

# The Toodyay Herald

Your locally owned  
community newspaper  
Est. 1902

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

April 2023  
Edition 422

## Magistrate adjourns Waugal case

TOODYAY real estate agent Tony Maddox is likely to plead ignorance of State Aboriginal heritage law when he next appears in court on April 17 to face a charge which carries a maximum penalty of up to nine months' jail and a \$20,000 fine for altering a creek crossing on his Nunile property.

And in a startling new development, the Shire of Toodyay says it also did not know if the same law applied when it upgraded a similar crossing over the same creek near Toodyay District High School (see pictures, Page 5).

Toodyay Shire CEO Suzie Haslehurst said the shire's planning department was seeking further advice from the State Government.

Mr Maddox rebuilt a culvert crossing on Boyagerring Brook which passes between his front gate and country home.

He said an earlier creek crossing flooded in winter, preventing safe vehicle access.

Mr Maddox also installed a bore-fed fountain and scenic pond to attract birdlife when the waterway runs dry in summer.

He said silt was a problem.

Mr Maddox told two State investigators who interviewed him at the site in February that he did not know Boyagerring Brook was protected by Aboriginal heritage law.

Mr Maddox was later charged under WA's



Toodyay real estate agent Tony Maddox (blue shirt) with supporters outside Northam Magistrate's Court.

Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

The State alleges that Mr Maddox "altered and/or damaged Avon River Heritage Site ID 15979 without either the authorisation of the

Registrar of Aboriginal Sites or the consent of the Minister".

The Aboriginal heritage site includes tributaries such as Boyagerring Brook.

A prosecution "statement of facts" describes the site as "having mythological value and is the Waugal's home".

Continued on Page 5.

## New doctor to provide full range of medical services



Michael Sinclair-Jones

DOCTORS will return to Toodyay at the end of May or early June.

Local physiotherapy and pathology services are also due to resume.

Former local practitioner Dr Akeem Lawal has signed a five-year contract with the Shire of Toodyay to re-open the town's currently vacant Alma Beard Medical Centre.

Dr Lawal provided medical services at the Toodyay surgery last year until the Northam-based Wheatbelt Health Network announced its shock closure last November.

A lack of sufficient Federal Government funding through the national Medicare rebate scheme was blamed for the closure.

The Stirling Terrace medical centre is owned by the Shire of Toodyay, which has spent the past five months looking for replacement doctors amid a nation-wide shortage of country GPs and the closure of other regional medical centres.

The Wheatbelt Shire of Quairading recently offered more than \$800,000 to attract a doctor to that town.

Toodyay Shire CEO Suzie Haslehurst said the shire-owned medical centre in Stirling Terrace would re-open with two doctors and a nurse practitioner.

She declined to publicly disclose the value of the new Toodyay medical centre contract on grounds of commercial confidentiality.

A start date was set at nine weeks from March 23 when the contract was signed.

Ms Haslehurst said the Wheatbelt Health Network (WHN) had agreed to transfer Toodyay patient records to Dr Lawal free of charge to enable his new medical team to offer local continuity of service.

The new contract included a requirement to provide Toodyay residents with ancillary medical services such as physiotherapy, pathology and podiatry.

The centre had previously been used by the Wheatbelt Health Network for free.

WHN Chief Executive Officer Catherine Milliner declined to say if patient records for Northam consultations after the Toodyay closure would be transferred back at no cost.

Continued on Page 3.

## Chalice announces 'strong option' for Julimar open-cut mine

DECADES of large-scale open-cut mining have been touted as a 'strong option' in a Chalice Mining Ltd announcement to the Australian Stock Exchange of a 50 per cent increase in the size of its multi-billion-dollar "green metals" mineral discovery in Julimar.

Fill story Page 5.

### Coming events

Toodyay Farmers Market

Sunday April 16

Moodyne Festival

Sunday May 7

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# COUNTRY REALTY



# The Toodyay Herald

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

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

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

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## NEXT TOODYAY HERALD EDITION

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DISTRIBUTED

Noon Friday  
April 21

Noon Wednesday  
April 26

Thursday  
May 4

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'Sapper' Joe Cardon with his wife and two young sons.

## A dash of Digger disregard for rules

Roger Simms

IN MARCH of 1916, as Australians were experiencing both pride and dismay in the aftermath of Gallipoli, a young miner from Wales working in the bush near Kalgoorlie made what must have been the toughest decision of his life.

Joe Cardon would answer the nation's expanding call to arms and join the ranks of Australian tunnellers (4,500 of them in all during World War One) whose job it was to wage war underground, digging their way like moles to lay explosives and destroy German positions.

Joe, aged 32, from Denbighshire in Wales, was married with two young sons and had migrated with his family to WA in 1913. He travelled to the Goldfields and found work at Kurrawang, 14km south west of Kalgoorlie.

As another Anzac Day approaches, I would like to relate what I know of Joe's story and his part in Australia's ever widening record of wartime service and sacrifice.

I find myself wanting to know what Joe might have been thinking as he took the oath on 27 March 1916, to "well and truly serve" — and, indeed, what might have been weighing on the minds of other young West Australians who signed up that year.

For all, bar the foolhardy who just wanted to run away and see the world, enlisting would not have been an easy choice.

Australia's initial rush to arms was slowing. At the start of the war, with patriotic fervour alight, volunteer numbers were high and recruitment officers had to turn men away.

More than 52,000 men signed up in 1914 (the war began in July of that year) and 165,922 in 1915.

But as the fighting went on and casualty rates reached levels unimagined before the conflict, recruitment figures fell and by early 1916 the Australian Imperial Force faced a shortage.

The war had ground its brutal way to something much more serious than jokes in 1914 about kicking the Kaiser in the pants.

We'll never know exactly what motivated Joe and his fellow volunteers of 1916 to sign up at such a low point in the war and after the sickening carnage of trench warfare had become apparent.

Perhaps, in Joe's case, it was thoughts of the "Mother country's" mounting hour of need that overcame possible concerns about the politics of the war, fear for his own safety and, most importantly, having to leave a young family on their own.

In any event, the newly signed volunteers would have had few illusions about what they were taking on and the risks they faced.

Joe, having done his initial training, joined No. 6 Tunnelling Company with the rank of sapper, and sailed to war from Fremantle on June 1 aboard the transport ship *Warilda*.

('Sapper' was the name given to men who dug saps, or tunnels, in attacks on castles in the Middle Ages).

Joe had arranged for three fifths of his army pay to go to his wife Miriam and sons Leonard and John.

On a poignant note, Miriam was to donate a shilling to the troops' tobacco fund later in the year.

The *Warilda* tunnellers disembarked at Plymouth and left a month later for France and

the Western Front.

To fit the Australian tunnelling companies into the British Expeditionary Force they were reformed and named as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd tunnelling companies. Joe was assigned to 3 Company.

He was to prove a good soldier, held in high regard by company officers, the record shows, but with a dash of Digger disregard for the rule book. He was fined on one occasion for "gambling in the billets".

On another occasion he was given 14 days "field punishment" for using abusive language.

In November, No. 3 Company was sent to Hill 70 near the French village of Loos where British and German tunnellers had been at war for over a year.

It was dangerous work.

Twenty of the company's tunnellers were killed, 11 from WA, when the Germans detected their underground activity and discharged their own explosives before the Australians had chance to fire theirs.

While the bitter winter of 1917 slowed fighting on the surface, the underground war dragged on.

The No 1 Australian company took part in the biggest tunnelling attack of the war when a total of one million pounds of explosives were fired in some 20 locations under German positions at Hill 60 near Ypres as a prelude to the Battle of Messines.

The Australians also had the job of examining captured enemy positions and declaring them safe from booby traps.

Sometimes the work was done under constant shellfire.

In January 1918, nine months before the war's end, Joe was chosen to help Lieutenant Hugh Russel with survey work for a new tunnel.

Lt. Russel, who was later awarded the Military Cross for devotion to duty, said he had asked for Joe because he was quick and reliable.

The work could be accomplished more quickly with Sapper Carden than anyone else, he said.

But not, as it turned out, any more safely.

Not long into the work the pair were hit by a high explosive shell. Joe died instantly and Lt. Russel 12 hours later.

They were buried side by side in the Hersin Communal Cemetery, near the town of Noureux-Mines in northern France.

A letter of tribute from Captain A J Hillman was sent to Miriam and published in Kalgoorlie's former *Western Argus* newspaper.

As a widow with two children she was granted a pension of three pounds and fifteen shillings a fortnight.

She raised her sons with the help of Janet and Tom Matthews, friends she and Joe made on their voyage to Australia in 1913.

Miriam died in Subiaco in 1948.

Me? I'm proud to be a Carden in-law — I married Joe's younger son's elder daughter Patricia.

Twenty-seven years after Joe's death in war-torn Europe and at the end of a second world war costing further millions of lives, my generation was toddling into a future of peace and prosperity.

Reflections on Anzac Day stir feelings of deep-down gratitude.

Let's we forget.

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

#### April - May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 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	May 1	2	3	4	5	6



# Little Rat Island inspires fossil-hunting gem

Ed Watson

WHEN you picture an idyllic childhood, a few images may spring to mind.

Growing up on a small, sunny island off the coast may be one of them – and local shopkeeper Elvi Joy says she wouldn't have had it any other way.

Elvi is well-known around town as the owner of Velvet Crystal, a shop and museum in Toodyay that features an amazing collection of gems, fossils and crystals.

What might not be so well known is Elvi grew up on one of the 122 islands dotted along the Houtman Abrolhos archipelago.

This remote string of islands, about 60km offshore from Geraldton, has long been a favourite destination for adventurous tourists and is a recreational fishing hotspot.

It also brings a significant proportion of the State's Western rock lobster haul, with 22 of the islands contributing to an industry worth around \$430 million each year.

Elvi, who spent her early years on Little Rat Island, says much of the appeal of Abrolhos lies in what is to be found beneath its gleaming emerald waters.

Growing up in this magical marine environment meant time spent exploring, fossicking and beachcombing.

But along with the mesmerising marine life, these coral-fringed islands are also home to one of the state's darkest tales from history.

The 400-year-old wreck site of the *Batavia*, WA's number-one dive spot, marks one of the most disturbing incidents in the history of Australia's west coast.

Of the 200 people who survived the wreck, only about 70 would survive the



Elvi Joy's Velvet Crystal shop and museum.

bizarre melee of mayhem and murder that subsequently unfolded.

Living on an island, life can indeed present some challenges, but thankfully those faced by Elvi's family weren't quite so dramatic.

The lack of formal education was one such difficulty, but for a youngster it also came with highly prized benefits.

A school opened on Big Rat Island in later years, but in Elvi's time it was home-schooling or nothing.

With commitment and help from the mainland, home schooling forged a well-rounded education that gave Elvi strong academic foundations.

But if I was a child living on a storybook adventure island with the choice to either sit in class or spend a day beachcombing with turtles or swimming with dolphins ... between you and me I might just be wagging school a little bit.

These early years gave Elvi a taste of non-conformity and a love for the wonders of nature, as can be seen today in her handmade jewellery and giftware.

Finding pieces of washed-up, beaten-up glass lying frosted on the beach sand gave her an eye for flotsam that could be worked into knick-knacks that were both functional and beautiful.

This provided a stepping-stone to opening the first stall of her wares at the Subiaco Pavilion Markets around 20 years ago.

It was here that Elvi's love of minerals – which would play a big part in shaping her life – began to crystallise.

Another factor shaping her life was the charm of Toodyay, which began drawing Elvi in thanks to Roz Davidson's antiques shop.

Housed in what is now the much-loved Christmas shop, and was formerly the local IGA, Roz's antiques backed onto a courtyard shared by the local crocheting club.

Elvi had meanwhile established another stall at Station Street Markets in Subiaco, after the original Pavilion Markets closed down in 2008.

But life has its own weave and weft, and soon Elvi found herself with another space for her wares in the Toodyay courtyard where crystals, crocheting and Roz's antiques intertwined.

That was about 14 years ago, and after a



Elvi Joy with part of her extensive Toodyay treasure trove of fossils, rocks and gemstones.

short stint Elvi moved to the shop at the rear of the courtyard, with the historic Bushells mural on its backside, and Velvet Crystal began evolving into what it is today.

A great friendship also evolved during that time, and after Roz had finished with her antiques business, she began developing Toodyay Locals Care, helping local homeless people and others in need.

Elvi's friendship with Roz helped get things moving with those early days, firming into a partnership that provided support whenever needed.

These days a Friday night will find the pair hard at work over a hot stove, volunteering to prepare evening meals at the Toodyay Club.

But the creative impulses born of Elvi's early island life were never far from her work ethic, and her interests became more focused when she completed a jewellery and silversmithing course.

Her creative instincts drew her to the Avon riverbed in summer and a trove of tumbled glass she formed into her uniquely beautiful wind chimes.

The early education of fossicking in the sands of Little Rat Island was now beginning to pay dividends.

Then, about four years ago, she tumbled upon the Kalamunda Lapidary Club and ever since she has had rocks in the head and gemstones on her mind.

Twice a year she heads out with the club into the wilderness.

The next fossicking trip will see them at Kalgoorlie in search of the common opal and other local minerals.

After buying a tumbling machine, many of her polished finds have made their way into the shop on display or for sale.

It's always worth checking out your own backyard for its hidden gems.

Elvi's esoteric knowledge of the geological qualities of her collection is worth experiencing.

She acquired a number of pieces from a retired mines inspector, many of which are undoubtedly of museum quality – the crystal box is a shining example.

It isn't surprising that Elvi has landed in Toodyay with its fantastic lifestyle.

Living in the bush is not so far away from growing up on a remote offshore island.

But as Elvi points out, "You can take the girl away from the ocean, but," patting her chest, "you can't take the ocean away from here."

## New doctor signs 5-year contract with shire

Continued from Page 1.

DR LAWAL said he was looking forward to returning to work in Toodyay.

He said the Alma Beard Medical Centre would re-open for a minimum of four days a week, starting with two doctors.

"High-level" talks were underway to restore local pathology services, and he was also negotiating with a "couple of physiotherapists" for Toodyay.

A current housing shortage in Toodyay made it difficult to attract suitably qualified staff and he was looking to acquire local property to help accommodate that need.

Dr Lawal said he was married with three children.

He had worked for a year as a GP in Toodyay until last November after doing similar work in Northam the previous year.

He was currently living temporarily in Northam but planned to buy a house in Toodyay.

Dr Lawal said he had also worked in Tasmania for four years after studying medicine at Lagos in Nigeria and working for three years in UK hospitals.

He was also working as a senior instructor with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and had spent the past 10

years teaching surgical trainees, junior emergency doctors and other GPs interested in emergency medicine.

"I love country medicine, which is why I am pleased to return to Toodyay," Dr Lawal said.

"I'm hoping also to attract medical students to Toodyay to see if they like working in the country and to train as future country doctors."

## You can't please everyone

THREE cent of local people think Toodyay is a "poor" place to live.

Another 15 per cent think Toodyay is "OK" while 46 per cent say it's "good".

A total of 37 per cent of people believe Toodyay is an "excellent" place to live.

However, 42 per cent reckon the shire does a "poor" or "terrible" job, and 36 per cent say it's just "OK".

The results reflect the views of 520 people who responded to an independent survey commissioned by the Shire of Toodyay.

More details are available on the shire website at toodyay.wa.gov.au.

# Darren West

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# The Toodyay Herald

## Saving Julimar

THIS month's front page is dominated by the obvious good news that Toodyay is about to get its doctors back.

Important too is the story that everyone is talking about since last month's *Herald* – local real estate agent Tony Maddox's legal woes with the Waugal.

But also on Page 1 this month is a story that will have a far greater impact on all of us for decades to come.

New kid on the block Chalice Mining has just formally announced to the world that Toodyay is destined to become a key international player in the global transition to renewable energy.

Straddling Julimar Road and north to Dewars Pool is one of the world's richest deposits of the 'green' metals palladium, platinum, nickel, copper and cobalt.

These rare and extremely valuable metals are driving new technologies for renewable energy and electric vehicles.

And right now, Chalice is telling the world that large-scale open-cut mining is the best way to get it out of the ground.

And that's just for the seven per cent that lies under private farmland that Chalice has bought south of Julimar Road.

The rest of it runs 27km north through the Julimar forest, which is also a State-designated conservation park.

This environmentally sensitive State Government decision was made well before Chalice pegged the forest three years ago to discover what lies under the surface.

And therein lies the problem.

The forest is home to many rare and endangered species of birds, animals and plants, including the black cockatoo, chuditch and woylie, and more than 30 types of orchids.

The forest and nearby farmland is also an important water catchment area for the Avon River, which feeds into the Swan.

Older residents will remember the 1970s when mass protests erupted over US mining giant Alcoa's plans to mine the Darling Ranges for bauxite.

It didn't stop large-scale destruction of the jarrah forest for open-cut mining, or massive alumina refineries being built at Pinjarra and Waroona.

But that was when fossil fuels ruled the world and global warming was not such a concern.

Now it is different, and the trade-off is much more important than ever before.

It seems inevitable that we're going to have a massive, industrial-scale mine on our back doorstep – at least on the farmland – for decades to come.

Scraping the ore directly out of the ground may be the cheapest option but it should not be the only consideration.

It is incumbent on all of us – including miners – to do as much as we can to save the little that is left of our planet's natural ecosystems, including its life-giving forests and waterways.

Chalice can help by insisting that any future mining must be underground – not open cut – and that it should not be allowed to wreck the natural environment.

We owe that responsibility to future generations.

Michael Sinclair-Jones  
Editor



The way we were – the pioneering Cook family brought beekeeping from NSW to Toodyay in the 1890s and began producing top-grade WA honey from hives placed in virgin forest in Julimar. The late Sam Cook jnr started work in the family business about 100 years ago and is pictured using a smoker to avoid being stung while working the hives with two assistants. A display of their work can be seen at Connor's Mill in Stirling Terrace. Photo: Cook family collection.

## LETTERS

### Nothing to do with vote

I AM CONCERNED that some Toodyay residents are using last month's *Herald* Page 1 story about Aboriginal heritage law as a platform to promote a 'no vote' in Australia's upcoming referendum on an Indigenous Voice to Parliament.

I would like to point out that the two issues are completely separate and should be kept as such.

Toodyay real estate agent Tony Maddox was charged with not seeking permission under a 1973 WA Aboriginal heritage law when he built a crossing over Boyagerring Creek which runs through his property.

It has nothing to do with the Voice to Parliament which is a product of the Uluru Statement From The Heart.

The Uluru Statement was published in May 2017 after a four-day gathering of more than 250 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders in Central Australia.

The purpose of a national referendum is to give recognition to Aboriginal people in the Australian Constitution.

This is to give them a voice on issues facing Aboriginal people to do with health, housing, the environment, culture and self-determination.

It has nothing to do with a republic, Aboriginal sovereignty or a treaty.

After speaking to Tony personally about his court case, my impression was that this is a dispute between neighbours.

Tony doesn't appear to have a problem with Aboriginal people, the Waugal or the law.

His claim is merely that he wasn't aware of the law or the required planning process before he upgraded his creek crossing to gain year-around access to his house.

The planning process involves an application to the WA Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, who is not an Aboriginal person.

I hope this clears up this issue and that the residents of Toodyay, who are currently at the forefront for reconciliation in Western Australia, will not lose their status.

Online information about the upcoming referendum can be found on the Reconciliation Australia website at [www.reconciliation.org.au](http://www.reconciliation.org.au).

Sara Whincup  
Toodyay

### Chorus of conflict

IT IS being called 'The Voice' but in fact it is a multi-tiered structure with, as its foundation, the Australian Aborigine, every one of whom is an Australian citizen and all, over the age of 18, are eligible to vote at local, state and federal level.

In addition, for representation on official matters, there are 30 land councils and 2700 Aboriginal corporations pleading their cause.

At federal level there is the Reconciliation Action Plan, funded by the federal

government, BHP Foundation, corporate sponsors and private donations.

Their headquarters are in Canberra and the salary of the CEO is \$180,000 annually, plus superannuation.

This Plan has five core pillars:

1. Race relations, building two-way relationships, based on trust and respect.
2. Equality and equity.
3. Institutional integrity.
4. Unity.
5. Historical acceptance.

It is interesting to note that Rio Tinto's Plan was revoked after their mishandling of the Juukan Gorge fiasco.

Bit players in this drama are Dame Nature, a mythical creature of Western culture, held responsible for 'fire and flood and famine, for drought and flooding rains'.

The opposite number is the Wagyl, equally mythical, reputed to be the custodian of water.

The Wagyl is supported by Planning, Lands Heritage, a State Government initiative whose powers can override freehold land title.

It all adds up to a chorus of conflict, not seen to be remedied by yet more legislation.

Geoff Brown  
Jurien Bay

### Wagyl overdrive

TOODYAY social media went into overdrive after last month's *Herald* front-page story about a State Government prosecution for an alleged breach of the Aboriginal Heritage Act (1972).

Negative comments about Aboriginal heritage law and its cultural background were amplified.

Surely an alleged breach of a State law could have been a key discussion point?

Unfortunately not.

Some comments bordered on offensive, there was scaremongering about the proposed Voice to Parliament, and others mocked the spiritual significance to Aboriginal people of the Wagyl – the mythical Dreamtime serpent that is said to have formed the Avon River.

Those commenting would no doubt be aware that all cultures and religions – including Christianity – have a spiritual and mythological 'supreme being'.

All have historical sites and sacred stories handed down through countless generations.

As for State laws, those professionally dealing in property would be in an informed position – more than most – to check regulations as a matter of course.

In regard to waterways, any unplanned development can restrict the natural flow of the river and have environmental impact.

It's not just a heritage matter.

In my view, heritage laws – be they for Aboriginal people or early settlers – and environment (for bushland and waterways) should always be considered as a matter of course in any proposed development.

During my time working in WA's North-West, Aboriginal heritage law was understood and acted upon for developments associated with mining, pastoral, land and main roads.

Section 17 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act states that it is an offence to excavate, destroy, damage, conceal or alter an Aboriginal site.

To help people understand their legal obligations, the State Government published Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Guidelines.

The guidelines are particularly helpful when considering the potential impact to Aboriginal heritage and the nature and level of that impact, and is available at [www.wa.gov.au](http://www.wa.gov.au).

Helen Shanks  
former WA State Government Director  
Pilbara (Aboriginal Affairs),  
Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal  
Corporation (Toodyay) volunteer member

### Where's the water?

THERE are some things which should be taken into account in mining of Julimar by Chalice Gold.

To extract the valuable metals from the deposits would require vast amounts of water to 'float' the minerals out of the slurry, with very toxic chemicals.

Where would they get the water?

From aquifers around Perth – a valuable source of drinking water for Perth?

Desalinated from the coast?

The richness of the mineral deposits seems to be around 10 per cent of the ore to be extracted.

The sludge from the processing would be extremely toxic and would have to be securely dammed to prevent contamination of waterways and coastal aquifers.

There could possibly be court action from neighbouring properties for airborne pollution of their drinking water from their roofs.

Wildlife would have difficulty in suing the company.

Esperance had a problem a few years ago, with birds falling out of the sky because of lax handling of lead concentrates.

There is credence for the mining in that their minerals will help to decarbonise and ameliorate global warming.

In the business of removing carbon dioxide, the Julimar Conservation Park is doing a valuable job in this regard and will continue to do so regardless of the world's monetary systems.

The most valuable mineral deposits seem to be on private land and could go ahead if the problems stated above are securely managed and enforced.

Chalice seems hell-bent on getting mining in Julimar Conservation Park, which is not their property and never should be.

I have lived next to Julimar Forest since 1996 and have been encouraged by the re-establishment of endangered species within.

Chalice could wipe out all this good work.  
John White  
Julimar

Continued on Page 8

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.

**Wheatbelt Clinical Psychology**  
94 Stirling Terrace Toodyay WA 6566

**Richard Taylor**  
Clinical Psychologist

Foundation member  
Australian Clinical Psychology Association

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# Chalice flags open-cut mine as forest drilling continues

Michael Sinclair-Jones

CHALICE Mining has announced a “strong option” to build a kilometre-wide open pit mine on Julimar farmland after revealing a 50 per cent increase in the size of its “world class” deposit in the Keating Road area.

The company also announced “enormous growth potential” in a much larger area that extends north into the Julimar State Forest.

Current exploration drilling in the conservation park is limited by State Government restrictions backed by the Shire of Toodyay and conservationist groups.

The nearby farmland find is estimated to be worth billions of dollars at today’s prices.

Chalice told the Australian Stock Exchange last month that it had started seeking business partners to enter into formal agreements to mine and process millions of tonnes of Julimar ore over the next few decades.

The company’s share prices rose by nearly 17 per cent to \$7.49 at the close of trading at the end of last month after rising steadily from \$5.96 over the previous fortnight.

The stock exchange granted Chalice’s request for a share trading halt on Monday March 27 pending the company’s announcement next day.

The Chalice statement said that drilling on private farmland south of Julimar Road had increased the size of its known deposit to three million tonnes.

A further 27km of forest north of Julimar Road was “effectively untested” due to low-impact drilling constraints imposed by the State Government last year.

The three-year-old discovery consists of palladium, platinum and gold which sell for up to US\$1800 an ounce on the world market, and nickel, copper and cobalt worth US\$10,500 to US\$72,000 per ton.

Chalice is touting its discovery as a leading new global supply of “green metals” to power electric vehicles and reduce carbon emissions from burning fossil fuels.

The discovery will also generate millions

of dollars in additional State revenue from mining royalties in what the company describes as a “long-life” project.

Chalice told the stock exchange there was “enormous growth potential” on the private farmland it now owns – and in the Julimar State Forest further north.

More than 1000 sampling holes had been drilled to a depth of 800m on Chalice-owned private farms south of Julimar Road.

A further 100 test holes had been drilled on a 10km stretch of State forest on the northern side of Julimar Road.

Chalice told the stock exchange that only seven per cent of the ore body is located on private farmland to the south, while the rest – which is largely untested – stretches 27km north through the forest to Dewars Pool.

“While we already have a tier-1 scale deposit which has the potential to underpin a world-class, long-life green metals project, the resource base is expected to grow,” Chalice said.

“Our multi-pronged exploration campaign will therefore continue over the coming months as we work to unlock the full potential of the 30km-long Julimar complex.”

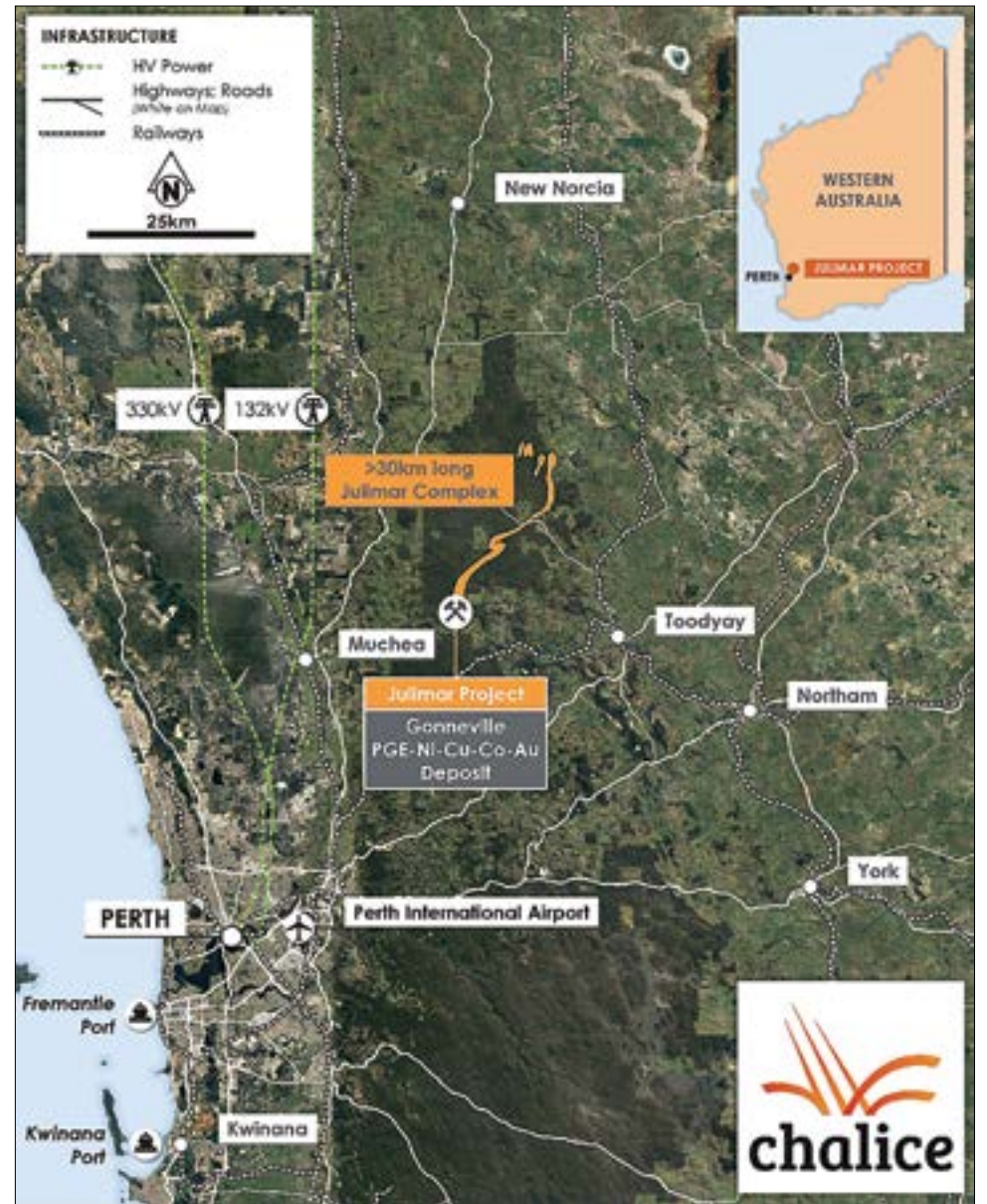
“The Julimar project is favourably located with access to established road, rail port and high-voltage power infrastructure nearby, plus access to a significant drive-in drive-out mining workforce in the Perth surrounds.”

In a separate statement to *The Herald*, a Chalice spokesperson said that “any mining will require strict government approvals and will consider environmental and social impacts”.

The statement referred to “decades of mining” with “open pit and underground mining scenarios continuing to be considered”.

“Low-impact exploration drilling is continuing within the southern portion of the State Forest,” the spokesperson said.

“While initial results have confirmed the prospectivity of the region at depth, no economic deposit has yet been identified in



Chalice map included in last month’s announcement to the Australian Stock Exchange.

the area, and there is no certainty that mining will ever occur in the forest.”

Conservationists have been lobbying the WA Government to upgrade the forest from conservation park to national park status to protect it from mining.

Concerns have also been raised about the large volumes of ground water likely to be needed to mine and process millions of tonnes of ore in the coming decades, as well as the environmental impact of large-scale industrial air pollution and noise.

# Toodyay’s tangled tale of two crossings

Continued from Page 1.

“The Waugal is a mythical serpent,” the prosecution said.

“It is believed that any alteration to the Waugal’s home could scare it from the water, causing the water to dry up and cause harm to the surrounding environment and people.”

However, Section 62 of the Act states that “it is a defence for the person charged to prove that he did not know and could not reasonably be expected to have known that the place or object to which the charge

relates was a place or object to which this Act applies.”

Mr Maddox has claimed repeatedly that he did not know that Boyagerring Brook was covered by Aboriginal heritage law.

There was standing room only at the back of the Northam Magistrate’s Court at 10am on Monday March 20 when Mr Maddox was summoned to appear before the bench.

The public gallery was filled with about 25 of Mr Maddox’s Toodyay supporters, including staff from his real estate business.



Shire of Toodyay rebuilt crossing over Boyagerring Brook near Toodyay District High School.



Tony Maddox’s rebuilt crossing over Boyagerring Brook at Nunile. Photos: Clive Millett.

He earlier told *The Herald* that a conviction could bar him from selling real estate and put seven people out of work.

Magistrate Webb said she disliked seeing such a big crowd in her court and moved the case to near the top of a long list to enable her to deal with it quickly.

Mr Maddox was represented by Northam lawyer Bernadine Heiderich who sought an adjournment to enable her client to get further legal advice before entering a plea.

Magistrate Donna Webb adjourned the

case to Monday April 17 after a WA Heritage Department lawyer agreed to the new hearing date via audio link from Perth.

After the brief hearing, Mr Maddox was joined by a big crowd of supporters outside the court (see Page 1 photo) for an interview with an ABC Wheatbelt radio news reporter.

Mr Maddox repeated his claim that he did not know that Boyagerring Brook was protected by Aboriginal heritage law when he built the creek crossing, fountain and pond on his property.



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# Seriously hurt duo cut from car wreck before airlift

## Police Beat

With Senior Constable  
Kevan French  
Toodyay Police Station



Emergency services attend a serious single-vehicle crash on Toodyay-Goomalling Road.

TWO RAC rescue helicopters were needed to fly two seriously injured men to Royal Perth Hospital after another serious car crash on Toodyay-Goomalling Road.

A 46-year-old male driver from Perth and his 62-year-old male passenger from Toodyay became trapped in the front seats after their car (pictured right) collided with a tree just after 1pm on Monday March 26.

No other vehicles appeared to be involved in the crash near Nunile Road.

After a passing motorist raised the alarm police closed the road as ambulance volunteers gave emergency life support to the trapped occupants.

Rescue choppers flew in from Perth as Toodyay Fire and Rescue volunteers used 'Jaws of Life' hydraulic equipment to cut the injured men from the wreckage.

Tyre marks on the bitumen show the car skidded across the road before slamming into a tree on the right.

The impact shoved a tree branch into the engine compartment.

Police believe speed and alcohol may have been contributing factors and are awaiting blood test results.

Four people died in three car smashes on the same road in November last year.



Toodyay police radar shows the alleged speed of a vehicle stopped near school.

### Twice speed limit near school

A TEENAGE motorist is unlikely to be back behind the wheel any time soon after he was allegedly clocked on police radar travelling at 124km/h in a 60km/h zone last month.

A Toodyay police officer travelling in the opposite direction spotted the 18-year-old male driver from Two Rocks heading into town near Connor (Goomalling Road) Bridge.

The teenager was travelling alone when stopped near the Toodyay District High School at about 4pm on Saturday March 25.

He pulled over immediately and allegedly told police he wasn't paying attention and didn't know what speed he was doing.

The teenager was charged with reckless driving and a Nissan Patrol ute impounded on the spot, which automatically applies to charges of driving at more than 45km/h over the speed limit.

In this case, police radar (pictured left) recorded an alleged speed of more than twice the limit.

### Perth child drove to Toodyay

ANOTHER young driver got into trouble at about 7.45am on Tuesday March 25 when he was spotted driving a suspected stolen vehicle in the Toodyay townsite.

The Perth car was reported on a local Facebook group as being seen in Coondle at about 6am.

An off-duty local police officer on his way to work noticed the same vehicle being driven erratically with the engine revved at low speed in Charcoal Lane near the Toodyay IGA store.

The officer went to the Toodyay Police Station to get a patrol car and began searching for the vehicle.

He looked near the school and then drove back into main townsite before spotting the vehicle parked next to Butterfly Cottage at the service station near Newcastle Bridge.

The driver turned out to be a 15-year-old boy who said he had taken the family car from his home in Perth and driven it to Toodyay to see his girlfriend.

The car was owned by his grandparents who declined to report it as stolen when contacted by police, instead driving the boy and the car back to Perth.

The boy, who was charged with driving without a licence, fronted the Northam Children's Court at the end of last month.

He had no prior convictions but faces a mandatory period of disqualification from holding a driver's licence from the date of the alleged offence.

### Driver survives 3am car wreck

IN ANOTHER serious single-vehicle crash last month, a 20-year-old male driver from Dowerin escaped with minor injuries after his single-cab ute also slammed head-on into a roadside tree (pictured right).

At about 3am on Saturday March 25 the vehicle veered into the gravel verge on the left-hand side of a bend in the Bindoon-Dewars Pool Road.

The driver, who was heading towards Toodyay, hit a tree after overcorrecting and losing control of the vehicle.

He was taken to Northam Hospital. The wrecked site was near Bindoon Springs Road in a 110km/h zone.

The driver recorded a negative result when breath-tested for alcohol.

### You'll see more of us at Easter

THIS month's Easter holiday long weekend is a good time to remember that nobody plans a crash.

A brief moment of inattention or a mistake while driving, riding, cycling or even walking can cause serious road trauma.

Ask yourself – what can I do to help make every journey safe?

We urge all motorists to take extra care this Easter, particularly as the onset of wet weather makes our roads more slippery while reducing driver visibility.

Please drive to the conditions, including when braking on wet roads.

If the conditions mean it is not safe to continue, we encourage you to park in a safe spot until you are happy to proceed.

This includes driving on flooded roads where water depths can be deceptive.

Don't rush at a stretch of water in the hope of making it safely to the other side.

Double driver demerit points will apply from 12.01am on Thursday April 6 until 11.59pm on Monday April 10.

During that period you can expect to see more police on the road.

Please stay safe and enjoy the long weekend break.

Happy Easter everyone.



Another single-vehicle crash on Bindoon-Dewars Pool Road in the early hours of Saturday March 25.

# TOODYAY

MRB 2339

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## 'Bloody useless' data breach laws to change

Computer Safety  
Phil Hart

AS THE number of people affected by data breaches continues to grow, many are wondering what is being done to address this issue.

Companies like Optus and Medibank have experienced data breaches affecting millions of people and the Australian government has acknowledged the severity of the problem.

The good news is that the Federal Government has announced an overhaul of the existing cyber security plan, with the goal of reducing unreported data breaches.

Home Affairs Minister Clare O'Neil has described the existing law as "bloody useless".

She said the government was considering making it a legal requirement to report all data breaches within 72 hours.

Reducing cyber-attacks to zero is impossible, but effective legislation and cybersecurity measures can help to reduce the likelihood of successful attacks.

While details about a new National Office for Cyber Security have yet to be made public, the government says it will aim to have more effective legislation in place by early 2024.

Until then, individuals and businesses should remain vigilant about the threat of data breaches and respond accordingly.

Staying informed about news of any new data breaches is essential, as is taking steps to protect personal and sensitive information online.

## You must tell cops if you lose passport

SaferToodyay  
Desraé Clarke

WITH international travel taking off again after Covid restrictions, now is a good time to reassess the value and safety of your Australian passport.

For example, did you know you must, by law, report the loss or theft of your passport as soon as possible after the event?

The Australian Passports Act 2005 has penalties for Australian citizens who do not report the loss or theft of their passport.

This law aims to protect your identity and prevent your passport being misused.

If your passport goes missing phone 131 232 or contact the nearest Australian Diplomatic or Consular Mission if overseas.

Any passport reported lost or stolen will be cancelled and can no longer be used.

Police should also be alerted to the loss, and you should present a copy of the police report when applying for a replacement.

Contact Toodyay police on 9574 9555 or call Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000.



## EMERGENCY SERVICES

# Now is the ideal time to start your annual garden clean up

**Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade**  
Peter Brennan, Captain

THE BRIGADE responded to three callouts last month, including to Cobbler Pool where several campfires had been lit.

The call-outs required a total of 22 crew hours with volunteers working weekend rosters.

Our recent recruiting drive has proved successful and we welcome some new arrivals in the Toodyay community to our ranks.

As a bonus some of these new members come with previous bushfire brigade experience.

Restricted burning started on March 14 and will continue until April 30, during which time permits to burn must be obtained from the shire.

Preference is given to primary producers for crop preparation purposes, with no permits issued for social occasions or to burn rubbish.

Permit conditions must be strictly observed, with failure to obtain a permit or breaches of conditions risking fines or prosecution.

Now is the ideal time as the days begin to cool to start clearing properties of fallen leaves and branches, dead material in gardens and freshly shredded paper bark.

Green waste can be mulched at home, taken to the Shire of Toodyay recycling tip for mulching or burnt onsite after restrictions are lifted on April 30.

After that date the brigade reminds everyone to be vigilant while burning garden refuse and to have a reliable source of water and a good rake on hand to maintain a safe perimeter around the fire.

A recommended precaution is to cover the waste pile with a tarpaulin and wait for rain before burning.

The pile can be burnt after the rain while the surrounding area is damp.

Every year we attend fires where a homeowner has been distracted and a gust of wind has caused the fire to escape their control.

We urge you to please remain vigilant and stay safe at all times.



Toodyay Central Bush Fire Brigade members continue to seek new volunteers.

## You can rest assured – we don't throw ambo volunteers in at the deep end

**St John Toodyay Sub Centre**  
Pam Tennant

HAVE you ever considered becoming a volunteer with the St John Toodyay sub centre, but thought it might be too confronting?

Maybe you have time to volunteer, but don't feel confident attending a motor vehicle accident or dealing with a heart attack.

As with many other sub centres in regional areas, Toodyay is often asked to do inter-hospital transfers.

In our case it is usually transfers from Northam to either Midland, Royal Perth or Sir Charles Gairdner hospital.

Sometimes the transfer may be from the Goomalling to the Northam hospital, or from Northam Hospital to a care home.

Inter-hospital transfers require a crew of two volunteers, and during transit they are mostly required to monitor the patient, who has been stabilised at the hospital.

Initially all new volunteers crew with two experienced ambulance officers and are not thrown in at the deep end.

Only when you feel confident at being part of a two-person crew would you be added to the patient transfer roster.

If you want to help our community with such transfers we would happily accept you as a volunteer.

We provide training and support for you to achieve the level of expertise you are comfortable with.

After attending our normal training course and meeting the criteria you become an emergency medical attendant.

The experience of doing patient transfers may give you the confidence to add your name to the full roster, but that is up to you.

For further enquiries please phone this writer (Pam Tennant) on 0429 555 409.

During March our volunteer ambulance officers attended 29 call-outs and the vehicles travelled 1570kms.

The Community Transport Service helped 21 clients travel to medical appointments from Toodyay and surrounds to Midland, Nedlands, Perth as well as Northam.

The sub centre continues to be busy re-organising the storeroom, training equipment and maintaining vehicles.

Our administration officer Debbie will take annual leave from April 17 to May 7.

During this time if the office is not open please direct urgent enquiries to Northam Regional Office on 9621 1633.

We will also check the telephone messages and contact you when possible.

Thanks to all our dedicated volunteers, be they ambulance officers, community transport drivers, or community support officers for their ongoing commitment and contributions.

## Wheatbelt fires benefit from \$45,000 in grants

THE VOLUNTEER Bush Fire Brigades at Coondle-Nunile and Calingiri have received funding from Western Power as part of grants totalling \$45,000.

The grants are used by brigades to buy supplementary equipment for their daily operations, such as communication devices, technology, cleaning gear and other supplies.

Members of volunteer brigades drop everything at a moment's notice to help out during wildfires and emergencies.

Communities in the Toodyay district rely on them to protect life and property.

Shire of Moora & Victoria Plains Community Emergency Services Manager said Western Power's Bushfire Association \$2000 grant allowed its Calingiri Bush Fire Brigade to upgrade its emergency support trailer with equipment, including a fridge, power source, shade and seating.

The upgrade also benefits the surrounding brigades in Victoria Plains, as it will enable them to provide better support during emergency situations.

The addition of a fridge and power source will ensure food and drinks can be kept cold and will deliver power for communication devices.

The shade and seating will also offer much-needed relief for our volunteers during extended operations.



Coondle-Nunile Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade volunteers use desk-top technology to review how resources were deployed at the recent Cobbler Pool fire.

## New air fryer and coffee maker helps to keep hungry fires on their toes

**Coondle-Nunile Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade**  
Chris McDonald

OVER the past month we have spent time repairing and replacing broken and worn equipment as we recover from the recent major fire at Cobbler Pool.

We are pleased to see our 1.4 fire truck Millie back in our fire shed.

She has been undergoing repairs after an incident at the beginning of the fire season.

Crews have been enjoying a break with only a few minor fires in the shire requiring a turnout.

Their downtime has been improved with a coffee maker and an air fryer, secured through a Western Power grant, which are helping keep our firefighters alert and fed.

Crews also undertook training this month using our desktop scenario kit to review how resources were deployed at the Cobbler Pool fire and discuss various hypothetical scenarios.

Crews were given an introduction to the Incident Reporting System used by DFES to log fires we attend.

We welcome our new member Michael Moore and look forward to getting him on the fire trucks.

As we move through autumn we start the Djeran season of the Nyoongar calendar where nights become cooler and hopefully days cooler and wetter.

However, fires can start any time, so check your firebreaks to ensure they are clear of fallen tree litter.

A walk around your firebreaks with a leaf blower is one way to get your daily exercise.

Please check the Shire of Toodyay website for up-to-date information on fire permits and burning season restrictions.

Have you downloaded My Bushfire Plan App? It is available for Apple and Android devices.

You can also visit [www.dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/bushfire](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/bushfire) for more information on bushfire plans.

If you would like to be a volunteer firefighter all the brigades in the shire are looking for new people to join up.

Check the [fes.vol.org.au](http://fes.vol.org.au) website for more information.



**St John**

**HLTAID003**

## “Provide First Aid”

**Next one day course  
To be held on  
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**St John, Stirling Terrace Toodyay**

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For further details phone:

**9621 1633**

Email: [firstaidwheatbelt@stjohnwa.com.au](mailto:firstaidwheatbelt@stjohnwa.com.au)





# Noongar Elder revisits the land of his Avon Valley ancestors

Sara Wlazlowski

ELVIS MOODY is a local Yued Ballardong Elder raised in Toodyay.

He and I are walking along the Bilya walk trail from Toodyay to Redbank Pool, about one-and-a-half kilometres south of the town.

Redbank Pool is of great significance to Elvis.

He recalls stories from his mother who, with her tribe, used to walk to the pool daily from their camp at Boyagerring Brook to fish, dive for turtles, hunt for eggs, and catch ducks.

Elvis picks a stem of grass and makes a whistle out of it.

"This is what we used to call the ducks in," he says, blowing it to make a duck-like quack.

I try it and make a rude raspberry sound. "This must be secret blackfella business," I say.

A few metres along the trail, Elvis points to a spot on the opposite side of the river – Goomalling side, he says – where his mother and father used to camp.

"Matthew and Cyndy were babies, I wasn't born yet," he says.

"Woodartjis (little hairy men or spirit people) were calling to Cyndy, and Mum said she saw her crawling out of the tent.

"Mum grabbed Cyndy by the leg and pulled her back in."

Elvis' mother, Frances, was born in 1930.

Her grandfather James Gillespie, buried at Toodyay Cemetery, was of part Scottish ancestry.

James milked cows for Ted Hayes and lived to be 109.

In his later years James lived in a cottage which has since fallen down and is sadly now just a pile of rubble opposite the turn-off to the Toodyay District High School.

Frances, who now lives in Northam, was born in the era of Auber Octavius Neville, WA's Chief Protector of Aborigines, or as he is still referred today by Aboriginal people, 'Neville the Devil'.

During Neville's reign of terror, from 1915 to 1945, any light-skinned Aboriginal child was at risk of being forcibly removed from their parents, placed in a distant mission, and forced to abandon their traditional language and culture.

As part of the children's 'education' girls were trained to be domestic servants and the



Noongar Elder Elvis Moody walks on the Extracts Weir spillway where a reef of rocks in the background is thought to have been a fish trap used by his Ballardong ancestors.

boys to be farm workers.

WA's south-west missions were at Roelands, Moore River, Mogumber and New Norcia, 90km north of Toodyay.

Conditions were pitiful and the corporal punishment severe.

Children removed from their families were sometimes chained to their beds by the neck,

strapped to beds and whipped, or made to hold bricks and whipped or deprived of food if they dropped them.

A plaque at New Norcia's Benedictine Monastery apologises "for the physical, emotional and sexual abuse suffered in this place".

Frances was light-skinned and risked being taken, so her father – also named James – kept the family safe by "keeping moving", always one step ahead of Neville the Devil.

James junior had a horse and cart and was an itinerant worker.

"Grandfather worked everywhere, picking potatoes in Harvey, and other farm work," Elvis remembers.

James junior took his family "all around" through Julimar Forest, Bindoon and Bullsbrook, and then through Guilford.

His daughter Frances was born under a tree near Narrogin on the way to the country of her mother's people, the Wadendi from the Busselton region.

Elvis' father Eric, a Yued man, was not as lucky as Frances.

He spent time as a child in the harsh New Norcia mission under the strict 'care' of the Benedictine monks.

Elvis's paternal grandfather, also Eric, spent time in jail for staging protests to have his children released from the mission.

Eric junior was a woodcutter who cleared land for farmers and later worked for the Toodyay tannin factory.

He and Frances met near the Roelands Native Mission Farm at a time when Aboriginal families feared the oppressive regime of Neville the Devil and mission punishment for being 'Aboriginal'.

Elvis's parents tried to fit themselves and their children into 'white' society.

He attended Toodyay Convent, as did Frances, played football for Toodyay Football Club and attended dances at the town hall where he remembers being a very popular dance partner with the white ladies.

Elvis still loves dancing – it is part of his traditional culture – and he recalls big groups of Noongar men gathering in Northam to dance The Stomp, a 1960s dance craze that was banned by some shire councils.

Elvis was born in 1958 when Aboriginal people weren't counted as part of the Australian population.

Those in WA were barred from voting in state or federal elections and most were paid only minimum wages, if any at all.

It was not until the nation's historic 1967 referendum that Aboriginal people gained the same citizenship rights as other Australians.

Elvis' father, Eric Moody junior, was the first Aboriginal person in Toodyay to buy his own home, in Goddard Street.

Elvis's relationship with the Avon River as he grew up was more a practical one, spearing cobbler from the riverbank for food, diving for turtles, digging up jilgies from the riverbank and scooping up fresh water for drinking.

The river was also a refuge and a playground.

Elvis says he has always felt a special connection to it and was devastated when the Avon was bulldozed in the 1950s and '60s as part of the 'River Training Scheme' to prevent flooding, which he says ruined it.

When I ask Elvis about the Waugul or Rainbow Snake, he says he didn't really learn about the Dreamtime Spirit until he was an adult.

Elvis married a Koori woman, Narrelle (dec.) from Narromine near Dubbo in NSW.

The couple and their six children spent many years working at Coolgardie's Christian Aboriginal Parent Directed School.

Elvis and Narrelle were house parents and one of Elvis's duties was to drive the students back to their remote communities at school holiday time.

He learned about Aboriginal lore, culture and Dreamtime stories from spending time with full-blood tribal men in remote communities.

In recent years, Elvis's family in Northam has been involved with the establishment of that town's Bilya Koort Boodja Cultural Centre next to the Avon River and a revival of local Noongar language.

Elvis is a bowel cancer survivor and has returned to his hometown of Toodyay to settle down.

He spends his time walking the river, carving emu eggs, painting fantastic art, making didgeridoos and tapping sticks, and illustrating children's storybooks.

He makes frequent trips to Coolgardie, where his work is exhibited for sale at Judumul Art Centre, to yarn with full-blood Aboriginal people.

WA's Protector of Aborigines – Neville the Devil – had a vision for the future of full-blood Aboriginal people.

Like many others of that era until the 1950s he believed they would die out from lack of food, as their traditional food sources were being denied to them.

The idea was "half-castes" would "assimilate" into white society and Australians would eventually forget that Aboriginal people ever existed.

But the world's oldest living culture has defied the odds and survived as a proud nation with its own distinct languages, art, beliefs, traditions and identity.

This includes beliefs in ancient spirits such as the Waugul that created our natural waterways in the Dreamtime and which welcomes all of us to our country.

Elvis says "Kiya Wanju, Bilya Koort Boodja – welcome to the country of my ancestors, the river, the land, the heart".

His book *Where Wild Emus Roam* is available at the Shire of Toodyay Visitor Centre in Piesse Street.

## LETTERS

Continued from Page 4

### Big thanks to ambos

PLEASE say 'thank you' to everyone for their cards and offers of help given to me recently.

A special thanks goes to the ambulance men who worked so hard on the night of Wednesday February 22.

Tina Short  
Toodyay

Please send letters and news to:  
news@toodyayherald.com.au

### Thanks to five amazing guys

I JUST wanted to tell you how wonderful the Moondyne Men were in assisting us pack our trailer with furniture to be driven to Albany.

A job I was worried would take us many hours these five amazing guys did it in 90 minutes.

They were so kind and lots of fun but also so well organised and knew what they were doing and were happy with the donation I was able to afford.

From my granddaughter, my friends and myself thank you all so very much.

Jo Hunter, Grace, Kelly and Sarah  
Kelmescott

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## All waterways are significant

**Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal Corporation**

*KAYA* (HELLO).

BEFORE we share more of Toodyay's 45,000 years of Noongar heritage with you this month, we would like to comment on last month's *Herald* Page 1 article 'Toodyay real estate agent fears jail for installing creek crossing on own land'.

While it is not the role of our Corporation to educate others in State Government laws and regulations (we didn't initiate the complaint), perhaps we can highlight here that all waterways are identified as 'heritage sites' due to their cultural significance.

This has been the case for a number of decades under WA's *Aboriginal Heritage Act (1972)*.

While land users should carefully evaluate how a proposed activity may affect heritage, there are also growing concerns regarding environmental impact on our waterways.

Due to tensions around the *Aboriginal Heritage Act*, we will provide more information next month about the Wagyl (spirit snake) and its special connection to the Toodyay Valley.

Now, back to what we love doing – sharing Noongar information.

We see this as a way to acknowledge and embrace our shared history.

The installation of 'Truth Telling' and inclusion of Aboriginal heritage in our Shire of Toodyay museums alongside more recent settler history over the past 200 years is one example.

This month, the Corporation would like to share information about cultural practices linked to ancient trade routes.

Trade was a central part of life for Aboriginal people prior to the colonisation of Australia.

Ancient routes criss-crossed the nation to disperse goods, information, technologies and culture, often far from their origins.

They were often 'mapped' out in song.

The act of trade shaped the way landscapes were understood.

Particular localities became associated with particular goods as different groups made objects with particular skills that were admired elsewhere.

This specialisation was the basis of trade.

Goods traded and exchanged included kangaroo skins, ochre, shells, medicines,

stone, and timber, and tools such as stone axes, which were a vital commodity.

Dreaming songs that were considered valuable for their spiritual and artistic value were also passed from one group to another.

Due to the topography of the land, many modern roads now trace the paths of much these older Aboriginal trails.

Noongar trails to cultural sites across fertile grass lands and trails along Toodyay Brook, Gugulja (Avon River) and its tributaries were all impacted by the unexpected arrival of British settlers who immediately began parcelling and fencing off the land.

Noongar people were displaced and denied access to their waterways and ancient trade routes, including an important white ochre site at Bejoording, which is heritage registered.

Practical knowledge was needed for survival and navigation as people travelled the land.

Important sites and locations on a trade route were linked through Songlines.

They acted as a map of the land that enabled different tribal groups to know the route to their destination by memorising the songs as a form of Aboriginal memory code.

The ancient routes with their Songlines included many trees that were deliberately marked with scars.

These were important markers along the way and continue to exist to this day.

Ancient routes formed a vital part of Aboriginal culture and practices, providing important knowledge, values and wisdom, and a way to connect people to their land.

These connections include ceremony, rituals, totems, storytelling, dance, songs and Dreaming stories about a sacred spirit snake – the Wagyl – that formed the Avon Valley in the Creation Time.

This extensive trade, navigation, practical knowledge, resource sharing and sustainable land management practices (article coming soon) show Noongar society as a resourceful, structured and connected culture.

This is at odds with the negative and false narrative embodied in colonial records since the 1830s.

What a privilege we all have to live in this culturally rich place.

For more local Noongar information, head to [noongarkaartdijin.com.au](http://noongarkaartdijin.com.au) or visit our NoongarKaartdijin Facebook page.

## Enjoy a cuppa while you take part in Local Voices survey to support your local P&C

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

WE THANK members and school staff who attended our annual general meeting and Term One members' meeting at the end of February.

Congratulations and welcome to the following members who volunteered for the 2023 committee: Dani Xeureb (secretary), Natasha Hof (vice president), Heather McGlasson (treasurer), and Rose Murfit, Danni Cottam and Anita Davey (committee members).

We appreciate Mr David Ball's continued involvement as Toodyay DHS Principal and an ex-officio member of the committee.

During our AGM the P&C reflected on an incredible past year, while at our term one members' meeting we approved donations of \$1000 for the Year 10 retreat and up to \$2500 for the purchase of tables and decodable books to support small-group learning in primary years.

With staff input, members generated a wish list of activities to consider for funding in 2023, including the purchase of decodable readers for the Multi Lit literacy programs, a curriculum-based excursion for every year group, and refurbishment of the school's undercover area, including a mural and mounted audio sound system.

We need the continued involvement of parents in fundraising events throughout the year as we work through these ideas and

determine how the P&C can support them.

The school's annual swimming carnival on February 24 was a fabulous day with students, staff, and parents having fun in the sun in various activities.

We thank everyone who donated baked goods or helped at the stall or canteen.

The stall and sausage sizzle raised \$330 and \$500 respectively.

You can also help the P&C by completing the Voconiq Local Voices survey and choosing the P&C as recipient of your \$10 reward.

Chalice Mining is giving communities neighbouring their Julimar Project an opportunity to express their views and experiences through this online survey.

By way of thanks, participants receive a \$10 e-token to pledge to registered local community groups.

Toodyay DHS P&C is registered to receive these rewards as a cash donation.

Please make yourself a cuppa and take the survey, knowing students will benefit from the time you take to have your say.

You can visit the website to learn more at [voconiqlocalvoices.com/julimar](http://voconiqlocalvoices.com/julimar).

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

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



Newlyweds Brayden Manuel and Carly Evans.

## Splashing out with a swimming carnival, wedding and a band

**Bolgart News**  
Pam McGill

A LOCAL couple took the plunge at Mandoon Estate in Caversham recently.

Brayden Manuel and Carly Evans tied the knot in a wedding ceremony on Friday February 24, surrounded by family and friends.

Brayden is the son of Stephanie Guthrie of Bolgart and Darren Manuel of Wongan Hills (formerly of Bolgart) while Carly is the daughter of Leanne Evans of Yangebup.

Bolgart Primary School students took a plunge of a very different kind when they attended the Mortlock Swimming Carnival in Goomalling.

Students cheered on their peers and gave their best efforts in various events, but ultimately Goomalling Primary School took home the

overall champions title.

Students in Bolgart also participated in Clean Up Day on Friday March 3, picking up litter in the streets, parks, and local areas.

Luckily there wasn't a lot of rubbish, which is great news for the town.

In other news, Nicholas French and Amy Zimmermann were named Aussie of the Month for their outstanding contributions.

The Fenton Wilde Band performed at the Bolgart Hotel on Friday March 24 to an enthusiastic crowd.

The band was also scheduled to perform at the Rodeo the following night at Boshack, where a good crowd also enjoyed their music.

Congratulations to Dale McGill, Jenni Knowles, Merle Manuel, and Pam Meston, who were victorious in the Avon Valley Bowling League Fours held at Dowerin.

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# Early pioneer home preserved with historic outbuildings

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

TOODYAY'S bed and breakfast options have expanded with the addition of a converted 19th-century homestead that now offers a unique accommodation experience.

Owners Wayne and Jeni have converted the former Katrine Homestead (1842-1860s) to a country getaway called Katrine Steading.

The word "steading" comes from Scotland and northern England and describes a farmstead with outbuildings.

It is a good description for what is a complex of small and large buildings that convey a sense of time's passage, wear and tear, repair, and restoration.

Former owner Christina Downie wrote *Katrine: A Monument of Settlement*, an insightful history of the property published in 2009.

As Downie wrote "...very little has been recorded and made available for future historians about the property, 'Katrine', despite it having once been of immense importance in the area as a productive farm, employer of labour, a social, religious and learning centre, with a wayside inn, a post office, school and church.

"It contains one of the few remaining early pioneer homes ... with the attendant complex of buildings."

The property is reached by turning off the Northam - Toodyay Road into Katrine Road and crossing the Avon River via a causeway.

St Saviour's, a pretty stone church with grand front stairs, is located on the left in Wilkerson Park.

Consecrated in 1862, it is the earliest surviving church in the Northam parish.

Its cemetery is also well worth a visit. While the church is currently closed, our member Bruce Bott, a church warden, was able to open it for us and provide an information sheet on its history.

The name Katrine is believed to come from the Aboriginal word *katta*, meaning hills, with the church steps affording a stunning view of Noondeeping Hill.

A major feature of Katrine Steading is a two-storey stone barn, one of the more outstanding early farm buildings in this state.



Former Katrine Homestead's distinctive 1858 granary. Photo: Linda Rooney.

At its apex you can see AD 1858 inscribed into the stone with a circular 'owl hole' above, while at the other end are long narrow slits in the thick wall for ventilation.

The design of these slits, which widen outwards into the barn, date back to ancient times.

Complementing the barn is the two-storey homestead nestled in a beautiful garden with sheltering trees.

Most of the restoration work, which began in 1988, was undertaken by Rex and Chris Downie after they moved from their farm in Koorda.

This work continues with the current owners.

Toodyay Historical Society member Adam O'Neill provided us with the history of

Katrine and its owners during our afternoon tea.

On Saturday April 29 we will hold an Oral History Focus Day at Drummond House next to the Toodyay and Districts Bendigo Community Bank.

Held in conjunction with the Shire of Toodyay's museum at Connor's Mill, the event is part of the National Trust WA's contribution to the Australian Heritage Festival.

Everyone is welcome to drop in and share their memories.

Our monthly meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm in St Stephen's Church Hall.

For further information, contact the Toodyay Historical Society via email or

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

Our postal address is PO Box 32 Toodyay WA 6566.

Membership is \$15 per annum, and our website is toodyayhistoricalsociety.org.au.



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Service: Monday - Friday 8am - 5pm, Weekends Closed



# We gladly take the cake for community work

**Graham Hill**  
Moodyne Men

WHEN out and about in Toodyay I am often asked “Who are the Moodyne Men?”

The Moodyne Men is a local group of men looking after men and the community, providing a place where men can socialise and reap the mental health benefits such interaction provides.

We meet Mondays and Thursdays from 9am until noon, enjoying an atmosphere of men telling tales, both tall and true, from legend and past life experience.

We take morning tea with a biscuit and sometimes cake.

On the last Saturday of the month we have a cooked breakfast from 8.30am followed by our monthly meeting.

We have four office bearers – chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary and treasurer – plus every member is on the committee.

This way we always have a quorum for

meetings and our business is conducted openly and transparently.

We are here for the betterment of our membership, through men supporting men and the community.

We have no agenda other than to be a place where men can meet and where possible assist the community in any way our skills and ability can provide.

We look forward to supporting the Moodyne Festival again this year (hence our name) and recently helped a local lady load a furniture trailer to Albany.

We also helped with car parking at the Boshack Rodeo and with setting up the Toodyay Agricultural Show and Avon Descent and look forward to helping with the Toodyay Fibre Festival.

Our team has moved the entire stock of the Toodyay Op Shop to the RSL shed, and once renovations are completed we will move it all back.

We enjoyed a great morning tea provided by the Op Shop, and thank the RSL for not

only giving us a meeting place but also a storage area for the op shop stock.

But it is not all work and no play.

The Moodyne Men recently had a bus trip to the Ford Museum.

Coming up on Thursday April 27 we have a guest speaker from Regional Men’s Health to speak about men’s wellbeing in general and mental health in particular.

If you are looking to join a proactive men’s group please join us.

The Moodyne Men is a not-for-profit incorporated body with all members covered by public liability insurance.

Our address is PO Box 665 Toodyay WA 6566 or moodyne.men@iinet.net.au.

Our group has been supported by the Shire of Toodyay, Toodyay and Districts Bendigo Community Bank, the Toodyay Op Shop and Toodyay Locals Care.

For more information ring Secretary Colin on 0424 195 003.



The Moodyne Men at the Ford Museum.



The Moodyne Men take morning tea and cake with ladies from the Toodyay Op Shop, after moving all their stock while the shop is undergoing renovations.

## Shingle sales ramp up access

**Volunteers of Toodyay Museums**  
Barry Keens

A YOUNG visitor became the first to use the new access ramps at the Old Gaol Museum last month.

The ramps were funded by the Volunteers of Toodyay Museums who raised money by selling old gaol museum roof shingles.

As a result we now have access ramps from the hallway to the courtyard and from the courtyard to the large exhibition room.

However, due to narrow doorways, the cells remain inaccessible for wheelchair users.

The rest of the site, including the toilets, stables, Wicklow Shearing Shed and machinery shed, are wheelchair and pram friendly.

Shingle products are available at the Farmers Market next to the book exchange on the third Sunday of each month.

We also welcome Dylan to our team.

You can meet him on Fridays from 10am to 3pm at the Old Gaol Museum.

Thank you to all our supporters.



The first visitors to use the new wheelchair ramp at the Toodyay Museum.

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# Moodyne FESTIVAL

## TOODYAY

Meet Moodyne Joe 2023!

**Sunday 7th May 2023**



Once again the historic town of Toodyay will step back in time to circa 1860 when Moodyne Joe roamed the Avon Valley regions, winning him fame and affection from the early settlers with his amazing ability to escape every time the law placed him behind bars.

Join us in Toodyay to celebrate the life of the greatest escape artist of Australia’s convict era - the legend of Moodyne Joe.

Food and a variety of stalls line the street and the entertainment provided from musicians, dancers, acrobats, log choppers, sheep dog demos, horse and cart rides and much more, ensure a fabulous, fun filled day for all.

Dress up to suit the era. We also have costumes to loan.

For details contact:  
moodynecommittee@gmail.com

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# Farmers pray for hairy caterpillars as livestock prices plummet

**Toodyay Agricultural Alliance**  
Frank Panizza

RECENT thunderstorms have brought light rainfall throughout the Shire of Toodyay.

By the end of last month, areas of the state further south and east had received more significant falls of 20-50mm.

Storms brought most of the rain and, in some areas, hail.

The downpours brought some welcome run-off into dams, with low water levels a concern for livestock producers in many areas of the state.

However, the heavy rain may have also destroyed the remaining dry summer feed, forcing farmers to use supplementary feed such as lupins and hay.

Another concern for livestock producers is the steady decline in saleyard prices shown in recent data from Meat and Livestock Australia.

Prices for trade steers fell 31 per cent year in a year, with lamb prices collapsing by a staggering 46 per cent.

Farmers and consumers are at a loss to understand why prices in the supermarket



Farmers' faith in the cattle industry remains strong despite recent falls in saleyard prices. Photo Robyn Yost.

shelves are not falling, with some shoppers saying they are still rising.

This unhinged situation infuriates farmers and leaves customers feeling ripped off.

Some are leaving meat on the shelves and

buying alternatives such as chicken.

The causes of the collapse in saleyard prices are varied.

Farmers over the last two to three years have re-stocked following the end of the last

El Nino drought in Eastern Australia.

This means buying replacement livestock for breeding and turning off (or selling) fewer animals while rebuilding herds and flocks.

This leads to competition for the limited stock that made it through the drought, forcing prices up.

After restocking more stock is sold, increasing supply and lowering prices.

High grain prices make it more costly to feed livestock.

Most farmers are making good returns from grain and are choosing to sell stock "unfinished" to other graziers to feed up to trade weight.

Local farmers are deliberating about when the season will break.

This ranges from official forecasts from the Bureau of Meteorology and online sources to farmers watching for marri blooms and spring flowers.

Everyone has their own idea about when it might rain, and it is fascinating to hear the old methods.

For example, the hairy caterpillars often seen crossing gravel roads in a neat line may suggest rain is a few weeks away.

The official weather bureau forecast is a 60 per cent chance of a return to an El Nino event, usually associated with drought, particularly in Eastern Australia.

Most northern hemisphere weather services also forecast a dry winter throughout Australia – a sobering thought

## Excitement in the air as market attracts sizeable crowd

**Toodyay Farmers Market**  
Sue Wakka

THE MARCH market was a hit after a slow start to the year, with new stalls featuring veggies, ice-cream, and waffles joining the

regular vendors.

Along with a book exchange, the market boasted a range of food, gift items and take-home produce.

The Toodyay Farmers Market's exciting atmosphere drew a sizeable crowd, including

visitors and locals, with community groups such as Toodyay Central Volunteer Fire Brigade, Toodyay RSL, Marsupial Mamas and Pappas, Safe and Scenic Toodyay Road and Toodyay Naturalist's Club members in attendance.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the morning. If you would like to get the word out about your community group, please get in touch with us.

If you have excess fruit and veggies to sell, get in touch with the market organisers.

Come on down and take a peek at the range of goodies available, and don't forget to bring a book to swap or donate to our book exchange, or make a donation to take one home.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates on upcoming markets which feature live music and occasional local club demonstrations.

If you want to join in the fun, email us at [toodyayfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:toodyayfarmersmarket@gmail.com).

The next market is on Sunday April 16 from 9am to 1pm.



Locals and visitors enjoy a sunny day at last month's Toodyay Farmers Market.



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Advertorial

# The saga of 'Joe'

By Bill Edgar



THIS BOOK follows Joseph Bolitho Johns' ('Moondyne Joe') journey from his formative years in Wales, during a time of social change and disruption in Britain.

He was a child of that troubled time and a victim of it. His trial in Brecon Assizes is followed by an incarceration in Pentonville Prison, then a period in Dartmoor, then to his subsequent survival aboard two Thames hulks, *Jusitia and Defence*, before his harrowing voyage to the Swan River aboard the *Pyrenees*, arriving on 30 April, 1853.

No account of any of the Western Australia's nine and a half thousand convicts should be told without exposing the British social 'caste' system of the time - not to mention the Old Country's transportation laws, within which many suffered a three to four year 'modification' process via a range of iniquitous penal practices, before being sent to the Swan River Colony.

A 'journey' that is vital to an overall understanding of the Australian convict system.

The John's saga continued in Western Australia. He fought the authorities, escaping many times. Joe became somewhat notorious because of his obdurate defiance. It made him an icon to a class that had suffered so much for so long. Though he was a unique character, his story is that of many others who suffered similarly - but then subsequently endured to eventually help create a fairer society in the new land. *Egalitaire!*



**BUY your copy of 'JOE' from Boffins in Perth, Fremantle Jail Bookshop or Toodyay Visitors' Centre**

**Further inquiries email: [tammar@westnet.com.au](mailto:tammar@westnet.com.au)**

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Showgoers inspect entries at last year's 2022 Toodyay Agricultural Show.

## The treadmills run faster but we have comfortable seats to fill

**Toodyay Agricultural Society**  
Alison Wroth

ORGANISING our 169th Toodyay Agricultural Show feels like being on a never-ending treadmill.

Looking back at our history, the original committee was primarily composed of farmers and horticulturalists, with a few businessmen.

Of course, the show was very different back then and the treadmills were not as quick as they are now.

This year, our committee is made up of individuals with a variety of backgrounds and skill sets, all working toward the same goal.

It has taken dedication, successful planning, and loyalty from members of the Toodyay Agricultural Society, as well as individuals and businesses from our community, to keep one of the best agricultural shows going for so many years.

We welcome anyone who is interested in filling one of our comfortable seats at the table to join our team and help organise the Show this year.

Don't hesitate to contact President Bruce Shenn at 0427 991 486 to chat about it.

At our March meeting, the new committee formed their subcommittees, including advertising, biosecurity, entertainment, ground space, Show schedule, and equipment.

Eventually, all of the positions required to pull off the event were filled.

You will soon see promotions for the Show around town or on your social media page.

If there's a stall, don't cross the street - come up and buy a ticket or have a chat if you want to help on the day.

It all goes toward making our Toodyay Agricultural Show bigger and better, with the Toodyay and Districts Bendigo Community Bank fireworks winding up the event in the evening.

Our big fundraiser this year takes place on Friday August 18 and Saturday August 19 outside the IGA.

Our Exhibitors' Workshop returns for the fourth time, possibly in June or July, with dates and sections to be confirmed in the next *Herald*.

Anyone who wants to realise their full potential when entering exhibits should attend.

Judges share tips throughout the morning on how to get that Best Exhibit sash, advising what they look for and how to exhibit to Show standard.

Expressions of interest for the jobs that help us make the Show run smoothly are advertised in this issue on Page 27.

If your community group is interested in this option, or in a fundraising opportunity, please contact our administration officer Frank on 0400 979 671.

As chief steward, I am usually looking for and confirming regular stewards this time of the year.

It is likely we will require stewards in agriculture, poultry, fruit and vegetables, photography and possibly home produce.

Please give me a call on 9574 2681 or 0437 099 960 a call if you can help in any of these sections.

## Getting a handle on repairs, knock on wood

**Avon Woodturners**  
Barry Squires

WE OFTEN get requests to make or repair items within our sphere of capabilities.

On this occasion we had a request to make a replacement right-hand-side handlebar end that had broken off, for a wooden model of a motorcycle.

This entailed making a copy of the existing handlebar and repairing the damaged mount.

While we had a lot of wood stock it was not a type of timber we had.

We chose a piece of timber that was similar, and a new handlebar was turned up on a lathe.

The mount was built up with resin and sawdust to accept the new handlebar.

Steve was advised his repair job had been completed and was ready for collection.



Repaired model motorcycle made from wood.



Hamish Dobie wields giant gavel.

We normally accept a donation for small jobs, but we were more than pleased with Steve's offer of an oversized gavel as payment.

This gavel has already been at a general meeting of the Moondyne Men and will be at the next general meeting of the Avon Woodturners.

I suspect Hamish and Max have plans to use the gavel at some of their other meetings.

Avon Woodturners meet on Wednesday and Sunday mornings from 9am to noon at Shed 1, Community Depot, Railway Road, Toodyay.

For more information please call Barry on 0401 359 511.





# Julimar Project Update



## Parkrun off and racing!

Chalice was thrilled to support the Newcastle Park parkrun, which had its inaugural event last month. Big crowds turned out to participate in the free, weekly 5km community event. The Chalice team enjoyed a morning jog too! Join the event at **8am every Saturday** at Newcastle Park, Toodyay.



## Complete the Local Voices Survey

Chalice recognises that community consultation will play a key role in all our planning, particularly as we consider a potential future mine at the Julimar Project.

To help Chalice better understand community sentiment, we invite you to participate in our Local Voices Survey. Chalice has engaged Voconiq to conduct this independent and confidential survey, with a \$10 Community Reward donated to a local group of your choice for every completed survey.

Register your not-for-profit organisation or sporting group today to share in this funding.

To complete the survey or register for funding scan the QR code or visit the Voconiq website at:



<https://voconiqlocalvoices.com/julimar>



## Update: Road Maintenance on Keating and Plunkett Roads

### Chalice recognises that increased traffic from our exploration activities have contributed to additional maintenance requirements on sections of Plunkett and Keating Roads.

Maintaining safe road conditions is of utmost importance to us, therefore we have taken the following measures:

- Chalice-funded road grading has occurred since January 2021 on an as-needed basis, above that undertaken by the Shire.
- Increased frequency of road grading is now in place, with the ability to increase maintenance based on weather and traffic.
- To minimise external traffic frequency, Chalice drill contractors are accommodated on site, while the majority of Chalice staff travel to site via a staff bus or light vehicles.

Increased traffic and lack of recent rain has also impacted current levels of dust on these roads. Chalice has implemented the following measures to reduce dust levels:

- A daily water cart on Keating Road, from Julimar Road as needed.
- A 60km/h speed limit for all Chalice staff and contractors travelling on Keating and Plunkett Roads.
- Installation of traffic counters by the Shire of Toodyay is underway. This data will give us a better insight to what is causing the current levels of dust on Keating Road and the best approach to managing this issue.

We will continue to monitor traffic and dust conditions and investigate

further mitigation measures, and look forward to providing you with further updates.



Sign up to receive regular Community Newsletters at:  
[www.chalicemining.com/community-newsletter](http://www.chalicemining.com/community-newsletter)

Julimar Project Pop-Up Office  
Open 8.30am – 11.30am Thursdays  
Shop 5, Charcoal Lane, Toodyay

Get in Touch  
Email:  
[community@chalicemining.com](mailto:community@chalicemining.com)



# Big gloves to fill as Owen steps up to lead parade

**Toodyay RSL**  
Bob Wood

PREPARATIONS for Anzac Day commemorations in Toodyay are front and centre this month.

April is our busiest month, with weeks of detailed planning culminating in a special day of events.

On Tuesday April 25 we will hold the Dawn Service – always a moving experience – from 6am at Anzac Memorial Park.

Meanwhile, Lions Club members will prepare a delicious Gunfire Breakfast for attendees to enjoy, across the road from the park at Old Wicklow Shearing Shed in Clinton Street.

As is our tradition, the Anzac Day march will be led by our piper and drummers with Toodyay District High School cadets carrying the banner and flags.

The parade will be under the control of our member Owen Webb, who has big gloves to fill after long-serving Parade Marshall Warren Hall hung up his gauntlets.

RSL members will be joined by fire and ambulance volunteers, local police and others.

The march sets off from the Toodyay Memorial Hall toward Newcastle Bridge, wheeling into Harper Road before turning left into Anzac Avenue on the way to Memorial Park for the main service which begins at 10.50am.

In the lead-up to the day we will be busy cleaning our medals and polishing our shoes in readiness for the day.

Along with the wider community, Toodyay RSL members find it heartening to see youngsters wearing the medals of their forebears who are no longer with us.

Lotterywest has again been generous in its support of this iconic and dearly loved annual community event.

We thank all Shire of Toodyay councillors and community members who have contributed to what should be an excellent result on the day.

In other news the long process of transferring the Clinton Street site to RSLWA is nearing completion.



This year's Anzac Day commemorations in Toodyay will start with a 6am Dawn Service at Anzac Memorial Park, followed by a free Gunfire Breakfast at the nearby Old Wicklow Shearing Shed, an Anzac Parade from Toodyay Memorial Hall at 10.30am and the main Anzac Day Service at the Memorial Park at 10.50am.



One of last year's winning entries, by Carla Pidgeon.

## Toodyay shutterbugs urged to enter

PHOTOGRAPHERS in Toodyay Shire and surrounds are being encouraged to show what our corner of the country has to offer.

The Australian charity Rural Aid is launching its fourth annual Spirit of the Bush photography competition with the winning 12 photographs to be featured in its stunning 2024 calendar.

Rural Aid chief executive John Warlters said he was excited to see what our talented bush photographers had captured this year.

"The photographs that are submitted are always breathtakingly raw, real, and reflect the highs and lows of life on the land," Mr Warlters said.

"I'd encourage anyone with a love, and eye, for the bush to send their photos in."

Photographers are encouraged to submit photos on the themes of Family, Community, Mates, Faces, Eyes, Tough, Golden Hour (Sunrise/Sunset), or All Things Rural.

"Last year, we received more than 1100 entries from across the country, making it very hard to whittle down to just 12 winners," Mr Warlters said.

"I hope to see dozens of photos of successful crops, happy working dogs and fat cattle.

"On the flipside, the pictures of flooded creeks and empty paddocks tell a sobering, but equally important, story."

Along with a prized spot in next year's calendar, winners are also awarded a \$250 pre-paid Visa card.

The competition closes 29 May 2023.

To enter, submit a high-resolution, landscape-format image via *Instagram* or *Facebook*, with the hashtag #SOTB2023 and tag @ruralaid in the picture, or upload your photo through the Woobox link at [www.ruralaid.org.au/spirit-of-the-bush](http://www.ruralaid.org.au/spirit-of-the-bush).

Rural Aid's 2024 calendar will be available for purchase later this year.

Proceeds support Rural Aid programs that help farmers and their families.

Competition terms and conditions can be found at [www.ruralaid.org.au/spirit-of-the-bush](http://www.ruralaid.org.au/spirit-of-the-bush).



A detail from Jane Taylor's prize-winning 2022 photo.

# Make sure April 20 solar eclipse isn't the last thing you see

**Astronomy**  
Kim Angus

TOODYAY will experience the astronomical wonder of a solar eclipse on Thursday April 20.

While those in Exmouth will witness the splendour of total eclipse, it will be partial in Toodyay with the moon not completely obscuring the sun's face.

Hopefully we won't have clouds obscuring the spectacle, which starts at 10am and ends at 12.46pm.

Unlike a recent comet which was a bit of a fizzer, solar eclipses are highly predictable.

Ancient civilisations regarded them as bad omens but their occurrence did not take them by surprise.

Solar eclipses were accurately predicted by Chinese and Babylonian astronomers for thousands of years.

They would even install a substitute king during the period of an eclipse so the poor schmuck would absorb any bad luck before the real king was returned to the throne.

Two Chinese astrologers, His and Ho, copped a fair bit of bad luck when they were executed after failing to predict a solar eclipse in 2134 BCE.

Solar eclipses were also scientifically observed.

Greek astronomer Hipparchus calculated the average distance to the moon using his own observations and those found in Babylonian records.

British astronomer and mathematician Sir Arthur Eddington tested German physicist Albert Einstein's theory of general relativity during a 1919 total solar eclipse and observed that gravity indeed bends light from distant stars when it passes near our sun.

Although Eddington took pictures of the stars while the sun was obscured by the moon, he wasn't so daft as to look at the eclipsed sun through the telescope.

To safely observe the upcoming eclipse, you will need special equipment such as eclipse glasses or solar filters.

These are not the kind of thing you might find down at the local shops.

Good quality welding glasses with shade #14 can also be used but those from Bunnings are not dark enough.

A sheet of cardboard with a pinhole or a pair of binoculars with one lens covered can project an image of the sun on the ground.

Even a colander will project images of the sun with a bite taken out of it.

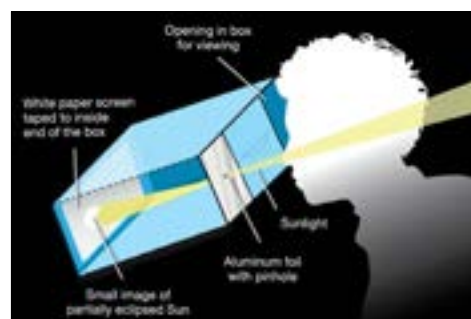
However, it is crucial not to look directly at the sun without proper equipment or you may live to regret it – staring at a solar eclipse can cause serious and permanent eye damage.

You can make your own eclipse projector with a cardboard box, sheet of white paper, tape, scissors, aluminium foil and NASA instructions.

With the sun behind you, sunlight will stream through a pinhole punched into aluminium foil taped over a hole in one side of the box.

This will project a crescent image of the partial solar eclipse onto white paper taped into the inside of the box.

Cut another hole in the box to see an image of the eclipse projected inside it.



NASA design for home-made viewer to safely observe this month's partial solar eclipse.

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# After the orange and green comes the Purple Road

**Country Women's Association**  
Vivien Street

MANY thanks to Max Heath, our returning officer for the annual general meeting in March, who donated a turned pen for use in a raffle for our roof fund.

The AGM was followed by a planning meeting, making it a busy and productive day for all members.

Our first coffee morning's cushion-making day was a roaring success.

With the help of Josephine and her over-locker, as well as other members' machines and expertise, we created matching covers for our hall cushions.

We're grateful to Tracy for donating the vibrant blue fabric.

The Gathering of the Birds, hosted by York Country Women's Association (CWA) Branch, was attended by six local branches who scheduled dates for various functions throughout the year.

York showcased some interesting displays of craftwork, including a Purple Road wall hanging.

The Purple Road project, which started as an elder abuse awareness initiative, has garnered interest from many groups.

We collected leaflets about the project to learn more and plan to get involved in creating our own stretch of the Purple Road.

To find more on this grassroots initiative you can visit [www.wa.gov.au/government/announcements/all-aboard-the-purple-road](http://www.wa.gov.au/government/announcements/all-aboard-the-purple-road).

Three of us attended a branch treasurers' training session run by the State CWA Treasurer in York the following week.

It was a full day but well worth the effort.

The training covered everything from legal responsibilities and record-keeping to fundraising fundamentals and digital cashbook training.

Thanks to York CWA for arranging this and providing a delicious lunch and morning tea.

We were unable to attend our sister branch Bayswater's 70th birthday celebration as it fell on our meeting day.

However, two of our members enjoyed a 60th birthday with the Midland branch.

Our monthly competition for March was for a St Patrick's Day hat or outfit with green



Dixie takes a photo of Elizabeth taking a photo of Ev, Viv, Julie -Anne, Kathy, Gina and Rose.

and orange being the colours of the day, while our April competition is for an Easter hat.

The Easter Saturday produce stall will be outside Toodyay IGA on April 8.

This is one of three stalls planned for this year to raise funds for our new roof.

Members are slaving over hot stoves to make chutneys, pickles and jams, which we hope you'll come and buy along with cakes, slices and other goodies baked for your enjoyment.

We'll be there from 8am until noon or as

long as stocks last.

Dixie at 'Uniquely Toodyay' has arranged space for us to sell colourful crocheted baby or knee rugs and CWA cookery books, with proceeds also going to the roof fund.

Now in its 56th edition, *The Country Women's Association Cook Book* is an iconic and well-loved book of recipes.

We are most grateful for the ongoing support of the Toodyay Op Shop and their generous donation towards a new cooker and fridge for our kitchen.

Toodyay CWA meets every second

Thursday at 10am for a coffee morning and every fourth Thursday of the month at the new time of 10am for the general meeting.

We are hopeful the change of time from 1pm will attract more members, young and old.

All are welcome to come and discover what we do, with no pressure to join.

We meet in the CWA Hall on Stirling Terrace, with plenty of parking and easy access from Charcoal Lane.

For hall bookings please ring Margot on 9574 2823 or 0405 067 591.

## There's a lot more to us than meets the eye

**The Crooked Needle**  
Jean Melhuish-Hill

THE TOODYAY Craft Group may seem like just a bunch of ladies getting together for tea and a chinwag, but we do a lot more than that.

As well as supporting one another, we get involved in community events and donate to various charities throughout the year.

In May/June, the group will participate in Australia's Biggest Morning Tea to support the Cancer Council.

In previous years we have raised around \$750 annually and we hope to top this amount with this year's event.

The first craft challenge for this year is to make a number of blankets.

While many of our ladies knit and crochet regularly, the challenge is to complete one or more 10-inch squares in a pattern or design they have not done before.

The goal is to try something new and keep those fingers and minds working.

Once the squares are complete at the end of May, we will judge them and join them into blankets to donate to charity.

Our group also supports Northam High School by providing supplies for their domestic science program.

One student is using an antique pattern we donated to make a baby dress, and the beads



Domestic science students use beads to make jewellery.

supplied have been a hit with the class.

We will have a stall at the Toodyay Fibre Festival in June, marking the first time in years since we last had a stall.

We will be demonstrating how to use a knitting loom, basic knitting and crocheting.

Those interested can even try their hand at these crafts.

We will also have a range of craft items for sale as well as yarns and fabrics.

Craft encompasses a wide range of activities, not just knitting and sewing.

Weaving, for example, can be done in a number of different ways.

The traditional square looms are threaded vertically and use a shuttle to pass the threads back and forth.

Hand-held round knitting looms are another option, similar to the old-style French knitting bobbins. However, the variety of things you can make is so much more interesting.

Carol Barlow has experimented with a number of different-sized looms and has made beanies, socks, scarves and blankets.

With a little concentration you can design and produce some lovely garments.



One of Carol Barlow's knitting looms with dolls, socks, and mits.



Toodyay CWA President Kathy Haynes presents Max Heath with a gift after our Annual General Meeting.

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