts in different styles.

Radio work rekindled a passion for music and performing.

So Steve picked up his guitar and, with his vocal training and repertoire of three and four-chord songs, started a new career as a part-time busker.

Work in radio finished around the late 1980s and Steve switched to repairing TVs and other household electronic equipment.

It gave him an opportunity to move around as a contractor from Melbourne to Bendigo and then to Torquay, just south of Geelong.

With an attitude that it should pay for itself, Steve began thinking of ways to make his camera pay its way.

More study and an online Diploma in Journalism at Australian College saw his life take a new direction into photojournalism.

Living at Torquay on the Bass Strait provided an opportunity to learn scuba diving, after which Steve became a dive instructor, started a martial arts dojo for Tae Kwon Do, developed a women's self-defence system and fronted a 14-piece rock, jazz, rhythm and blues band.

Phew – what else?

Many might see it as an impossibly busy

life but Steve doesn't remember it that way.

He reckons there was never much pressure.

The lifestyle was always relaxed, with lots of beaches and many miles of travel.

Torquay became the base for Steve to begin freelancing as a travel writer for scuba, caravan and 4WD magazines along with anything else that might pop up.

The experience Steve gained from going with his heart led to coast-to-coast travels.

With its beautiful harsh interior, exploring wider Australia became the next opportunity.

The first car to do many hard yards was a battered old Holden HK station wagon which saw some tough moments as well as many good times.

Having his beaten-up vehicle dragged through bush tracks by four-wheel drivers helped shape the next few years.

Travel writing, electronic repair jobs, martial arts teaching and scuba diving provided the income to support a unique lifestyle that few others might enjoy.

Teaching Tai Chi relaxation to an army of 'grey nomads' living in Australia's busy caravan parks helped to further supplement his income.

It was the '90s that connected Steve to WA.

His sister and her partner owned a small dive store in Exmouth and they later moved to the nearby naval base.

Their business grew and they needed scuba instructors.

Steve was able to lend a hand over the very busy winter period and – without too much persuasion and regardless of where he happened to be – he was free to fly to Exmouth and enjoy its warm winters.

The year 2000 saw another big shift when Steve decided to move to Exmouth full-time to work with his sister.

Fate intervened with a hole in the heart and an arterial gas embolism which brought a premature end to Steve's diving career but his move to Exmouth still went ahead.

Being unable to dive any more prompted Steve to start his own electronic repair workshop in Exmouth, which worked quite well for his new WA beach lifestyle.

Steve's sister decided in late 2001 to sell her half of the business and travel, and Steve followed suit.

A trip to Perth began a new adventure for both – Lyn headed east while Steve became a camper in Fremantle.

He found local work and continued with martial arts and music but replaced travel writing with Reiki, a Japanese form of healing based on eastern philosophies.

This was when Steve met Sue at the Arc of Joan.

The year 2002 saw another trip around Australia – this time teaching and practising Reiki – before Steve eventually returned to Fremantle to spend more time with Sue.

His nomadic and at times turbulent life has seen many ups and downs, but it has also brought many good and close friendships.

Fresh opportunities will always present themselves and this happy Toodyay couple will continue to take them and see what happens.

## 'Red cards' to evict councillors who refuse to behave

Michael Sinclair-Jones

TOODYAY will have fewer shire councillors under proposed new laws to be introduced into State Parliament early next year.

But they'll have to behave to avoid being "red carded" and thrown out of the council chamber under the planned reforms.

And fear of party politics at the ballot box has them dead against State Government plans to introduce optional preferential voting at next October's shire elections.

The State says it wants to give all shire voters the choice to number their preference for as many or few candidates as they wish.

Toodyay councillors say optional preferential voting could encourage party politics and "other alliances" to form.

WA councils currently use first-past-the-post voting which critics say allows candidates with the most votes to win even if they lack a majority of all votes cast.

The State says optional preferential voting is fairer, more representative and offers more choice.

Toodyay councillors backed WA Local Government Minister John Carey's push for smaller councils but oppose his call for shires the size of Toodyay to elect only five councillors instead of the current nine.

They said it could cause "ongoing disruption" in agricultural areas where seasonal demands could limit participation.

Toodyay will instead seek seven councillors, which the Minister says is acceptable.

The shire has operated most of this year with only eight councillors after Cr Ben Bell's resignation last January.

A seven-member council would save Toodyay ratepayers \$23,000 a year after

councillors voted 8-0 last July to give themselves a 17.4 per cent pay rise.

*Continued on Page 9.*

ADVERTISEMENT

### Seniors Safety and Security Rebate - One Year Anniversary

The McGowan Labor Government is ensuring WA seniors feel safe in their homes by providing WA Seniors Card holders with up to \$400 per household towards eligible security and safety items.

We have delivered over \$6 million in Seniors Safety and Security Rebates in the first year since restarting the rebates, with more to come.

For more information and to check your eligibility, call the WA Seniors Card Centre on 1800 671 233 or visit [www.seniorscard.wa.gov.au](http://www.seniorscard.wa.gov.au)

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# The Toodyay Herald

## Grain pain

READERS may be surprised to see this month's *Herald's* Page 1 story that some may say belongs more in a rural magazine.

The fact is that Toodyay relies heavily on farming to pay its way, and anything that harms the coming harvest hurts everyone.

Broadacre farms account for about 11 per cent of Toodyay properties but contribute more than a quarter of all the money collected in shire rates to fund a broad range of local services and amenities.

Without farms, our town would die.

That's why bottlenecks in the ageing Central Wheatbelt grain freight network should be of serious concern to everyone.

Local farmers expect another big harvest this year but surprisingly, much of last year's record crop has yet to be cleared from major Central Wheatbelt collection points in places such as Northam.

You have only to drive past that town's big concrete silos to see mountains of left-over grain still waiting under canvas to be railed to Kwinana for shipping overseas.

Local farmers are angry that the State is spending more than \$6 billion on Perth's new Metronet rail project while the ageing Wheatbelt rail network remains choked with last year's grain.

Every modern city needs an efficient rail passenger network, and Perth has lagged behind in providing this vital service.

But farmers argue that generating the revenue to help pay for it must come first.

Last year's harvest contributed \$6 billion to the WA economy and generated nearly \$2 million in local shire land rates.

A \$200 million joint Federal-State funding program to upgrade the grain freight rail network was announced last May but much of that work has yet to start.

WA Agriculture Minister Alannah MacTiernan told *The Herald* last month that clearing permits had yet to be finalised.

She said she "gets it" that this year's harvest faces a "challenge" but was confident that local farmers would get "good returns".

However, she balked at guaranteeing that all of the coming harvest would be railed to port in time to meet overseas demand.

Farmers say this year's Russian invasion of Ukraine – a major global wheat supplier – is causing worldwide shortages.

Last month's renewed Russian blockade of Black Sea ports has increased fears of a humanitarian crisis in countries that rely heavily on large amounts of Ukrainian grain to feed their mass populations.

All this may seem a very long way away from sleepy Toodyay.

But local farmers say they are acutely aware of an unfolding crisis and argue that urgent government action is needed.

Our town's economic future may depend on it.

Michael Sinclair-Jones  
Editor

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

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The way we were – This 1909 photo of Padbury Building – now part of Toodyay's Christmas 360 Shop – in Stirling Terrace shows the former Newcastle Wine Saloon on the left on a site that is now an empty block. Padbury Building was originally built as an Oddfellows Hall in 1897 on the site of a former pensioner guard cottage. The hall was sold by the Independent Order of Oddfellows Manchester Unity in 1908 to William Padbury who extended and converted the building into a store and warehouse before selling it in 1917 to Alfred John James. The building was incorporated into the Christmas shop in 2013. The wine saloon was built in 1900 and operated by Jesse George Bird. It was delicensed in 1928 and became the Toodyay CWA Hall with a rest room and kitchenette. Coondle Hall was dismantled in 1939 and rebuilt in Stirling Terrace where it became the new CWA Hall. The former wine saloon was also used by Sandersons Veges before being destroyed by fire in 2009 and demolished. The site is now used as a 'Swaggies' Camp' during the town's annual Moondyne Festival in May. Photo: Newcastle Gaol Museum.

## LETTERS

### Telling the truth

I WAS particularly impressed by last month's *Herald* editorial 'An inconvenient truth' and I hope this is the beginning of much more commentary on that topic.

I've met so many people lately who, like me, are proud to walk in the footsteps of the oldest culture in the history of humanity.

And like me, they are also acutely conscious of how close we all still are to the difficulties and wrongdoings of the past.

I'm 70 years old and know many other women my age who wear the label 'great grandmother'.

They live among us, have clear memories of growing up with previous generations and can relate personal family stories about the challenges their parents and grandparents faced during their lifetimes.

It's all that recent.

To put it into perspective, even though it sounds such a long time ago, my great grandmother was born in Australia in 1855 – two years after her parents fled a potato famine that killed a million Irish people.

Many of today's First Nations Australians would have great grandparents who were born at around the same time.

What we need to understand is that in 1855 their families were being massacred and driven into exile across Australia to make way for others arriving from overseas to take over their ancestral lands.

When I was a teenager in the 1960s, children were still being forcibly removed from their homes and placed in foster care never knowing their true cultural identity, heritage or often even their parents' names.

It wasn't until 1967 that Australia's original inhabitants were even counted in the national census.

Yet in 1984 the late mining magnate Lang Hancock – who attended boarding school in Toodyay – told a national TV audience that chemicals should be put in the water to stop Aboriginal families having children.

This is all a well-documented truth that cannot be denied.

My point is that some among us say the past is the past and should not influence how we view our nation's history or its ongoing impact on Australian society.

They say it all should be forgotten because Australians need to 'move on'.

But for many First Nations people, what happened is still very raw and far from something that can or should be forgotten.

The truth needs to be told, and only then will we all be able to move on together as one nation.

Barb Dadd  
Toodyay

### Cracker of a Show

CONGRATULATIONS to everyone involved in organising this year's Toodyay Agricultural Show.

It was a triumph.

It obviously took an enormous amount of planning and hard work to create such an interesting, entertaining day.

So, thank you, your effort is much appreciated.

And to top off a fantastic day, the fireworks were wonderful.

Heather Blackwell  
Dumbarton

### Price of progress

THE POTENTIAL mining of Julimar forest and clearing of roadside vegetation for road improvements are just two environmental issues facing the Toodyay district.

It is important to understand the underlying causes of these challenges.

Between 1990 and 2015 the population of Perth grew from 1.19 million to 2.04 million people, an increase of nearly one million – effectively doubling in size.

During that time the spatial extent of the city increased by 45 per cent or 320sq/km.

This expansion destroyed much natural habitat for native species including the threatened Carnaby's black cockatoo.

It also meant more domestic and industrial waste being disposed of at more distant landfill sites.

Hence an increase in heavy vehicle traffic for waste disposal and more traffic generally.

In relation to mining for rare earths and other minerals, this increasing demand is being driven by the urgent need to transition to renewable energy and away from fossil fuels that cause climate change.

The magnitude of this transition is not always appreciated.

A news report on the BBC recently stated that in order to build the technology to power this transition, the next three

decades will require mining the same quantity of minerals that humans have mined in the previous 70,000 years.

World population is due to tick over to eight billion on November 15, with a prospect of reaching 11 billion by the end of the century.

Australia's population also continues to grow apace.

As the saying goes, 'there is something wrong with this picture'.

We need to reduce levels of wasteful consumption in the affluent parts of the world and end population growth in Australia and globally.

Existing forests and roadside vegetation not only offer pleasing landscapes, they provide homes for numerous wild creatures and are a vital store of carbon.

The global and local ecological situation is getting more desperate and we can no longer afford the 'price of progress'.

Peter Cook  
Queensland (ex-Toodyay resident)

### Jean's genes

JUST a note to let you know Genes&Jeans had a very pleasing response to a short burst of advertising in *The Herald* when we advertised our Artificial Insemination Service for cattle earlier in the year.

G&J now has several new contacts and also some returning clients who were not aware that I'm working again, ably assisted by my apprentice Jeremy Jeans.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to advertise our services and thank you to the lovely people of Toodyay who read *The Herald* in great detail.

Jean Witcombe  
Chidlow

### Glasses raised

CONGRATULATIONS to the readers of *The Toodyay Herald*.

The Spectacle Round-Up has been a spectacular success.

Over 300 spectacles have been donated from readers and others to be cleaned and repaired where necessary by fellows in Serco establishments then sent on to the Fred Hollows Foundation and others.

Thank you.

Save these old specs and in time I will remind you again. We don't require the cases, just the glasses.

Patricia de Soto-Phillips  
Toodyay

# Like a proverbial duck paddling away furiously underneath

## President's Pen

Rosemary Madácsi



INFORMATION, as we all know, is constantly in flux and varies in accuracy.

This can occur because of new emerging data, misunderstandings, propaganda or mischievous intent.

Regardless of its origins, we want the truth. Human nature is to notice the obvious but seldom see the background work until the underlying structure fails.

So I was not surprised when asked why all that was happening at the shire was not common knowledge.

The reason is that so much happens every day.

The foundations of a strong council to meet emerging pressures, strengthen governance and manage risk are mostly not noticeable.

So, what has been and is happening at the Shire?

Income and costs are presented in monthly financial statements to the Council in Budget columns for 'Intended/Expected' and 'Actual' for 'spent/received'.

To compare wages, for example, we must compare like with like.

Last year's Actuals were hit by a significant number of staff vacancies and the difficulty of attracting new people in the face of an employees' market and a chronic housing shortage.

Comparing this year's Budget with last year's Actuals can lead to incorrect assumptions.

Another misconception is the cost to the community of councillor remuneration which will be offset by a planned reduction in councillor numbers from nine to seven.

Why did councillors increase their remuneration to 85 per cent of the amount set by the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT)?

Because it better reflects the increased work now required of all elected members.

A more realistic offset for time and lost income is needed if we are to attract younger

councillors and provide the new level of local government service required.

Did the Shire make an error in its differential mining rate application to the Minister?

No. The application was refused because it sought a high rate in the dollar.

Although it was explained the rate would raise only \$200,000 from 27 tenements, it was still refused.

The Act requires that if part of a Council budget is refused by the Minister, it has to be repealed by a Shire application to SAT.

Does this reduce the budget by \$200,000? Yes.

However, the money was intended to pay for increased road maintenance costs caused by mining activity in the Julimar area.

Chalice Mining has now agreed to reimburse the cost of this work.

So, what have we been doing in the last three years?

The year 2020-21 was about change – major financial overview and structural reform.

It brought COVID-19 lockdowns, a new Shire CEO, a new Shire President and new Councillors.

Council meetings began being live-streamed, meals and alcohol for councillors were stopped, staff stopped voting on council committees and the separation of council and administrative roles was reaffirmed.

The conversion of organisation-wide management software to Datascape commenced.

New staff arrived, we built and opened the new Toodyay Recreation Centre, a report on the State Government's Authorised Inquiry into the Shire was received and its recommendations were acted on.

We also celebrated the opening of the Redbank Project in the first part of the Shire's new Shire Reconciliation Action Plan.

Better corporate governance was the prime focus in 2021-22.

Shire policies were reviewed, local government reform got underway and changes required by the Authorised Inquiry were implemented.

Shire land and property assets were rationalised for their usefulness, future potential and costs, and as a result some were sold.

Community meetings recommenced, a councillor resigned and staff changed.

A new Biodiversity Strategy was drafted, contention over the Catholic Church Heritage Precinct subdivision was resolved and interpretive signs installed at the Aboriginal cemetery on the site of the town's former hockey pitch behind the Showgrounds.

A Feral Pig Group and Flora Survey Group were created to help improve biodiversity and biosecurity, and a new fire station was opened at Coondle.

The Shire's current focus is on strengthening local capacity.

It started in October last year with the election of three new councillors and the resignation of another elected member last January, and the Shire's workforce was strengthened with new local staff in Communication, Governance and Finance.

- In addition:
- A new Julimar Fire Station was officially opened,
  - The Toodyay Community Resource Centre was retained after closing due to rising debt,
  - Toodyay RSL was given former Shire

land to build new local headquarters, and

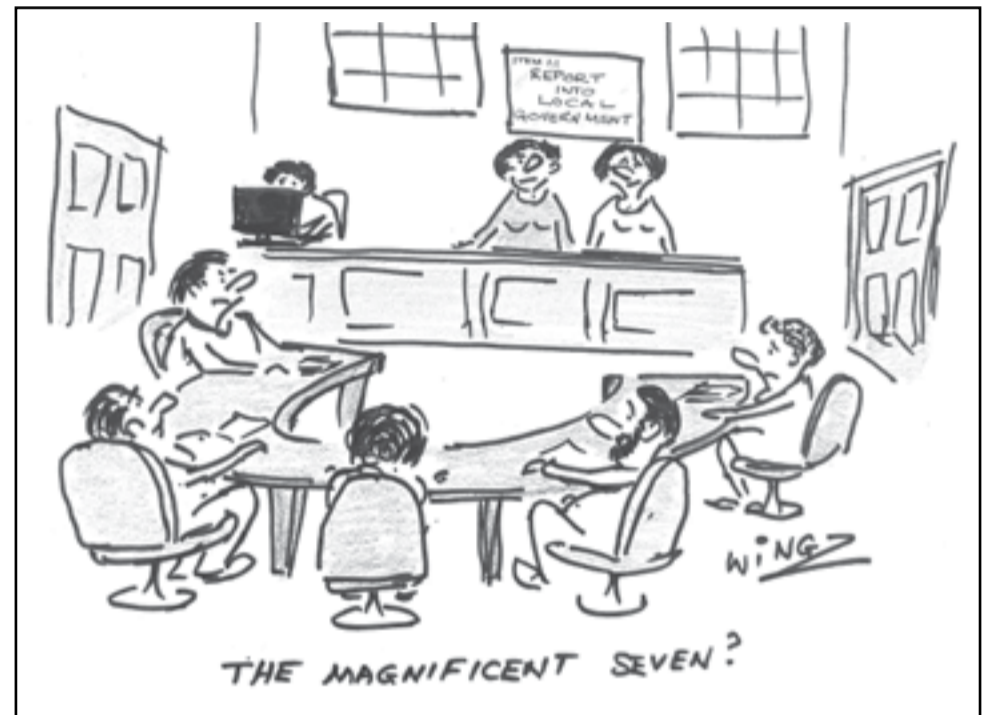
- The Toodyay Racecourse facility is being assessed.

A strong advocacy program has included lobbying to sustain local medical services, a new heavy-haulage truck bypass, water re-use funding and a new Bejoording Fire Station.

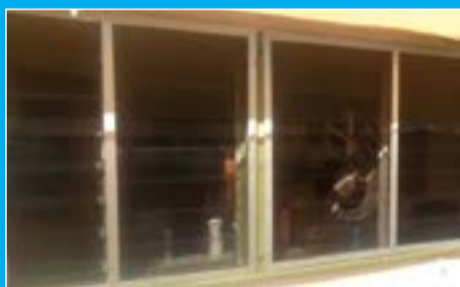
The Shire is also seeking more road funding, better processes for obtaining clearing permits and offsets, better identification and management of roadside biodiversity and continued Shire management of local volunteer bushfire brigades rather than being transferred to WA Department of Fire and Emergency Services control.

The Shire has also upgraded local cat management laws and completed two more Reconciliation Action Plan projects – at Pelham Reserve, and the Gnulla Karnany Waangkiny (Our Truth Telling) display at the Newcastle Gaol Museum.

While everything may seem calm on the surface, the Shire, like the proverbial duck, is paddling away furiously underneath.



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Servicing Toodyay and the surrounding areas

# Alleged Toodyay double drug driver headed for court

## Police Beat

With Sgt Dave Flaherty  
Toodyay Police Station



This young lady will have to wait a while before she can sign up to ride one of these powerful bikes for real but they proved to be a big hit with kids at last month's Toodyay Show display.

METHAMPHETAMINES may prove costly for a local motorist who police allege twice tested positive within a month for the illicit drug while driving in the Toodyay townsite.

Police Beat reported last month that local officers stopped a female driver aged in her 30s for a daytime random drug test.

A saliva swab allegedly produced a positive result for methamphetamines and the woman was charged with a drug driving related offence.

Her driver's licence was automatically suspended for 24 hours, after which she was allowed by law to resume driving while waiting for her charge to be heard in the Northam Magistrate's Court.

About four weeks after she was charged with the first offence, local police saw her again driving in the townsite and used a targeted stop to conduct a further drug test.

It resulted in a second alleged positive result for the same drug.

The woman was again charged with a drug driving-related offence and both cases are expected to be heard together when she goes to court in Northam.

She was also again banned from driving for 24 hours, after which she was allowed once more to resume driving while waiting to go to court.

The WA Road Safety Commission says different drugs have different effects on driving skills and the ability to make good decisions on roads.

Some illicit drugs such as cannabis can slow a driver's reaction times and impair their ability to judge speed and distance.

Other drugs such as amphetamines and cocaine can result in erratic, reckless and aggressive behaviour, though not all drug drivers behave this way.

In addition, some prescription medications have side effects that can impair driving skills, cause drowsiness and slow reaction times.

The Commission says taking any drug before driving increases the risk of a crash and road trauma.

Motorists with a specified drug such as cannabis, ecstasy or meth detected in their body can be charged with drug driving.

Those who test positive or refuse a roadside test are served with a prohibition notice which bans them from driving for 24 hours or face a \$600 on-the-spot fine.

Drivers who refuse a roadside test for drugs or alcohol automatically face the highest penalty if convicted in court for the offence for which they declined to be tested.

First-time drug drivers face a maximum penalty of \$1250 and the loss of three driver demerit points.

Repeat drug drivers face fines of up to \$2000 and can be banned from driving for at least six months.

The more serious offence of drug-impaired driving or driving under the influence of drugs – whether illicit or prescription – applies when police evidence of suspicious or erratic driving is confirmed by a driver assessment and/or blood tests.

Fines range up to \$3700 with an automatic driving ban for at least 10 months.

Repeat offenders can be jailed for up to 18 months with an automatic lifetime driving ban.

Driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol at the same time carries a maximum penalty of \$11,250 or 18 months' jail, and an automatic lifetime driving ban.

### New station

TOODYAY may get a new, purpose-built police station as soon as next year.

The existing 1967 building was originally designed as a courthouse with a large chamber in which a magistrate sat.

That space is now used as a gymnasium and storeroom, while other work areas behind the front counter and to the side and rear remain overly cramped.

A small lock-up in the form of a transportable unit designed only for temporary use was added at the side about four years ago.

Local prisoners who need to be held in overnight custody have to be transported by local officers to the Perth watch house.

The station was due to undergo a major renovation this month but plans were recently delayed pending a Perth decision whether to demolish the entire building and replace it with more suitable premises.

The site includes a house at the rear occupied by an onsite officer-in-charge and may also need to be demolished in a site redesign.

A new building or renovation will include modern digital technology to improve workplace efficiency.

It will also most likely include improved foyer and working areas, upgraded change rooms and better storage areas and room to accommodate future staff growth over the next 20 years and beyond.

The Toodyay police station is currently staffed by 6.5 full-time positions and one unsworn customer service officer.

### Volunteer patrols

A DISASTROUS three weeks on roads near Toodyay saw two people killed and many others seriously injured.

Police officers from as far away as Koorda have been volunteering to work extra paid shifts, visiting Toodyay in a coordinated campaign to help improve road safety.

Seeing police on local roads is usually the best way to promote safer driving habits.

Volunteering for extra paid work – including by some Toodyay officers – is fairly common in the Wheatbelt.

The extra shifts are coordinated by Northam's Wheatbelt Traffic Unit and cover an area from Southern Cross to the coast, and Dalwallinu to Beverley, including Toodyay.

Some visiting volunteers use unmarked cars but Toodyay police prefer the distinctive blue and white marked vehicles because they act as a greater visual deterrent.

So next time you see cops from out of town buying lunch or shopping locally, they may be volunteers working extra shifts to help keep our roads safe.



Police recruitment team at last month's Toodyay Show. Photo: Clive Millett.

# School leavers at high risk from alcohol abuse

Safer Toodyay  
Desrae Clarke

AS WE approach the end of the year, some Year 12s will be preparing to attend Leavers.

Leavers is a four-day celebration that marks the end of their schooling and the start of the next chapter in life.

It can lead to situations they may not have dealt with before, such as parties where alcohol is consumed, even though Leavers events are officially alcohol-free.

Despite some still being under 18, many young people attending Leavers expect to consume high amounts of alcohol and participate in other risky behaviours.

Research by the Royal Life Saving Society of WA found 80 per cent of Leavers who attended official events in Dunsborough between 2016-18 reported drinking alcohol while 65 per cent reported drinking at high levels.

The more alcohol a young person drinks, the greater the risk of other harmful behaviours such as unsafe sex choices, fights, falls, alcohol overdoses or other drug use.

To help prepare teenagers for safe Leavers celebrations, here are some quick tips:

- Talk to your teenagers early about their plans for Leavers;
- Make sure you know key details such as where they're staying, who they're staying with and when they'll be home;
- Encourage them to work out a budget;
- Encourage them to participate in alcohol-free activities at Leavers;
- Make sure they're aware of laws in relation to alcohol and other drugs such as drinking in public places or supplying alcohol to underage drinkers;
- Share your knowledge about alcohol and other drug use by, for example, discussing the short-term effects of alcohol and possible risks;
- Empower your teenager – suggest some responses they can use to refuse alcohol or other drugs;
- Reassure your teenager they can contact you at any time if they have a problem or need to come home; and
- Remind your child to stick with friends and not wander off alone.

For more information on Leavers, alcohol or other drugs please visit the following websites:

- Leavers: leaverswa.com.au;
- Alcohol Think Again: youngpeople.alcoholthinkagain.com.au;
- Drug Aware: drugaware.com.au.

Please contact Holyoake Wheatbelt Community Alcohol and Drug Service on 9621 1055 if you would like support or counselling for alcohol or drug-related concerns for yourself, a family member or someone close to you.



End of school celebrations.

# TOODYAY

MRB 2339

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## EMERGENCY SERVICES

# Time for 'Five-Minute Chat' to decide family fire plan

## Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Peter Brennan, Captain

THE PROHIBITED 'No Burning' season commenced at the start of this month, so by now fire breaks should be put place and properties cleared up in preparation for the coming summer.

If you require information on fire breaks visit the Shire website or drop in and see the Rangers at the Toodyay Information Centre.

Again, this month we strongly encourage all households to take the time to hold a family Five Minute Chat about what you would do and where you would go in the event of a bush fire.

You can't outrun it or outlast it.

To survive a bushfire, you must be prepared to make your own decisions and not rely on someone else to tell you what to do.

Your best chance of surviving a bushfire is to plan what you would do if one came your way and have backup plans if you intend to defend your property.

So please, act now and take five minutes to discuss with your family or neighbour.

When will you know to leave, where will you go, which way will you go, what will you do if caught away from home?

Recently our brigade members



Karen and John Hansen (left) with Certificates of Appreciation presented by Central Brigade Chair John Morrissey.

participated in an excellent field exercise planned by our Shire Community

Emergency Services Manager Rob Koch and shire staff.

The exercise involved all Toodyay shire brigades and covered turnout procedures, briefings, map reading, radio communications, drafting, pump operations and familiarisation with shire emergency water tanks locations.

The exercise ended with a nice barbecue for attendees cooked by John Morrissey.

Well done Rob and team for this terrific training opportunity.

At our October meeting we farewelled John and Karen Hansen who are departing Toodyay for a new adventure.

John and Karen have both served with the Toodyay Central VBFB and the Toodyay VFRS during their time here.

At the meeting our chairman John Morrissey presented John and Karen with Certificates of Appreciation.

John completed more than 12 years' service as a fire fighter, fire control officer, brigade lieutenant and drone pilot.

Karen completed three years with the brigade and served as both an auxiliary and secretary.

The brigade members wish John and Karen the very best for the future and for their volunteer service to the community.

## Virtual reality takes Show-goers on RAC Rescue Helicopter ride



Show-goers take a virtual reality ride at the RAC Rescue Helicopter display. Photo: Mark Roy.

## Toodyay St John Ambulance

Pam Tennant

THE COMMUNITY Transport Service is reaching out to a broader range of community members with the arrival of our new wheelchair.

It will be available as soon as all our volunteer drivers are trained in its use, including folding and unfolding and storage in the vehicle.

While on the subject of the transport service, our drivers took 16 clients to medical appointments in September, most of them to hospitals within the metropolitan area.

Our volunteers attended the Toodyay Agricultural Show last month.

Some were involved with the demonstration exercise, in conjunction with other sub centres, the SES and others.

St John mascot Kura Bear proved popular with children who waved, high-fived and took photos with him.

The RAC Rescue Helicopter experience was a great success, with queues of people

throughout the day.

If only we could have this at our Toodyay Show every year.

October was busy month with ambulance volunteers travelling more than 1500 kilometres and attending 51 call-outs.

When we have only one crew available for local jobs, we have been able to call on our additional volunteers to help other sub centres, or to transfer patients from Northam Regional Hospital to hospitals in Midland or Perth.

The willingness of volunteers to give up their personal time is much appreciated by all.

New cupboards have been installed in the sub centre to store training equipment, with more on the way for items needed to re-stock ambulances returning from a job.

We will have a first aid post at the Christmas Street Party on Friday December 2 with ambulance volunteers available to talk about volunteering, membership or general inquiries.

First aid and snake bite kits will also be on sale on the evening.

# COLLECTORS AUCTION

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NKAC Chairman Robert Miles addresses last month's WA Local Government Association forum which was attended by local council leaders from across the state.

## Toodyay leads the way in national truth telling

### Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal Corporation (NKAC)

THE Gnulla Karnany Waangkiny (Our Truth Telling) project showcased to a wider audience outside Toodyay last month.

A presentation by Robert Miles and Helen Shanks, on behalf of NKAC and Shire of Toodyay, was a key feature of the annual Aboriginal Engagement and Reconciliation Forum in Perth.

It is only now, with a national discussion underway, that Aboriginal people are finally feeling supported to speak the truth that they have always known.

The forum, with its theme Truth-Justice-Healing, was hosted by the WA Local Government Association (WALGA) at Optus Stadium on October 5.

The presentation was well received with several shires across WA subsequently inquiring about the project.

On October 26, NKAC representatives and the Newcastle Gaol Museum Curator attended State Parliament House to hear Wheatbelt MP Sandra Carr speak to the project, before joining the honourable member and fellow parliamentarians for drinks.

From these events it is clear Toodyay is leading the way for the state's national truth-telling conversation.

For those who have not yet viewed the installation at the Newcastle Gaol Museum we

encourage you to do so.

In addition, check out the three-part series "The Australian Wars" on SBS.

Both support a better understanding of the impact 100 years of 'localised' wars has had on Aboriginal people and shows how governors brutally silenced the Aboriginal voice while amplifying the voice of the newcomers.

Our NKAC project coordinator recently met with Shire of Toodyay Economic Development Manager Kim Hardie and representatives of the WA Indigenous Tourism Operators Council (WAITOC).

We are excited to hear WAITOC is progressing discussion about our Noongar Trail.

We aim to have a dedicated trail website, brochures and a detailed map of the trail outside the Visitor Centre in time for an official launch for the 2023 visitor season.

We would like to thank Visitor Centre Team Leader Michelle Duke for her support and collaboration.

Again, Toodyay is leading the way with exciting opportunities for visitors to learn about our 45,000 years of Noongar history alongside our settler history.

We would like to express our gratitude to the many Toodyay locals who have given feedback regarding the museum installations, saying how this has helped them understand our shared history.

NKAC Chairman Robert Miles thanks you for being on this journey together with us.

## New family-friendly program set to restore community club fortunes

### Toodyay Club Nicole Coleman

THE TOODYAY Club has enjoyed its first few months under a new management committee.

While it has been a steep learning curve, we are enjoying being involved in reinvigorating this important community asset.

As many in the community know, the club closed earlier this year with significant debt.

After a series of community meetings a new committee was established to attempt to trade out of insolvency.

Under the oversight of Club President Steve Andrijich, volunteer Bar Manager Cas Vlam and Club Treasurer Tad Ochman, and with the support of the rest of the committee as well as Clubs WA, we have made headway in paying the club's debts and are working toward ongoing financial sustainability.

The current committee envisages a thriving, family-friendly social hub with a traditional focus on promoting club sports such as pool, snooker and darts, while supporting the Toodyay Bowls Club.

We are committed to supporting local musicians, so expect more live music events in the future – from relaxed, acoustic music over dinner to larger music events after we get established.

As a true community venue, the Toodyay

Club welcomes your ideas and feedback.

We also welcome volunteer assistance as we are currently run entirely by volunteer staff.

The Toodyay Club is open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday each week between 3pm and 9pm.

We will be running a Clubs WA Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) course in coming weeks, so get in touch if you fancy training for a stint behind the bar.

The committee would like to acknowledge the assistance of Roz Davidson and her team from Toodyay Locals Care who have been generously cooking for our patrons every Friday night.

This has been of enormous assistance and the food has been delicious.

Thanks must also go to our membership base and community members who have put their hands up to volunteer, donate and assist in other ways.

New members are always welcome.

Come down as a guest for your first three visits and see what it's all about, or speak to one of our staff about becoming a member so you can continue to enjoy the cheapest drinks in Toodyay, the best value meals, and a great atmosphere.

Email [toodyayclub@gmail.com](mailto:toodyayclub@gmail.com) or call 9574 4517 to get in touch.



The revitalised Toodyay Club's picturesque outdoor area.

## Moondyne Men fly two new banners



Toodyay's Moondyne Men thank Bendigo Bank Manager Kirsten Barrack for new banners.

### Moondyne Men Graham Hill

THE TOODYAY Agricultural Show has brought another busy month.

The Moondyne Men have been helping with car parking and preparing the poultry shed for exhibits.

We now have two teardrop banners to advertise our presence at our meeting place and any events in which we participate, courtesy of the Toodyay and Districts Bendigo Community Bank.

At our weekly meeting on Thursday October 13 we welcomed Toodyay and Districts Bendigo Community Bank manager Kirsten Barrack.

Kirsten spoke to us about the danger of cyber attacks and false emails generated by scammers aiming to defraud those not always aware of such scams.

While the bank can protect some transactions it is up to us to be aware.

Kirsten also spoke of the bank's policy of bringing benefit to the communities by

supporting various organisations within the Toodyay area.

The team also took possession of a brand-new Stihl chainsaw with funds donated by the Toodyay Op Shop.

The chainsaw will allow us to deliver even more firewood to those not able to cut any for themselves.

In another huge team effort, up to 10 men with trailers and utes helped move the Community Resource Centre to their new office at 79 Stirling Terrace.

But it's not all work and no play at the Moondyne Men.

We are looking forward to participating in the upcoming Toodyay Christmas Street Party on Friday December 2.

We meet for tea, coffee and a chat every Monday and Thursday, 9am to noon with our Saturday breakfast at the end of the month.

If you are looking to join a proactive men's group, come and join us.

For more information ring Colin on 0424195 003.

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# Toodyay Show



The weather gods turned on a glorious day for our 168th Toodyay Agricultural Show on Saturday 8 October 2022, with showgoers enjoying a colourful variety of exhibitions, entertainment, fun activities and prizes. Photos: Mark Roy, Clive Millett and Michael Sinclair-Jones.



## Disqualified councillors to lose allowances, titles and emails

Continued from Page 3.

TOODYAY also backed the Minister's plan to give shire presidents new powers to expel councillors from the chamber if they "unreasonably and repeatedly interrupt meetings".

Similar rules apply in Federal and State Parliament.

Proposed new standing orders would enable shire presidents to issue a formal "first warning".

A president could "red card" councillors who continued to be disruptive which meant they could still vote but be banned from speaking or moving items of business for the rest of the meeting.

The shire has asked that red cards also bar councillors from seconding motions, which may cause items of business to lapse without debate.

Tougher proposed penalties for breaches of local government law include up to three months' suspension for repeat offenders.

Suspended councillors would not be paid sitting fees or allowances or allowed to attend council meetings.

They would also be banned from using their official shire title or council email addresses while suspended.

Repeat offenders could be disqualified from office.

The shire warned that "political influence" should not be allowed to interfere with suspensions.

The reforms include a new Chief Inspector of Local Government with the powers of a standing inquiry to investigate shire councils, intervene in administrative affairs and monitor councillor behaviour.

The role is intended to replace an authorised inquiry, such as in Toodyay three years ago, which was seen to be too costly and slow to address "significant issues".

The reforms also seek to remove the WA Local Government Association from legislation to clarify that it is not a State Government entity.

The reforms are expected to be introduced to the WA Parliament – where the McGowan Government has a record Labor majority in both Houses – early next year.

## Minister says two big harvests need to be seen in context

Continued from Page 1.

WA AGRICULTURE Minister Alannah MacTiernan said two big harvests in a row had caused major logistical challenges in delivering grain to the port.

However, they needed to be seen in perspective, she said.

Rail networks were being upgraded and the Minister said she was confident local farmers would again get good returns for this year's crop.

CBH has a comprehensive plan to deal with the surge," she said.

"Projects to upgrade the Kwinana Zone rail network will start rolling out later this year.

"There will always be logistical problems with such big increases – we get that," she said.

"It won't be optimal but capability is being increased.

"Our focus is on getting it out."

A CBH spokesperson said the company had added 2.4 million tonnes of temporary storage to its network in preparation for this year's harvest.

A further 300,000 tonnes of permanent storage had also been added.

A total of 3.3 million tonnes was currently stored in the network and this level was falling as out-loading continued.

"Farmers are best placed to make informed decisions for their business," the spokesperson said.

"However, they will not be forced by CBH to tip their grain on the ground."

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to Toodyay Traders.*



*They have a friend with them who has lost its name.  
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what you want to name the dog.*

*If the name you have chosen is drawn out on  
Saturday 10th December at 11am, that's  
what we will call the friend!*

*On that day, we will have FREE bags of lollies  
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toys to give away, plus free-bees  
for Mums and Dads.*

What  
shall we  
name our  
friend?



*Di, Bob and staff would like  
to thank our customers for their understanding during our telephone problems.*

**TOODYAY HOME TRADERS - 126 STIRLING TERRACE TOODYAY - TEL 08 9574 2232**

# Freaky Friday Disco celebrates hair-raising Halloween

**Toodyay District High School  
Parents and Citizens Association**  
Kelly-Anne Murray, President

DID YOU notice the freaky or straight-up scary characters making their way into the Toodyay Memorial Hall last month?

Coming in all shapes and sizes from kindergarten to Year 10, more than 100 local young people marked Halloween with a Freaky Friday disco.

The ghoulish decorations, music, dancing, games, photo booth, face painting, sausage sizzle and spooky canteen treats made the night a highlight for the year.

A partnership between the Toodyay District High School P&C, the Toodyay Community Resource Centre and the Shire of Toodyay made the event possible.

Sincere thanks to local business sponsors Avon Skip Bins and Toodyay Tyre and Exhaust for their donations to the disco.

Their support, along with others, helped to give young people from Toodyay access to a fun-filled, low-cost event in town, and brought students from local and nearby schools together.

In other P&C news, a shade sail installed

over the new seating area next to the basketball court marks completion of improvements to the area.

The P&C contributed \$15,500 to this project which included resurfacing the basketball court, new garden beds, lawn, picnic tables and a shade sail.

We hope students and staff enjoy the new seating space, greener surrounds and a greatly improved court surface.

Looking ahead to the rest of term four, the school is supporting work experience for year 10 students; the year six camp; swimming lessons for pre-primary, year 1 and year 6 students; and hosting a milestone celebration for year 6 students, the school's awards presentation day and the year 10 graduation.

It surely is a busy term and we wish all students, staff and families a wonderful end to the school year.

If you would like to know more about how you can support the P&C and the school, please contact Kelly-Anne Murray on 0406 585 716 or email [pandctoodyaydhs@gmail.com](mailto:pandctoodyaydhs@gmail.com).

You may also message via the facebook page – search 'Toodyay DHS P&C', or write to Toodyay District High School P&C at PO Box 1624, Toodyay WA 6566.



Two of the many ghoulish Halloween costumes worn at last month's Memorial Hall disco.



Scary Halloween characters enjoy last month's Freaky Friday Disco.

## Students all shook up at Cunderdin display

**Bolgart News**  
Pam McGill

### Museum visit

STUDENTS from Bolgart Primary recently travelled by bus to the Cunderdin Museum.

Everyone enjoyed the excursion exploring old machinery outside the museum pavilion including farming equipment, a tractor display, and more.

Inside were wartime displays and memorabilia from a bygone era, including shearing, old construction technology and vintage cars.

Students also experienced simulated tremors and aftershocks from the Meckering earthquake. It was a fun day out and students thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

### Merit awards

MERIT Certificates: Junior Room: Dakota Tregenza, Nicholas French, Cameron Uriarau. Senior Room: Madeline Cotter, Tyler Page, Isola Croeser.

### Bush markets

The Bolgart Values Community Bush Markets is on again from 10am to 2pm Sunday November 27 at the Bolgart Hall.

With plenty of stalls and variety it's a great opportunity to stop by and get some Christmas shopping done.

### Natalie will be missed

WE extend our condolences to the Syred family on the sad loss of Natalie, a mother, grandmother and great grandmother to family members.

She was a much-loved lady involved in the Bolgart CWA for 65 years and a dedicated parishioner of Bolgart Anglican Church.

A great community member, Natalie will be missed by all and remembered fondly for her delicious sponge cakes.

### Bowls resumes

Bowling is back in full swing with men and ladies starting pennants, open days to attend, and our weekly club day.

Ladies Open Day on October 13 was well attended.

Dianne Edmonds and Pam McGill won the Club Trophy drawn pairs, with runners-up Jenni Knowles and Nolene Kaszanski.

Mixed Open Day Sunday October 16 had a good number playing for the Adrian and Dianne Edmonds Trophy.

Lester Snooke and Deb Campbell won drawn pairs, with runners-up Neville Clarke and Nolene Kaszanski.

Calingiri Open Day was hosted by Bolgart Bowling Club on Sunday October 9 with 56 men participating from different clubs.

Wanneroo players Greg Sarich, Steve Denny, Wayne Clegg and Hugh Ward won the event.



Calingiri Open Day, sponsored by the Bolgart Bowling Club, featured (from left) Bolgart Captain Phil Syred, Calingiri sponsor Ian Woods and Wanneroo winners Greg Sarich, Steve Denny, Wayne Clegg and Hugh Ward.

# 'Mind-bending' rules used in transcribing Aboriginal place names

**Toodyay Historical Society Inc**  
 Robyn Taylor, Vice President

LAST month's column mentioned Aboriginal place names such as 'Coondle' that were retained as official place names within the Shire of Toodyay.

This seemingly minor fact is part of a fascinating story that began in the newly formed colony of New South Wales with the decision to retain and use Aboriginal place names.

I owe thanks here to Jeff Murray who once worked on the Geographic Names Committee for allowing me to use his research.

According to Mr Murray the journals of NSW Surveyor General Sir Thomas Mitchell show he recognised from his earliest explorations, the limitations of the English language to identify geographical locations.

The use of Indigenous names for places was officially announced in 1828 after Mitchell's appointment as Surveyor-General.

Mitchell sent out a circular to his staff stipulating the rules governing the transcription of Australian indigenous place names from an oral tradition into written form.

The rules are somewhat mind-bending but in essence "in writing geographical native names vowels should have their Italian significance and consonants that which they have in the English language".

Unsurprisingly not all names fitted the rules and changes were made to spellings.

The townsite Gnowangerup was first gazetted in 1908 as Ngowangerrup, but residents weren't happy and it was changed in 1931.

Mukinbudin was originally spelt Mookinbooding, but in line with Mitchell's rules the government changed it to the now incorrectly pronounced Mukinbudin.

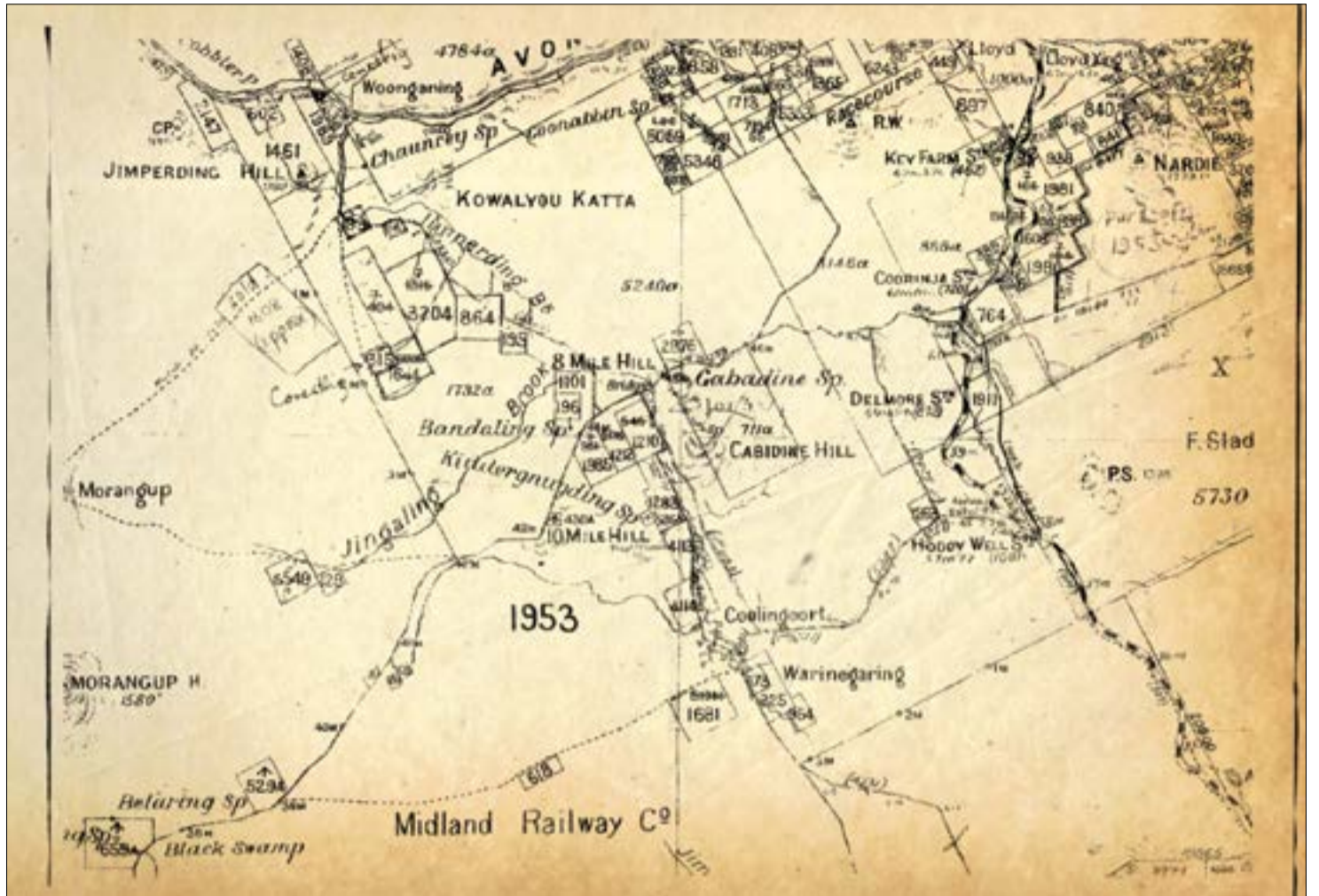
Many welcomed the common-sense decision to adopt Aboriginal place names not only because it made travel easier but because each name was unique and not duplicated elsewhere.

A classic example being Newcastle which was used throughout the British colonies.

Newcastle was this town's original name to distinguish it from the original town of Toodyay located downstream.

It was renamed Toodyay in 1910 and the original Toodyay townsite became known as West Toodyay.

In 1873, the Royal Geographical Society began the process of drafting rules for spelling Aboriginal place names.



Part of an early Midland Railway Company map shows several Aboriginal place names between Morangup and Mt Nardie, including numerous springs such as Belaring, Bandaling, Kiddergnudging, Gabadine and Goonabbin.

Its endeavour, refined over time, was not only influential in British colonies, but also in countries such as the US, France and Germany.

In 1891 WA Premier John Forrest, a former surveyor, gave instructions to the Lands and Surveys Department to adopt the rules.

As these things tend to go, there wasn't a great deal of progress, with committees formed and then reformed to get things moving again.

In 1936 the Royal Historical Society of WA wrote to the government requesting a meeting with the Minister for Lands to discuss the state's nomenclature.

A report on the meeting in *The West Australian* included the following succinct statement by Sir Paul Hasluck, a member of the Society and subsequent Governor-General of Australia:

"We feel that the native names are a valuable asset as they are the oldest mark of mankind in Australia.

"Those names have meaning, a pleasant sound and are characteristic of the country.

"There are perhaps a hundred Yorks, but only one Kellerberrin or one Gwambygine."

The Toodyay Historical Society will hold its

end-of-year celebration on Saturday November 26 with a Verandah Dinner at a member's home at Lavender Rose Cottage, Toodyay.

Details of the address and required contribution will be sent to members.

Monthly meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm in St Stephen's Church Hall. Membership is \$15 per annum.

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

Address: PO Box 32 Toodyay WA 6566. Website: toodyayhistoricalsociety.org.au.

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# 168th Toodyay Agricultural Society Show Winners

**THE PRESIDENT'S TROPHY**  
Mrs Alison Wroth – Most points in Sheep, Wool, Cattle, Agriculture  
Winner: BROOKWOOD GRAZING

**TOODYAY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY INC AWARD**  
**Commercial Ground Space** – Best prepared and displayed, commercial exhibit ground space.  
Winner: AUSTECH ILLUSIONS

**SHEEP**  
**The Patron's Trophy** – David Chitty  
Most Points: Sheep  
Winner: REG SMITH  
**Bob Somers Memorial Trophy**  
Best Lamb Exhibit  
Winner: REG SMITH  
**Fern Valley Transport Trophy**  
Best Wether Exhibit  
Winner: BROOKWOOD GRAZING  
**Group A1 Commercial Classes**  
**Toodyay Pharmacy Trophy**  
Best Commercial Exhibit  
Winner: BROOKWOOD GRAZING  
**Group A2 Farmers Classes**  
**Coopers, Zoetis and Bayer Trophy**  
Best Exhibit Farmers Classes  
Winner: REG SMITH  
**R.K. Bowden Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Pen of 3 Merino Ewes, 18 months, bred by exhibitor  
**No Entry**



**DAIRY GOATS**  
**Northam Wool Prize**  
Champion Goatling  
Winner: BETTY KEOWN  
**Country Realty Prize**  
Champion Kid  
Winner: BETTY KEOWN

**WOOL**  
**Elders Northam Trophy**  
Most Points – Wool Section  
Winner: BROOKWOOD GRAZING  
**Doug Wood Memorial Prize**  
Champion Fleece  
Winner: BROOKWOOD GRAZING  
**Melanian Sheep Breeders Society of Aust Prize**  
Champion Melanian Fleece  
Winner: B & M HURST

**CATTLE**  
**Heartlands Veterinary Hospital – Toodyay Trophy**  
Class 68 Best Exhibit – Pen of 3 females 2021 drop, commercial for breeding  
Winner: BROOKWOOD GRAZING  
**Warrageny Rural Contractors Trophy**  
Class 69 Best Exhibit – Pen of 3 baby beef 2022 drop  
Winner: WARRAGENY HOLDINGS  
**Elders Trophy**  
Class 69 Best Exhibit – Single baby beef 2021 drop  
Winner: WARRAGENY HOLDINGS  
**Elders Trophy**  
Class 70 Best Exhibit – Single Baby Beef – Drop 2022  
Winner: BROOKWOOD GRAZING  
**Vernice Pty Ltd Trophy**  
Class 71 Best Exhibit – Single baby beef 2022 drop, bred in the Toodyay Shire  
Winner: WARRAGENY HOLDINGS  
**Nutrient Ag Alliance Northam Trophy**  
Class 72 Best Exhibit – Single female 2021 drop for breeding  
Winner: WARRAGENY HOLDINGS  
**Toodyay Fun and Fitness Trophy**  
Class 73 Best Exhibit – Pen of 3 yearling steers, 2021 drop  
Winner: WARRAGENY HOLDINGS  
**Elders Trophy**  
Class 74 Best Exhibit – Single steer 2021 drop, grain fed  
Winner: WARRAGENY HOLDINGS

**AGRICULTURE**  
**Toodyay Agricultural Alliance Trophy**  
Most Points – Agriculture  
Winner: KEVIN HUTCHINGS  
**Phil's Soft Serve Ice Cream Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Agriculture Section  
Winner: Kevin Hutchings



**POULTRY**  
**John Lucas Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Poultry Section  
Winner: GORVIN POULTRY  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Pair  
Winner: ALLAN LAWRENCE  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Large fowl heavy breed  
Winner: GORVIN POULTRY  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Large fowl light breed  
Winner: GORVIN POULTRY  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Large game bird  
Winner: GR IRELAND  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Game bantam  
Winner: GR IRELAND  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Soft feathered bantam  
Winner: GORVIN POULTRY  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Water bird  
Winner: ALLEN LAWRENCE  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Backyard chook, novice breeder  
Winner: SUNDANCE STUD  
**Toodyay Hair Studio**  
Best Exhibit – Turkey  
Winner: J.A. O'BRIEN  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Junior Section  
Winner: MASON ROPER

**HOME PRODUCE**  
**Ian Stannard Prize**  
Most Points – Home Produce  
Winner: KERRY GREGORY  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Home produce  
Winner: MIKE BUTLER  
**Dr Richard Walkey Memorial Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Eggs  
Winner: MARJ WILTSHIRE  
**Elsie Wroth Memorial Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Jams  
Winner: GLORIA GREEN  
**Dr Richard Walkey Memorial Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Pickles and preserves  
Winner: ELIZA MATTYS  
**Sue and Gary Golding Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Homemade cheese  
Winner: MIKE BUTLER



**FRUIT AND VEGETABLES**  
**Phil's Soft Serve Ice Cream Trophy**  
Most Points – Fruit & vegetables  
Winner: REG SMITH  
**Toodyay – Garden & Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Fruit & Vegetables  
Winner: BRAXTON FERNIHOUGH

**Toodyay Garden & Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Children 15 years & under  
**No Entry**  
**Toodyay Garden & Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Fruit, varieties  
Winner: REG SMITH  
**Toodyay Garden & Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Nuts, dried fruit  
Winner: KERRY GREGORY

**APICULTURE**  
**Toodyay Pharmacy Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Apiculture  
Winner: MICHELLE NANCARROW  
**Bee Happy Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Honey  
Winner: MICHELLE NANCARROW  
**Bee Happy Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Beeswax  
**No Entry**

**HAND SPINNING**  
**Megasys Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Hand spinning  
Winner: CAROL WORRELL  
**Avon Valley Gifts Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Hand spinning  
Winner: MICHELLE NANCARROW  
**Toodyay Spinners Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Fleece and Fibre  
Winner: MICHELLE NANCARROW  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit group L2 – First year spinner  
**No Entry**  
**Brent Morey Wool Handlers Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Felting  
Winner: CHRIS STOKIE



**PATCHWORK & QUILTING**  
**Patricia Chitty Memorial Prize**  
Most Points – Patchwork & quilting  
Winner: GABRIELLE JOHNSON  
**Ian Stannard Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Patchwork & Quilting  
Winner: GABRIELLE JOHNSON  
**Toodyay Pharmacy Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Quilting & patchwork  
Winner: GABRIELLE JOHNSON  
**Toodyay Pharmacy Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Quilting commercial  
Winner: JANE BEATTIE  
**Sue Golding Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Hand quilting  
Winner: GABRIELLE JOHNSON  
**Sue Golding Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Applique  
Winner: KAREN LAKEMAN  
**Toodyay Locals Care Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Machine quilting  
Winner: KAREN LAKEMAN  
**Toodyay Locals Care Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Children 16 years and under patchwork & quilting  
**No Entry**  
**Weaving**  
**Krys Poliniak Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Weaving  
Winner: ROBYN PETERSON

**FLORICULTURE**  
**Dr Richard Walkey Memorial Trophy**  
Most Points – Floriculture  
Winner: LYNLEE CHITTY  
**Shane Love MLA Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Floriculture Section  
Winner: BAYDEN SMITH

Community Citizen of the year Awards  
Australia Day  
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Citizen of the Year, Youth Citizen of the Year, Senior Citizen of the Year, Active Citizenship (Group or Event)  
citizenshipawards.com.au | Closing Date 15th November 2022  
Local Government Recognising Community Champions.

# 168th Toodyay Agricultural Society Show Winners

**FLORICULTURE Cont.**

**Steve Jones Memorial Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Specimen Classes – Sub Group – Roses  
Winner: MANDY HILLIER  
**Toodyay Hair Studio Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Specimen Classes – Sub Group – Variety  
Winner: IAN STANNARD  
**Toodyay Garden & Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Vases  
Winner: IAN STANNARD  
**Toodyay Garden & Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Bowl  
Winner: BRADEN SMITH  
**Avon Valley Gifts Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Decorative art  
Winner: JULIE CONWAY  
**Toodyay Garden & Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Pot plants  
Winner: BAYDEN SMITH  
**Toodyay Garden & Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Herbs  
Winner: MARJ WILTSHIRE  
**Unicorn Clothing & Gifts Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Young adult classes 16 – 18 years  
No Entry



**HOBBY CRAFTS**

**Toodyay CWA, Mary Sims Trophy**  
Most Points – Hobby crafts  
Winner: KERRY GREGORY  
**Shane Love MLA Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Hobby Craft Section  
Winner: GABRIELLE JOHNSON

**Mrs Lynn Cook Prize**

Best Exhibit – Adult hobbies  
Winner: GABRIELLE JOHNSON  
**Toodyay Locals Care Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Recycled creations  
Winner: GABRIELLE JOHNSON  
**Christmas 360 Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Christmas  
Winner: LES HAMMILL

**ART**

**Country Realty Prize**  
Most Points – Art  
Winner: CHRISTINA OWEN  
**Sommerville Gallery Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Art Section  
Winner: JESSE COLLINS  
**Arts Toodyay Inc Prize**  
Best Exhibit depicting a rural theme  
Winner: PETER FORBES  
**Shane love MLA prize**  
Best Exhibit by artist under 18 years  
Winner: LEO MILLETT  
**Shire of Toodyay Award**  
Shire Purchase  
Open Acquisition Choice  
Winner: TANYA STUART

**NEEDLEWORK**

**Fletcher Family Prize**  
Most Points – Needlework  
Winner: KAREN LAKEMAN  
**Mrs Bel Rowe Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Needlework  
Winner: JOAN RODGERS  
**Cale Family Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Knitting  
Winner: CLAIRE BELL  
**Christmas 360 Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Crochet  
Winner: BETH RUTHVEN  
**Kay Chitty Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Hand embroidery  
Winner: JOAN RODGERS  
**Kay Chitty Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Machine sewing  
Winner: NOELENE STEWART  
**T & C Frank Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Teddies, dolls & toys  
Winner: KAREN LAKEMAN  
**Susan King Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Miscellaneous  
Winner: KAREN LAKEMAN

**Kay Chitty Prize**

Best Exhibit – Over 70 years of age  
Winner: KERRY GREGORY  
**Country Realty Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Novice  
No Entry



**COOKERY**

**Geoff & Megan Ebdon Prize**  
Most Points – Cookery  
Winner: GEORGE GROESSLER  
**Mrs S Patten Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Cookery  
Winner: PETER SYDES  
**Toodyay CWA Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Scones  
Winner: TANYA STUART  
**Toodyay Bakery Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Bread made and cooked in a bread-maker  
Winner: GEORGE GROESSLER  
**Hutchings Family Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Bread handmade  
Winner: George Groessler  
**Dr Richard Walkey Memorial Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Cakes and biscuits  
Winner: AURELIE ZIMMERMAN  
**Nancy Collins Memorial Trophy**  
Most Points – Cakes and biscuits  
Winner: AURELIE ZIMMERMAN  
**M & E O'Sullivan Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Decorated cakes  
Winner: AURELIE ZIMMERMAN  
**Mrs Phyl Wood Memorial Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Specialty cakes, Schedule cake  
Winner: KAREN LAKEMAN  
**Mrs Phyl Wood Memorial Trophy**  
Runner-up Best Exhibit – Specialty cakes, schedule cake  
Winner: GILLIAN REYNOLDS  
**Wroth Family Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Presidents Favorite recipe  
Winner: LONDON DYMOND  
**MJ & KL Knowles Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Man Cake  
Winner: PETER SYDES

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

**Country Realty Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Black & white or sepia print  
Winner: JESSICA SHILCOCK  
**Shane Love MLA Prize**  
Best Exhibit – 'Toodyay in Focus' black, white & colour, all ages  
Winner: CLIVE MILLETT  
**Country Realty Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Mobile phone prints, black white and colour over 18 years  
Winner: NAOMI MILLETT  
**Megasy's Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Digital camera prints, colour only over 18 years  
Winner: ROSS MCDUGALL  
**Mrs Lynn Cook Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Children 6 – 9 years, colour or black and white prints  
No Entry  
**Country Realty Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Children 10 – 12 years, colour or black and white prints  
Winner: MATHEW ASHWORTH  
**Sue Golding Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Children 13 – 18 years, colour or black and white prints  
Winner: CLIVE MILLETT

**WOODCRAFT**

**Woodturners Prize**  
Most Points – Woodcraft  
Winner: DAVID DOYE  
**Woodturners Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Woodturning  
Winner: DAVID DOYE

**Woodturners Prize**

Best Exhibit – General  
Winner: GARY GRACIE  
**Woodturners Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Novice  
No Entry

**CHILDREN 16 YEARS AND UNDER**

**Beth Somers Memorial trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Children 16 years & under  
Winner: TOM JARVIS  
**Christmas 360 Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Floriculture  
Winner: TOM JARVIS  
**Toodyay CWA Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Cooking  
Winner: TOM JARVIS  
**Toodyay Fun and Fitness Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Craft  
Winner: TOM JARVIS  
**Shane Love MLA Prize**  
Best Exhibit – 2D Artwork  
Winner: TOM JARVIS  
**Toodyay Locals Care Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Recycled creation  
Winner: TOM JARVIS

**CHILDREN 13 YEARS AND UNDER**

**John Lucas Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Children 13 years & under  
Winner: MILLIE DRISCOLL  
**Toodyay Garden Club Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Floriculture  
Winner: EMMA JARVIS  
**Toodyay Community Resource Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Cooking  
Winner: SAMUEL SYRED  
**Mary Donegan-Guthrie Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Craft  
Winner: WINTON DAVEY  
**Shane Love MLA Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Artwork  
Winner: MILLIE DRISCOLL  
**Geoff & Megan Ebdon Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Recycled creation  
Winner: THOMAS THORNTON

**CHILDREN 10 YEARS AND UNDER**

**Beth Somers Memorial Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Children 10 years and under  
Winner: NICHOLAS THORNTON  
**Christmas 360 Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Floriculture  
Winner: AMY ZIMMERMAN  
**Toodyay Community Resource Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Cooking  
Winner: MATTHEW ASHWORTH  
**Unicorn Clothing and Gifts Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Craft  
Winner: NICHOLAS THORNTON  
**Country Realty Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Artwork  
Winner: EMILIANA DAVEY

**CHILDREN 7 YEARS AND UNDER**

**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Children 7 years and under  
Winner: HELENA KIELBASA  
**Toodyay Garden Club Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Floriculture  
Winner: MYLA COTTAM  
**Country Realty Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Cooking  
Winner: LEAH SYRED  
**Kerry Gregory Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Craft  
Winner: LOIC ZIMMERMAN  
**Mary Donegan-Guthrie Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Artwork  
Winner: HELENA KIELBASON

**CHILDREN – KINDERGARTEN TO PRE-PRIMARY**

**Fletcher Family Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Children kindergarten to pre-primary  
Winner: HALLE JAKOVICH  
**Country Realty Prize**  
Most Points – Children kindergarten to pre-primary  
Winner: VIOLET SHARPLES



# Unusually cool, wet spring frustrates local farmers



An idle hay rake cuts a lonely figure while waiting for dry weather to get to work.

**Toodyay Agricultural Alliance**  
Frank Panizza

COOL and wet conditions have continued well into spring causing headaches for local farmers wanting to bale hay and start harvest. Such mild conditions while not rare, are still unusual. Not many farmers have completed their hay baling.

Some hay paddocks have been left for more than three weeks in the wait for warmer weather to dry them out so baling can begin. This has left many farmers frustrated and anxious to get hay programs completed. Canola swathing has mostly been completed and farmers are also waiting for the canola swaths to dry out. Warm dry weather will see an immediate start to harvest in many areas, with canola likely to be the first crop harvested.

WA is forecast to produce a near-record crop of just under 22 million tonnes – slightly less than last year’s record crop. Good growing conditions throughout the state, with no major areas of frost or waterlogging, has boosted expectations of another big WA crop. Some industry commentators suggest the WA Grains Industry official 2022 crop size forecast is conservative, and that this year’s crop will set another record.

# Clock ticking on time-keeping talk

**Toodyay Probus Club**  
Norm Green

SOME people have said to me recently that they do not know what Probus is and another suggested that the logo was a problem. A bit stuffy looking and outdated maybe? Seems like we may have raised our profile a little because more people have now heard of us at least. The logo certainly gives no indication of what Probus is all about, but first impressions are the most important, whether correct or not. Let’s face it, first impressions are hardly ever correct. Probus is about friendship and fun, not at all reflected in the logo. It is also about guest speakers, lunches, outings and companionship. Last month we had a ‘bring and share’ dinner at a lovely property on the Balgaling Estate. We also had Stuart Usher who ushered in a true story about the blowing up of a heavy water facility in Norway during World War 2. His story was assisted greatly by a Powerpoint presentation.

Stuart had worked as a cruise boat speaker for 17 years and is about to embark upon that activity again now that COVID-19 has become less of a problem. For November we are having a visit from Ian Phillips, whose favourite topic is “Historic Clocks and Bells of the Avon Valley”. The public clocks and bells of the Avon Valley have a fascinating social history. Mysteries of their origins are uncovered and the significance they had on the lives of people in bygone days. The talk finishes up with how a certain Toodyay bell was involved in a court case in 1914. Please come along and join in fellowship on Tuesday November 8 at 3pm in the Freemason’s Hotel. Contact toodyayprobus@gmail.com or Joan on 0417 171 606.

# Picturesque Show blessed by fine weather

**Toodyay Agricultural Society Inc.**  
Alison Wroth

ONE THING every country town community needs, be it large or small, is an event to bring individuals and businesses together to participate, support and engage with one another. Last month’s Toodyay Agricultural Show was such an event.

Smiling faces everywhere and constant activity on the day made committee members believe all their efforts were worthwhile.

We farewelled online ticketing this year with eftpos and tickets at the gate proving just as easy.

Our Ring Coordinator’s love of handy pony and all things equestrian showed when any child who entered could walk away with a prize for themselves and their horse no matter where they came in the competition.

With more than 80 trade stalls the showgrounds were full to the railings.

All entertainment options were covered with an incredible WA Police display, butterflies, sideshow alley and an RAC Rescue Chopper Experience that proved wildly popular.

The exhibition halls were colourfully filled with the wonderful children’s section, with the Toodyay and Bolgart school displays bolstering general entries overall.

The picturesque 168th Toodyay Agricultural Show did not disappoint with the day blessed by fine weather.

The Committee works so hard during the year to organise an event that endeavours to cater for every age group, personality and interest.

Based on positive and complimentary comments received on the day and since, Committee members believe we have achieved this.

We are looking to encourage more people to send their entries to next year’s Show by making it easier to take part in various categories.

Our social media and web presence will lift to help motivate everybody to enter that rose, jar of relish or, dare I say – Man Cake.

Sheep and dairy goats again filled the Sheep Pavilion, much to the delight of the kids.

Solid entries of just under 30 fleeces in Wool provided a good display, as well as an outstanding Agriculture section.

The cattle yards were full and the Poultry Shed was a magnet for adults and children throughout the day.

Our Toodyay Show Biosecurity Plan was in place with two Biosecurity kits on standby for that “just in case” day.

With luck they will never be opened.

The recent risk of foot-and-mouth disease did not deter many producers, with only our sheep competition experiencing low numbers.

The remaining yards were filled for display by a generous farmer.

We are very proud of our heritage – since the Society’s establishment in 1853 the iconic Toodyay Agricultural Show has played a key role in our community and we celebrate this.

The history of the show makes for interesting reading.

In 2022, people realise the show is not just focused on cattle, cooking and crafts but on connection with others.

Agricultural shows like ours are more important than ever.

It is satisfying to see families and friends return to the show and have that “connection”, catching up on an annual basis.

The Toodyay Agricultural Society would like to thank all those individuals, community groups and businesses, from in town and out, who generously supported the Toodyay Show this year through either some form of major sponsorship or the donation of trophies and prize money.

Without this sponsorship each year the committee would not be able to organise the type of event we do.

Many community groups assist prior to or on Show day and for this we are very grateful because without this help the day would not run as smoothly as it does.

Our thanks must go to the Toodyay and Districts Bendigo Community Bank for the sponsorship of our magnificent fireworks display this year.

It was one of the best displays I have seen and we are very appreciative of their three-year

sponsorship so we can continue to wind up the show with a bang.

Our heartfelt thanks go to all our major sponsors, including Chalice Mining, CSBP Fertilisers, Dunning’s, Shire of Toodyay, Elders Northam, Morgan Feed Supplies, Makit and the Toodyay Op Shop.

The Show would not be possible without their financial backing, in-kind support and general interest in our event.

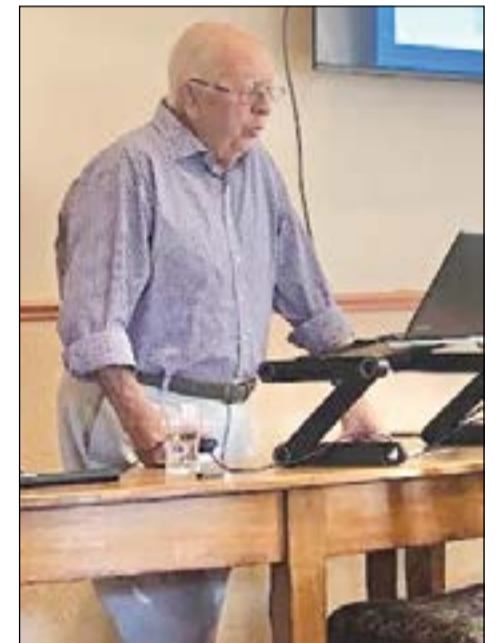
New benches in the Lee-Steere Pavilion provided by the Shire will continue to exhibit children’s ideas years into the future.

Also, after maintenance on the building and benches, the Showgrounds Terrace Bar has been redeveloped into a family-friendly area that includes food and coffee vans.

The overall look of the hill, with festoon lighting and market umbrellas, is now colourful and inviting to all.

Thanking all of our helpers, stewards, judges, Curtin volunteer students and our committed individual committee members would take more words than I’m allowed, but we are all looking forward to planning the 169th Toodyay Agricultural Show in 2023 after a short break over Christmas.

In my last year as president, the committee and I sincerely hope you all enjoyed the show this year.



Stuart Usher explains how to blow up a World War II heavy water plant in Norway.

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# 1929 Toodyay Chevy stars at York vintage car rally



From left: Davyn Howard's 1926 Chevrolet touring car, Martin and Roger Paine's 1929 Chevrolet sedan, Doug Barbers Chevrolet 4 truck with passenger Allan Caddy, Bernie Tilbrooks 1929 Oldsmobile, and Phil Evan's 1926 Chevrolet on the first Vintage Automobile Association Rally to the York Fair in October 1973.

## Vintage Automobile Association Martin Paine

THE VINTAGE Automobile Association (VAA) was founded on 28 June 1972 at the home of the first club president, Doug Barber.

The secretary was Murray Henderson, treasurer Bernie Tilbrook and the committee comprised Bob Thornton, Phil Evans, Brian Henderson and Martin Paine.

The first rally on 7 October 1973 went to the York Fair, with five automobiles participating.

Fast forward to 16 October 2022, when there were about 60 VAA vehicles at the York Fair, with a number of other clubs participating.

Three of the members from the original event in 1973 – Martin Paine, Davyn Howard and Allan Caddy – participated in the 50th celebration.

Martin Paine's 1929 Chevrolet sedan, restored by Martin and his brother Roger in 1972, was the only one of the original five cars to be there 50 years later.

The car was brought from Toodyay for the event by its current owners Avon Valley Vintage Vehicle Association members Steve and Debra Andrijich.



1929 Chevrolet with Toodyay owner Steve Andrijich (left) and former owner Martin Paine.

This 50th anniversary event was organised by our president of five years Tony Warner, his partner Loris Cooper and team members. Thank you for a fantastic event.



Toodyay couple Steve and Debra Andrijich from the Avon Valley Vintage Vehicle Association.

## Making your own gifts adds a personal touch to Christmas

**Avon Woodturners**  
Hamish Dobie

YES, SPRING has finally sprung.

You've cleaned the barbecue, tidied the garden, and now it's time to sit back and relax.

Right?

No.

Christmas is just a few weeks away, and you haven't even thought of the necessary presents for your family.

Well, let's make a list.

Cousin Martha loves cooking, especially baking: a rolling pin.

Niece Annie just moved into a new flat: a salt and pepper set.

Uncle Jack is getting older but still walks every day: a walking cane.

Sister Betty loves her cheeses: a cheese knife and cheese slicer.

The twins are always studying at Uni: a hand-made pen and propelling pencil set.

The brother-in-law who doesn't say much and has strange, staring eyes: a herb cutter (pictured) – well, perhaps not.

Did you realise you can make all these gifts yourself? Your family will appreciate the effort you put in to personalise each present.

Come down to Avon Woodturners, Shed 1, Community Depot, Railway Road, Toodyay on any Wednesday or Sunday morning between 9 and noon and try your hand.

You can make all the above and much, much more, under the expert guidance of David and Max.

All the necessary equipment is in-house, and there's plenty of wood just waiting to

be turned into useful, or decorative items.

Our morning tea selection of biscuits and cakes is now enjoyed in much cleaner air thanks to our newly purchased air cleaner.

Our contact information is now being broadcast on Toodyay 105.3 FM to remind you to come on down and find out more.

Or contact Barry on 0401 359 511 and have a chat about the group.



Turned handle forms a stylish, locally made kitchen tool for chopping herbs.

LAND ADMINISTRATION ACT 1997

### REQUEST FOR CLOSURE OF PUBLIC ROAD

#### Unconstructed portion of Isotoma Road Reserve alongside Lot 101 Nockdominie Road, Dumbarton

The Shire of Toodyay has received an application requesting the permanent closure of an unconstructed portion of Isotoma Road Reserve, adjacent to Lot 101 Nockdominie Road in Dumbarton.

Your views on this proposed road closure are encouraged and welcomed. The proposal is available for inspection at the Shire of Toodyay Administration Centre, Old Court House, 15 Fiennes Street, Toodyay, during office hours. It is also available to view on the Shire website at [www.toodyay.wa.gov.au](http://www.toodyay.wa.gov.au).

Submissions may be addressed in writing and lodged with the Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Toodyay, PO Box 96 Toodyay 6566, by **4.00pm on Friday 9 December 2022**.

For further information on the above proposal, please contact the Shire's Development Services department on 9574 9340.

Suzie Haslehurst  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

4 November 2022



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Queen Elizabeth II.

## Platinum Queen'

Milo (Frank Wyatt)

ALL HAIL, and remember well  
The Lady of the Throne  
Such excellence in service  
Before, unknown.

The catch-cry from days gone by  
"Long may she reign"  
Today we acknowledge  
"Long did she reign".

Elizabeth the second  
Daughter of your father's pride  
'Tis far beyond England's glory  
The Majesty, you did provide

Now that you've departed  
From your earthly service  
May the Lord welcome you soon  
To a much higher purpose.

# Award-winning craft from friendly rivals

**The Crooked Needle**  
Jean Melhuish-Hill

THE TOODYAY Agricultural Show featured works from many of our members, with entries in sewing, knitting, crocheting and quilting.

The ladies also had entries in hobby crafts, floriculture, fruit and vegetables, jams, pickles and preserves, Christmas decorations, recycled creations, cakes, and photography.

We had some good-humoured rivalry with ladies competing against one another, and some surprises for a new member with less than four years in the group, who won prizes for all her entries.

I would be remiss if I did not mention two of our ladies, Gabrielle Johnson and Karen Lakeman, who scooped the pool, not only winning prizes in their section but Best Exhibit in a number of classes.

Gabrielle and Karen are members of two crafting groups in Toodyay, the other being the Ragbags Quilting Group, the ladies' accolades should be shared between both groups.

Phyllis McDonnell, Brenda Smith and Karen Lakeman generously acted as stewards in the quilting and needlework sections, with Gail Fellows one of the judges on the day.

Stewards are responsible for set-up of the area, receipt and tagging of entries with correct information, recording judges' award allocations, displaying all items and writing award cards.



This exquisite cushion exhibit won first prize, donkey on the left won a second prize.

They also talk with show visitors and return all items to their owners at the end of the day. A great community effort.

We could not have asked for better weather on the day.

I attended the event with seven others from our group and greatly enjoyed it.

Well done to the Agricultural Show Committee.

We encourage any Toodyay resident to look at what they might enter into the show next year. With Christmas only two months away,

everyone is busily working on their Christmas gifts and on our Toy Challenge, when all items entered will be donated to children less fortunate than our own grand and great-grandchildren.

If you are looking for a friendly group of ladies to exchange crafting ideas in a social setting, please come for a visit.

We meet each Friday morning at the CWA Hall in Toodyay, 9.30am to noon.

For more information, please contact Jan on 0407 083 079 or Annette on 0428 804 666.



Colourful crocheted bag, bagged a first.



a second prize for the Christmas wreath.



A beautifully crafted piece made from silk ties scored best Exhibit.

## New members welcome to learn how to spin



Prize-winning display of knitwear at last month's Toodyay Agricultural Show.

**Toodyay Spinners**  
Gail Williams, Secretary

THE DISPLAY (pictured above) of prize-winning knitwear was the Toodyay Spinners contribution to the recent Toodyay Agricultural Show.

A big thankyou to all those who entered their items.

Toodyay Spinners would like to extend an invitation to anyone who wishes to learn a new skill.

We have members experienced in the craft

of knitting, crochet, spinning and weaving, and our members are only too willing to teach you.

Toodyay Spinners meet every Wednesday and the first and third Saturday of the month at Parkers Cottage in the Toodyay Showgrounds.

Why not come along and join our group?

You only need yourself.

We meet from 9am until noon.

If you require further information please contact the Secretary, Gail Williams, on 9622 3411.

## Remembering when the guns fell silent

**RSL Toodyay Sub Branch**  
Bob Wood

AT THE 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, the guns finally fell silent on the Western Front in Northern France, bringing an end to "the war to end all wars".

It is that moment we commemorate each year on Remembrance Day.


History tells us it was not the end of war for all time but still a worthy reminder of those who gave so much that we may live in peace.

This year the Toodyay RSL Sub-Branch


will be holding our Poppy Day Stall outside IGA on Friday and Saturday November 4 and 5 with all funds raised being split between the "Sailors, Soldiers & Airmen's Relief Fund" and our own local Welfare Fund.

It is this fund which supports local veterans, widows, and their families when their needs arise.

We shall be holding the Remembrance Day service at Anzac Park starting at 11am on Friday November 11 supported by the Toodyay Community Singers and the Toodyay Youth Choir.



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# Waxing lyrical about art

Arts Toodyay  
Karen Chappelow

AN ANCIENT Greek shipbuilding technique may not be the first thing that springs to mind when you think of modern art.

But the ancient art of encaustic painting underwent a revival in the 20th century at the hands of some of its greatest artists.

Encaustic, which means 'to burn in or fuse', is an ancient painting medium first practised by Greek artists as far back as the 5th century BC.

Combining molten beeswax with dry pigment and tree resin, encaustic is the oldest known pigment binder.

Its preservation properties include being impervious to moisture, which made it instrumental in weatherproofing ancient Greek ships, while its pigmented wax gave rise to the practice of decorating the ships with iconography.

Greeks who settled in Egypt adapted the funerary customs of honouring the dead by painting a portrait of the deceased in the prime of life or after death to be placed over the person's mummy.

Known as the Fayum Portraits, they are amongst the only surviving encaustic paintings from ancient times.

Examples of the portraits are held in museums around the world, including the Egyptian collection at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Over the intervening 3500 years many famous artists including Leonardo Da Vinci made unsuccessful attempts to revive the technique.

The major resurgence of encaustic came in the 20th century with the work of Diego Rivera, Pablo Picasso and American Pop artist Jasper Johns, and continues in the present-day arts practice of Karen Chappelow (me) and Jo Duval at Toodyay Arts.

Jo Duval has some sumptuous and tactile pieces in the gallery which are worth checking out – and they could even last you 3500 years.

The gallery at The Toodyay Manor, 82 Stirling Terrace is open every Friday to Sunday from 10am.

You can follow us on Instagram @artstodyay or www.artstodyay.com.



Local artist Jo Duval's encaustic painting on display at The Toodyay Manor Gallery.



Visitors from the classes of 1953-1956 at Denmark Agricultural College on their way to spend a morning at the Old Gaol Museum.

## Toodyay museum attracts class visitors

Volunteers of Toodyay Museums  
Barry Keens

OCTOBER was another busy month for our volunteers as visitor numbers steadily increased with the fine weather.

Twenty alumni of the Denmark Agricultural College classes of 1953-56 spent the best part of a morning visiting the Newcastle Gaol Museum.

Our morning tea was well attended with 38 locals and seven other visitors coming to the museum on a sunny Monday morning.

The exhibition in the courtroom has changed with the addition of convict-related displays.

Both Connor's Mill and the museum are open daily from 10am to 3pm with free admittance for Toodyay Shire residents.



Best Exhibit: Karen Lakeman's Australian Fauna and Birds.

## Quirky quilts form vibrant display

Ragbags Quilting Group  
Kerry Gregory

AS I PREDICTED last month, some of the wonderful quilts our ladies entered in the Toodyay Show were indeed prize winners, with Karen taking Best in Show with her stunning interpretation of Australian Fauna and Birds.

The fabulously colourful, beautifully executed display of quilts showed what terrifically talented, skilled craftswomen we have here in Toodyay.

Congratulations to all those who exhibited quilts, and particularly Karen and Gabrielle from our Wednesday Ragbags Group for their winning entries.

They were worthy winners, with their skillful endeavours and perseverance in having their entries finished in time receiving due recognition.

I must also mention Jane's terrific entries including her quirky little patchwork eggs.

Although not winners on the day they looked a treat and added immensely to the vibrant display.

The poignancy of the beautifully put-together Animals in War quilt by Mary Tucker added a special touch to the whole display.

Seeing the beautiful quilts hung high and proud is a Toodyay Show highlight for me, demonstrating the talent, skill and exceptional work achieved by our local quilters.

Entering a project or quilt is a great way to gain confidence in your work.

The quilting judges encourage novice quilters and offer insight and feedback when we think we're the only one with 'that problem'.

Judges pay particular attention to smooth,

straight, pucker free borders, no visible thread ends or marking lines, and even binding filled with the quilt edge.

They look for a presentation that grabs the attention of the viewers with a clean, lint-free quilt.

It's not all about winning; it's really about adding to the spectacle of the day and being an integral part of this wonderful community event.

New members are welcome to join us for our regular Ragbags Group gatherings.

Bring some handwork, your machine and project, or any craftwork you are undertaking.

We meet at the St Stephens Anglican Church Hall, Stirling Terrace, Toodyay on the first and third Wednesday of each month between 10am and 2pm.

A cuppa, a good chat and a laugh or two are assured.


Four of our members travelled to Baskerville on Saturday October 15 to attend a Friendship Day, the first such outing since Covid-19 emerged.

Our numbers were down a little on past years but we had a really beaut day out.

The Baskerville ladies turned on the hospitality with a wonderful spread for morning tea, a big raffle and lovely welcome gifts wrapped in little bags made from bright, recycled magazine pages.

They also invited us to participate in the 10,000 Little Hearts of Kindness, handing out the pre-cut little heart shapes and embellishments needed to complete a heart for someone needing a little cheering up.

Fabric and notion stall holders were in attendance with their tempting merchandise, as was the scissors-sharpening lady, plus the event we all attend for: a fabulous Show and Tell of marvellous quilts.



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WHOLE FREE-RANGE TURKEY	\$16.99kg	5kg – 7kg	
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