

The Toodyay Herald

Your locally owned
community newspaper
Est. 1902

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

September 2023
Edition 427

Whitewater drama at Extracts in 50th Avon Descent in through Toodyay



This year's dry winter created havoc for power boats at Extracts Weir where low water levels turned the slippery rock wall into a formidable obstacle in last month's 50th annual Avon Descent river race through Toodyay. More pictures of all the race action and International Food Fair fun, Pages 6 and 7.

Chalice shares crash as miner announces Julimar start date

Michael Sinclair-Jones

CHALICE Mining shares crashed 30 per cent last month after the company revealed plans for a Julimar open-cut mine worth \$18 billion to start production in six years' time.

The shock market reaction caught the Perth miner by surprise but it hasn't stopped plans to start processing up to 30 million tonnes of ore a year, starting in early 2029.

Chalice says local groundwater will not be used but has yet to announce how it will dispose of millions of litres of waste water contaminated by mineral processing.

A scoping study suggests it could total up to 18 million litres a year based on an estimated 0.6 litres of water needed per tonne of ore.

A tailings dump to store up to 30 million tonnes of discarded waste annually is also planned for Chalice-owned farmland.

The miner said it will seek Federal and State environmental approvals early next year, and start construction in mid-2026.

About 1200 workers would be needed for construction and 500 for mining operations.

Chalice told the Australian Stock Exchange on August 29 that it would give job priority to local workers.

"These jobs will be particularly attractive given their proximity to Perth and the lifestyle values of the surrounding region," the miner said.

A Chalice scoping study said a new kilometre-wide open-cut mine would pay

for itself in the first two years of operation.

Some market analysts blamed the share price crash on the 2029 start date while others claimed Chalice had over-valued its Julimar discovery by basing projections on assumed future metal prices instead of current values.

The miner has drilled a large area of Julimar farmland and State forest where it has discovered what it describes as a "world class" deposit of rare metals that are in high demand to combat global warming.

Tests have revealed significant amounts of palladium, platinum, cobalt, nickel and copper, which Chalice says are needed to produce electric vehicles, 'green' hydrogen and fossil-free renewable energy.

Continued on Page 5.

Coming events

Farmers Market Sunday 17
September 9am - 1pm

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COUNTRY REALTY

The Toodyay Herald

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NEXT TOODYAY HERALD EDITION

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

**Noon Friday
September 22**

STORY DEADLINE

**Noon Wednesday
September 27**

DISTRIBUTED

**Thursday
October 5**

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Decibel adrenaline

Roger Simms

DO ROCK bands mellow with age, I wonder – cool their antics, cut the decibels?

Do old rockers feel the need to nurse battered ear drums and stretched vocal cords?

In the case of America's mega-volume outfit Foo Fighters, I'm hoping so.

You see, I've got this little terrace home down in Perth just a couple of Graham Farmer drop kicks away from Perth Oval (for those who remember the great ruckman playing for East Perth in the Royals' glory WANFL days).

No football there anymore, of course. The oval underwent geometric conversion in 2003 and emerged as a rectangle – a home for soccer and rugby and, for better or worse, concerts.

The name Perth Oval survived the remodelling and still announces itself proudly atop the grounds' historic portal in Bulwer Street, though if you're going to a show there the tickets will call the place by its latest commercially acquired moniker – HBF Park.

The passing years have brought a cavalcade of entertainment stars, including the late Luciano Pavarotti of Three Tenors fame, Celine Dion, Fleetwood Mac, Billy Joel, Leonard Cohen and Neil Diamond.

And for the local Highgate neighbourhood – those not among the paying concertgoers – it's all been a bit of a musical treat, or at least a novelty.

People gather on the surrounds of the stadium and, for the cost of a little seating discomfort, hear the world's best.

And for others at home, it can be a summer evening of splendid entertainment over dinner in the back garden as the offerings of, say, Rod Stewart flow sweetly across the rooftops.

But Foo Fighters are something else. They're one of the loudest rock bands in the world – and more likely to blow your rooftop away.

This was the band whose output famously caused earth tremors in New Zealand in 2011, picked up by two seismic stations, and drew more than 100 complaints from residents over a 2012 Belfast concert heard 18km away in Ballygowan, County Down.

It was also the band that had my house windows rattling in 2011, not only during performances on Saturday and Sunday nights but all through an afternoon rehearsal – the same band that came back again in 2015 and had my wife and me checking out and heading for the peace and quiet of Julimar for the weekend.

About this time last year, they were due to make another Australian tour but sadly lost drummer Taylor Hawkins to cardiac arrest in Colombia.

Now, with new drummer Josh Freese settled in, Foo Fighters are heading our way once again and will play at Perth Oval on Wednesday November 29 to open their 2023 Australian concert tour.

Now I'm not, I hope, an entertainment killjoy.

For some people rock bands playing off the decibel scale is what makes a concert, and good luck to them.

My argument with Foo Fighters is over the venue – too much noise for a residential inner-city suburb.

But to be fair, my sense of Foo Fighter foreboding is not widely shared.

A few hours digging on the internet has revealed a level of popularity for this group I could not have imagined.

They are loved in this country. Their concerts are sell-outs and their leader, a genial fellow by the name of Dave Grohl, I've discovered, has declared Australia his favourite part of the world to tour.

In fact, the forthcoming Foo Fighters' visit will be their 13th Down Under.

Well, blow me down. A heart-warming chapter in this trans-Pacific musical love affair goes back to 2006 and the Beaconsfield mine collapse in Tasmania.

Brent Webb, trapped underground for two weeks with fellow miner Todd Russell, was a Foo Fighters fan and asked for an iPod featuring the band's songs to be lowered underground while the men awaited rescue, not knowing their fate.

The ABC reported that Mr Grohl was moved to tears and sent the miners a fax: "Though I'm halfway around the world at the moment my heart is with you both and when you come home there's two tickets to any Fools' shows, anywhere, and two cold beers waiting for you. Deal?"

Mr Webb took up the offer when Foo Fighters returned for their eighth Australian visit in October that year, and at the band's final concert in the Sydney Opera House no less, Mr Grohl played an instrumental he had written in Mr Webb's honour called the *Ballad of the Beaconsfield Miners*.

All very uplifting. But I hope not for Highgate roofs in November.

Foo Fighters, I learnt, are up there nudging the 130-decibel range with bands such as Motörhead, Leftfield, AC/DC, Led Zeppelin and others in a long procession of performers hooked, as are their fans, on the adrenaline of amplified sound.

Does it have to be so loud?* The sound of a whisper registers 30 decibels and normal speech is 60.

Two minutes at 110 can cause hearing damage and, as audiologists have pointed out, that level at a concert may not feel all that loud because pain does not usually start to register till 120 decibels.

Well, you pays your money, you takes your choice.

I wish Foo Fighters and their West Australian fans a happy reunion in November. I'll be counting stars in the bush at Julimar.

*This newspaper's half-deaf editor saw Led Zeppelin play Subiaco Oval in 1972 and yes, Roger, it has to be loud enough to hear halfway to Julimar.



Ready to rock your socks off – the Foo Fighters are heading back to Perth.

Office Hours are from 9.30am - 12.30pm on highlighted days						
September - October 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sept 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
Oct 1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Vandals wreck Noongar cultural display at Redbank Pool



Defaced Noongar cultural display.

VANDALS have wrecked a local Noongar cultural interpretive display at Redbank Pool.

The site has historical significance as a traditional meeting place for local Ballardong and Yued families prior to colonial settlement.

It contains a bird hide with two large Gnulla Moort (Our Family) panels that describe how local Aboriginal people inhabited the area 200 years ago.

The damage was discovered early this month by Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal Corporation member Helen Shanks.

It appears that someone has used keys or a screwdriver to gouge through the descriptive artwork.

Toodyay police say they are investigating.

The cultural display on the left bank of the Avon River was officially opened with a traditional smoking ceremony attended by local civic leaders in 2020.

The location below Extracts Weir, about two kilometres from the Toodyay townsite, was also used as a traditional food source by local Noongar families.

Ms Shanks described the State heritage-listed site as culturally significant for water, hunting, fishing, camping and ceremonial activities that date back thousands of years.

It is also a popular stop for hundreds of bushwalkers and tourists on the 6.5km Bilya Walk Track, which was created by the Toodyay Friends of the River in 2013.

Ms Shanks said the damaged panels could not be repaired and would need to be replaced at an estimate cost of about \$2000.

“Getting it fixed is a priority, and our volunteers will start fund-raising again to get it done,” she said.



Cultural artwork damaged beyond repair.

Colonial boy's life of adventure in the wild

TOODYAY resident Greg Warburton was perhaps destined to live in a historical town, given his ancestors arrived in the Swan River Colony in 1830, a year after it was founded.

For the past two decades, Greg's life has revolved around the heritage, environment and community of Toodyay – he reckons there's no better place to pursue his interests.

“Toodyay is like an epicentre for WA history,” he says, his characteristic combination of seriousness and enthusiasm lighting up his eyes.

“Many people have connections to the pioneering years of Toodyay, which link in with places like Guildford and Fremantle.

“But while places like Guildford are being swamped by suburbia, Toodyay has retained that little bit of distance, and its own identity.”

Greg's colonial heritage might also explain why he plays the part of a convict at the Moodyne Festival in his handmade costume, replete with manacles and chains.

“I noticed convicts weren't represented at the festival,” he explains. “There were plenty of floozies and landed gentry – but the whole reason Toodyay exists is because of convicts.”

Born in Fremantle, Greg grew up in Kalamunda, spending every spare moment hiking through the local bushland pursuing his interest in nature.

On leaving school he embarked upon a succession of jobs and travels that took him around Australia and overseas.

Back in Australia he headed for the Alice and spent the next 10 years in the NT conducting camel tours and expeditions.

On one of Central Australia's first-ever hot air balloon flights he met a vivacious girl from NSW called Vicki, and together they set out on further travels.

It's about the journey

THEIR shared sense of adventure led them on camel safaris in northern Kenya, and a sub-zero winter crossing of a snow-covered Gobi Desert with Bactrian (two-humped) camels.

In 1996, the now-married couple conducted an expedition marking the centennial of explorer David Carnegie's route from Coolgardie to Halls Creek, catching and training wild camels, and spending several months traversing the Gibson and Great Sandy Deserts.

In recognition of their feat, *Australian Geographic* awarded the pair a “Spirit of Adventure Award”, publishing their story in the magazine and yearbook.

Greg and Vicki are no strangers to *Australian Geo*, with their Kimberley donkey trek and Alaskan dog sled journey previously brightening the pages of the iconic bi-monthly journal.

By the late '90s the couple were ready to



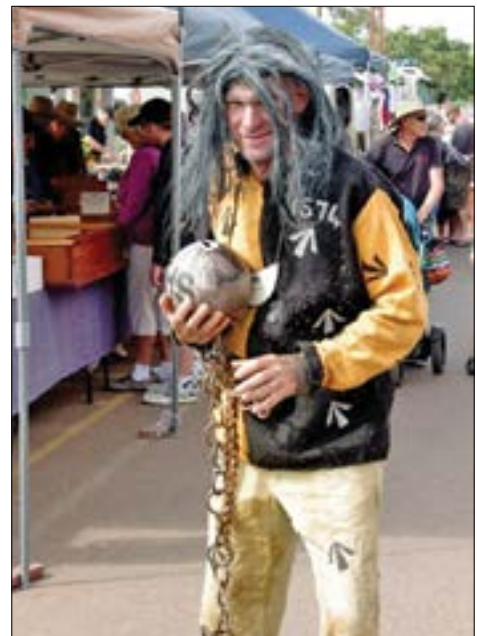
Greg Warburton on the Bilya Track, which he helped create through a local community campaign.

settle down, and a Coondle West property became their home and sanctuary.

On track with a tidy win

GREG'S love of heritage and environment is clear to anyone who shares a yarn with him – but sometimes actions speak louder than words.

He has spearheaded numerous local campaigns and achievements such as Toodyay's popular Bilya Walk Track and a National Tidy Towns win in 2015.



Greg in convict garb at the Moodyne Festival.

The anti-litter and recycling advocate has removed more than 2000 bags of rubbish from our local road verges.

In 2013, Greg was awarded State Landcarer of the Year, Toodyay Community Citizen of the Year in 2017 and is currently employed by the Shire of Toodyay as its Reserves Management Officer.

“It's a privilege to be out and about every day protecting and promoting Toodyay's wonderful natural environment,” he says.

Summer season sees him engaged mostly with bushfire-related activities.

“In the cooler months I have a chance to do special projects including walk tracks, interpretive signage, picnic tables and supporting local environmental groups.”

Contributing to the creation of a Shire conservation covenant and Reconciliation Action Plan have been particularly rewarding for Greg.

“Toodyay is very rich in history, both European and Aboriginal,” he says.

“It's been marvellous to be able to get around this part of the world and experience its heritage sites and landscapes.”

In 2014, Greg hauled a trolley 400km to the Helena and Aurora Ranges in the Yilgarn as part of a successful conservation campaign.

He has since linked this route together with previous expeditions and treks to form a continuous walk from Wyndham to Albany.

This route covers three deserts, the Great Western Woodlands, the Avon River and Bibbulmun Track.

“Next year I hope to extend it to Esperance,” he says.



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Darren West MLC

The Toodyay Herald

Vote puzzle

IT ALWAYS raises questions when our elected representatives oppose important decisions but won't say why.

The last time was in 2020 when a former shire president used his vote to block the appointment of a desperately-needed new shire CEO – but refused to say why.

Last month's budget vote – the year's most important decision for any shire council – saw a similar pattern of behaviour emerge once again.

A councillor who is a frequent critic of the shire president and administration very pointedly announced his opposition to the budget – but didn't offer any details why.

Unlike in 2020, it didn't defeat an absolute majority vote needed for such an important decision – but questions remain.

When asked later to explain his stance, the councillor used the shire code of conduct to claim that he may not be allowed to say anything.

Really?

"Avoid damage to the reputation of the local government," the code says.

Saying nothing could be argued to be more damaging.

Treating ratepayers like mushrooms runs counter to openness and accountability.

In his 2020 election advertisement, the councillor said he was not aligned to any particular group but "will work closely with all my fellow councillors to ensure the best outcomes for the community".

He could have explained his budget objection to fellow councillors last month but appeared instead to read from a 16-word written statement that was bound to attract headlines (*see opposite page*).

It prompted a dispute over points of order after the shire president said: "Right, it's a bit late in the day to mention it".

So the question is why?

Could it be that there is an election next month for the shire president and deputy?

Could it be there is a push on to oust them?

If so, voters need to hear the full story before they cast their votes.

That's how democracy works.

But let's have it out in the open instead of leaving people to scratch their heads for answers.

Cultural vandalism

IT MAY have been kids playing up, but something about how a Noongar cultural display at Redbank Pool was vandalised last month suggests a more sinister intent.

Of the three large artwork panels at the John Masters bird hide, only images depicting Aboriginal people were defaced.

Someone used a sharp object to repeatedly gouge the images in a way that renders them useless for public display.

Facebook has become an echo chamber for social dissent, sometimes with little or no foundation in fact.

Having an opinion is one thing, but trashing traditional culture is another.

Surely we are better than that?

Michael Sinclair-Jones
Editor

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

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The way we were – It's nearly 40 years since this photo captured the raucous spirit of bygone days when local competitors ran riot in the town's main street to celebrate the life and times of fabled Toodyay bushranger Joseph Bolitho Johns, better known as Moondyne Joe. One of the main events in the town's 1985 Moondyne Festival was the annual Wheelbarrow Race, pictured here in full swing outside the Victoria Hotel. Photo: Newcastle Gaol Museum.

LETTERS

Peculiar creatures

PECULIAR creatures, these Wagyl.

The first time Wagyl appeared on the Wadjela scene was some years ago in connection with alterations on Mounts Bay Road in Perth.

The displeasure of this mythical creature was a costly item in the State budget of the day.

Fast forward to the Graham Farmer tunnel, which involved shifting considerable quantities of soil – not a murmur from the Wagyl – perhaps because of the football connection.

Now we have two at odds – the Toodyay version is upset over a culvert on freehold land.

He's apparently not aware of the 1990s judgement of the High Court which ruled that where land was held 'in fee simple' native title was extinguished.

By contrast, the Kimberley Wagyl doesn't seem to have any objection to the noise and disturbance created by the building of the new all-weather bridge across the Fitzroy River.

In fact, on a clear and starry night, the listener might hear him purring his approval of a project which will ensure food security for the region.

Geoff Brown
Jurien Bay

Know what you are voting for

MANY in the land-owner community had their Voice heard recently on 'things that matter to them'.

The WA Government last month pulled the short-lived 2021 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act from State law.

I am aware that many Aboriginal people, including the local Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal Corporation, are OK with this because the 2021 Act may have unfortunately placed well-meaning Aboriginal groups seeking to simply identify their heritage in conflict with some land owners.

Nobody wants this.

So now the older 1972 Aboriginal Heritage Act remains in place with a few positive amendments under Section 18.

The State Government will also fund heritage surveys in high priority areas – a good outcome.

Let's now support Aboriginal people having a Voice on 'things that matter to them'.

The referendum question is simply seeking to 'enshrine a Voice' through recognition of Aboriginal people in our Constitution.

That's it.

It won't take anything from non-Aboriginal people.

It can't make laws, it can't impose taxes, it can't demand reparations and it can't claim

anybody else's privately owned land.

It's a Voice that can make representations to the Federal Parliament on matters impacting on Aboriginal people and communities.

By listening to those most impacted, change will begin.

If you are concerned about detail, know that Australia is not voting on a fixed structure of an advisory body.

The Government of the day, whether it be Labor, Liberal or some other parliamentary majority, will determine the 'Body' and how it will work.

The detail of how it works can be changed by Government.

One Government could make a weak structured advisory Body, and another could make it stronger.

But having an advisory 'Body' of some sort will be enshrined in our Constitution and, as such – unlike with lobby groups – it will be transparent.

If you are concerned about division, Australia is already divided by race – Aboriginal people remain the other race.

The No campaign has added to the division.

The Voice will be an inclusive process whereby Aboriginal people will be acknowledged in our Constitution for the first time.

A Voice to Parliament will be a big step towards true reconciliation, not division.

If you are concerned about wasted funding, then vote Yes to help change how money is spent, and for better policies and decisions.

It will be Aboriginal voices at the consultation table instead of non-Aboriginal people and organisations making policies without hearing them.

Voting No is just voting for more of the same failed outcomes of the past 50 years, and surely nobody wants that.

Yes means a positive change for our nation's future, No means more of the same things that don't work.

I am voting Yes but whatever your vote, please make it an informed one.

Helen Shanks
Toodyay

Please explain

AS A REGULAR watcher of livestreamed council meetings, I was concerned when in the Special Council Meeting of August 28 Councillor Mick McKeown objected to the budget, saying:

"In my opinion, this budget does not adequately address the concerns of the ratepayers of Toodyay."

He provided no evidence to support his opinion.

As a ratepayer, elector and community member, I found this bald statement with no explanation, justification or suggestions as to how these putative concerns could be met disrespectful to the community, councillors and Shire staff.

From publicly available information, it is clear that there have been a number of ongoing budget discussions and councillor workshops over many months, providing multiple opportunities for councillors to raise concerns and propose solutions.

Thus I seek the following from Cr McKeown:

Clarity on what he means by ratepayer concerns, and evidence to support that opinion.

His feasible and financially auditable solution to all the legacy financial issues remaining from earlier councils (in order to minimise rate increases).

What proportion of the workshops and discussions did Cr McKeown participate in?

Did he raise his objection or suggest feasible solutions to the financial issues at any of the workshops?

If not, then why not?

Without some supporting information, Cr McKeown's statement objecting to the budget would appear to be merely empty rhetoric for community consumption.

I very much look forward to seeing some answers from Cr McKeown.

Jo Hart
Morangup

Council elections

THE OCTOBER council elections are the first for some time to be conducted under the preferential voting system.

So, what should you do?

There are likely to be five or six candidates seeking election in Toodyay so you can number any number of boxes from one to five or six to select candidates in your order of preference. It is your choice.

The first thing to remember is that you must number the candidates.

If you just put a tick or cross in, say, three boxes, your vote will be invalid and rejected.

The electoral officers will be unable to determine your order of preference, and three candidates can't all get your first vote.

So, how does this system work?

As there are three vacancies, the system will work similar to the Australian Senate elections.

The number of votes cast and the number of positions will be used to determine a "quota".

Once candidates achieve the quota, they are declared elected and any excess votes are distributed according to their preferences.

This is a simplified explanation as it is going to be a time-consuming procedure with votes being counted several times to allocate preferences.

Two important things: make sure you number boxes, but the most important thing is to cast your vote.

Peter Ruthven
West Toodyay

More Letters, Page 6.

Audit disclaimers caused by software difficulties

President's Pen

Rosemary Madácsi



LAST month I reported on the Shire's inability to meet State financial reporting requirements or finalise its audits as regulated under WA local government law for the 2020/2021 financial year.

I also mentioned it was unlikely the Shire would be able to meet the 2021/2022 audit and State Office of the Auditor General deadline, thus causing both audits to be issued with a Disclaimer Opinion.

This follows difficulties arising from a decision by a previous Council more than four years ago to change from one Shire software reporting system (SynergySoft) to another (Datascap).

Inability to meet regulatory requirements is a serious matter.

All parties are aware of the urgency to

undertake action to resolve this.

The WA Auditor General's office raised concerns when it was unable to complete satisfactory shire audits.

The agency oversees all WA local government audits and was concerned that it could not verify all the amounts submitted by the shire.

Individual transactions were easy to identify and verify but there were problems with aggregated balances in bulk journals that are used to audit and produce reports.

The matter was referred to the WA Local Government Department to assist and monitor progress.

Our Shire CEO and I met the Department's Executive Director, Tim Fraser, on August 1.

It was agreed that the shire develop a draft action plan to resolve the remaining difficulties, with timeframes for each milestone to be achieved.

The shire has now submitted a detailed draft Improvement Action Plan for the Department to review.

It will be returned to Council to endorse when accepted.

Datascap costs

DATASCAPE was purchased for \$169,248 in April 2019 by a previous council and administration.

It cost about \$30,000 more to add subsequent program variations and pay for specialist technical support.

Common to similar programs, there is a monthly service fee of \$3600 (inc. GST), which is less than what we paid previously for 10 SynergySoft licences.

Councillor allowances

IN 2022, Council reviewed councillor allowances and the percentage amount they receive within the allowed band determined by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal.

As a result, Toodyay Councillor allowances were increased from 75 per cent to 85 per cent of the allowed rate.

Allowances for the President and Deputy were increased from 60 per cent to 85 per cent.

The decision to increase the percentage was to reflect the significant amount of extra work that councillors have to undertake in

their elected roles.

To offset the additional cost, the number of Toodyay councillors was reduced from nine to seven.

The result is a saving of \$13,000 in this year's shire budget, which was passed last month.

Recreation Centre costs

MOST shires use private contractors to manage the day-to-day running of their recreation centres and swimming pools.

Why? Because private sector award wages and allowances are generally lower than for local government employees.

It enables specialist contractors such as Clublinks – which manages the Toodyay Recreation Centre – to use economies of scale that are generally not available to local government employers.

Recreation centres with few exceptions run at a loss, with local government paying for running and maintenance costs, and an annual management fee to the contractor.

This is what Toodyay does. The fee is comparable to that paid to other management contractors and is cheaper than paying shire employees to do the same job.

Clublinks presents an annual budget of its anticipated costs and earnings prior to each year's shire budget.

The Shire is invoiced quarterly for each coming season, with an adjustment made in the final quarter.

Amounts vary, based on forecast deficits for the next quarter.

A shire-run facility would face similar costs but the savings from not paying a contractor would be offset by having to pay shire employees higher wages to undertake the same work.

Cr says budget fails ratepayers – doesn't explain why

Michael Sinclair-Jones

AN ACRIMONIOUS dispute erupted at the end of last month's Toodyay Shire Council special meeting when members voted 6-1 to approve a seven per cent rate rise.

The increase aims to raise \$7.6 million in ratepayer revenue this financial year.

Cr Mick McKeown objected to the increase and other budget statements of account.

"In my opinion this budget does not adequately address the concerns of the ratepayers of Toodyay," he said.

McKeown did not speak further to his objection.

"Right, it's a bit late in the day to mention it," Shire President Rosemary Madácsi said as she recorded Cr McKeown's objection.

Earlier, councillors voted 7-0 to give themselves a pay rise this financial year.

"Point of order, Madam President," Cr McKeown said.

"Are you making a comment or having a debate or ruling on a point of order?"

"I am making a comment, councillor," President Madácsi said.

"I think you need to withdraw it," Cr McKeown said.

"No, I don't think so," President Madácsi said.

"We've had ... the comment I think was valid given the amount of workshops (eight since last December) we've had.

"If there was a concern with the budget ..."

"Madam President, you are now debating," Cr McKeown said.

"I'm not debating, I'm making a ..."

President Madácsi said.

"Oh, I think you are ..."

Both began talking over each other.

"You are overruling the presiding member," President Madácsi said.

"I'm interrupting the presiding member on a point of order," Cr McKeown said.

"You have a point of order for constantly interrupting and over-speaking the presiding member," President Madácsi said.

"There is no rule against interrupting a presiding member," Cr McKeown said.

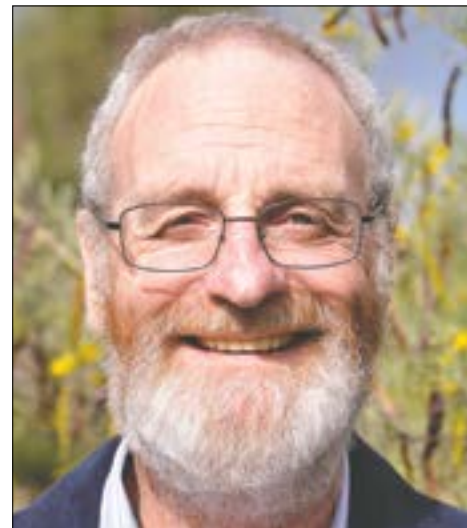
"There is a rule that says you are not to interrupt another councillor except when raising a point of order."

"Then I suggest you become more familiar with standing orders please," President Madácsi said.

"Councillor, we will move on."

Member voted 7-0 to accept five of the meeting's seven budget recommendations.

The other two recommendations were



Toodyay Shire Councillor Mick McKeown.

carried 6-1, with Cr McKeown voting against both but not speaking further.

They included \$360,000 in annual State Treasury loan repayments for a previous council's decision in 2019 to build the now largely unused Toodyay Recreation Centre.

Cr McKeown declined later to explain to *Herald* readers why he said the budget failed to adequately address ratepayer concerns, and why he twice voted 'no' at the meeting.

"I now may not make any elaboration regarding this matter because to do so may be a breach of clause 4(1)(e) of the Shire of Toodyay Code of Conduct for Council Members, Committee Members and Candidates," Cr McKeown said.

The clause published on the shire website under the heading 'Personal integrity' says a council member "should avoid damage to the reputation of local government".

(See Letters, previous Page).

Waste water and noise yet to be determined at new 24/7 minesite

Continued from Page 1.

CHALICE plans to mine nearly half a million ounces of palladium, platinum and gold a year at Julimar, plus 16,000 tonnes of nickel, 16,000 tonnes of copper and 1400 tonnes of cobalt annually until 2047.

It also plans to build a Julimar processing plant to crush ore and use sulfide flotation to produce an ore concentrate for export to precious metals refineries overseas.

An area two thirds of the surface area of the Kalgoorlie Super Pit will be used for an open-cut mine and tailings dump on Chalice-owned farmland near Keating Road.

Exploratory drilling has discovered further similar deposits in the nearby State-registered Julimar Conservation Park but this area is excluded from current plans.

The forest contains rare and endangered native birds, plants and animals, and has prompted calls (see Page 31) for the State Government to upgrade its status to national park to protect it from future mining.

In response to the share price crash, Chalice said "we appreciate it may take time for the market to absorb and fully digest the study".

"Chalice remains well-funded to pursue development of the project with over \$140 million in cash," the company said.

The mine would also require a new 132kV Western Power line to be built from Muchea to Julimar and a new transformer substation to be installed at the minesite.

The company says it will ask the Water Corporation to build a new 50km pipeline to Julimar to deliver water to the minesite.

Chalice said it would provide future "modelling on noise impacts" for surrounding farms and rural residential properties.

Three council seats up for grabs

THREE sitting Toodyay shire councillors will recontest their seats at next month's WA local government elections.

Shire President Rosemary Madácsi, Shire Deputy President Beth Ruthven and Cr Susan Pearce – whose four-year terms expire next month – have all formally nominated for the October 21 poll.

Nominations for three council vacancies close at 4pm on Thursday October 7 – one day after *The Herald* goes to press.

More candidates are expected to stand.

This would require a postal ballot of all Toodyay electors, with a WA Electoral Commission mail-out of voting packages starting on Friday September 15.

No election will be needed if only three candidates nominate for the three seats.

This year sees the introduction of optional preferential voting which enables candidates to share votes to defeat rivals.

Toodyay voters do not choose a shire president or deputy.

The two-year roles are decided by a secret ballot of councillors at the first shire council meeting after the election.

Voting is not compulsory in WA local government elections.

GRANDPARENTS REARING GRANDKIDS

Are you a Grandparent rearing Grandkids? Or do you know someone who is?

Did you know there are services that can help?

If you would like to know more..., join us at this upcoming event at the Toodyay CWA Hall.

And yes, a great CWA morning tea is guaranteed!



INFORMATION SESSION
Thursday 12th October 10am
for 10.15 start

There are many reasons why Grandparents end up providing full time care for their Grandchildren. These Grandparents provide an invaluable role in our community, at a time in their lives when they may have had retirement or other plans.

Diane Franklyn, our guest speaker from "Grandparents Rearing Grandchildren" will provide information on the support services available, if you or someone you know, finds themselves suddenly caring full time for their grandchildren.



Vibrant entertainment at Toodyay International Food Fair



LETTERS

Continued from Page 4

Mining alone not the answer

THE SCEPTICISM to mining by many in the community that was highlighted in last month's *Herald* is hardly surprising.

It is based on plenty of evidence to show the mining industry is masterly at promoting the benefits – so called jobs, jobs, jobs –, but woefully poor at either informing the community of the downsides, in particular

environmental destruction, or fixing up the damage afterwards.

Those very downsides were highlighted by one correspondent in the same edition and no doubt there will be more unhappy letter writers as activity ramps up if and when the State Government gives approval for Chalice's open-pit plans.

No doubt there will be some people who will end up with jobs generated by Chalice activity who would otherwise not have had local employment.

That is an undeniable plus.

But we should caution about throwing all our eggs into the mining basket as the salvation to the challenges faced by country towns such as Toodyay.

Those challenges were also highlighted in the August edition which had news of yet another business closure in the town to add to others we have heard about recently, including one of our two remaining pubs.

The reasons for such closures are varied, and the country is still dealing with the effects of the post-pandemic economy, including very low unemployment and a shortage of skilled staff.

But the ability of all communities to survive changing economic circumstances is dependent in large part on having a diverse economy.

Surely what Toodyay needs, as well as the seemingly inevitable mining activity and the long-established agricultural industry, is a third leg to the economic stool, namely development of its tourism potential.

The attractions of the Avon Valley and Toodyay itself are much talked about in our local community but I suggest many of the nearly two million people that live on our doorstep are unaware of it or have not yet visited our region.

The good news is that we are not starting from scratch as Toodyay does already attract some of those two million people to events such as the Avon Descent, and the Moondyne and Fibre Festivals.

But surely we need to build on that success with a more genuine comprehensive tourist strategy that attracts visitors more evenly through the week and throughout the year?

This is not to point the finger at the local council as is often the wont of others in the columns of this local newspaper.

Some have talked about the need for a Toodyay Chamber of Commerce which could certainly contribute to a comprehensive tourism development strategy.

Whatever the strategy, it will not be an easy task because it will require the investment of significant skills and time for some in our community.

But we can surely learn from the efforts of other local towns such as Bridgetown that have succeeded in turning their local communities into more thriving ones where people want to both live and work.

A healthier, more diverse economy, aside from all the obvious benefits on employment, etc. might also enable the community to make better and informed choices about how it wants the town and the local environment to be developed in a more sustainable and liveable way.

Andrew St John
Toodyay

Warm thanks, Moondyne Men

WE WOULD like to extend our thanks to Toodyay's Moondyne Men.

After we won their wood raffle, not only did they deliver the wood, along with firefighters and matches, but they turned up with volunteers to help with unloading and stacking the wood.

Thanks guys, you have no idea how much this wood means to us.

Paul and Jo Sutton
Toodyay

TOODYAY

MRB 2339

Tyre Service

New 4X4, Truck,
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9622 1462 or 9622 3468

Avon Descent action



Powering through Millards Pool at full throttle on approach to Extracts Weir.



Demolition derby in low water at Extracts Weir.



Rescue volunteers monitor tough conditions at Extracts Weir.



LEFT: Grim determination at Newcastle Bridge. ABOVE: David Tupling (75) on the way to completing his 20th Avon Descent.



Smiles of relief as exhausted paddlers reach Cobblers Pool overnight camp.

SHIRE OF TOODYAY NOTICES

Shire of Toodyay Fire-Break Notice

Pursuant to Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, all residents and ratepayers within the Shire of Toodyay are required to comply with the requirements set out in this notice.

Due Date: 1 November Annually **Maintained Until:** 30 April Annually

NB: If you purchase land during this period you have 14 days from purchase to comply with this order.

Failure to comply may result in a fine or prosecution

1. All land less than or equal to 1 hectare

1.1 All land with an area less than 1 hectare (2.47 acres) are required to be fire hazard reduced by ensuring:

- grass height does not exceed 100mm; and
- no tree crowns overhang the building; and
- Total available fuel load is maintained at 2 tonnes per hectare or lower.

2. All land greater than 1 hectare

2.1 Land up to and including 200 hectares in size shall have a fire-break cleared and maintained within 10 metres of the external boundary.

2.2 Land exceeding 200 hectares in size shall have fire-breaks cleared and maintained so as to divide the property into parcels of land less than 200 hectares.

2.3 A fire-break shall be cleared and maintained within 15 metres from external walls of buildings and around haystacks, solar panels and fuel storage areas.

2.4 A 20 metre wide Asset Protection Zone (low fuel area) shall be maintained from external walls of buildings and around haystacks, fuel storage areas such that:

- grass height does not exceed 100mm; and
- no tree crowns overhang the building; and
- Total available fuel load is maintained at 2 tonnes per hectare or lower.

2.5 A fire-break shall be cleared and maintained immediately surrounding a stationary motor.

DEFINITION: Fire-break – An area cleared of all inflammable materials 3 metres horizontally (wide) and 4 metres vertically (high).

Additional Restrictions during the Limited Burning Times

Pursuant to Section 24G(2) and Section 25(1a) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* and applicable to all persons, the burning of garden refuse and lighting of camping or cooking fires is prohibited within the Local Government district of Toodyay during the Prohibited Burning Period. Furthermore, pursuant to Section 24G(2) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* and applicable to all persons, the burning of garden refuse is prohibited within the Local Government district of Toodyay during the Restricted Burning Period unless a valid permit to burn has been obtained from a Fire Control Officer. Section 24C (Terms Used) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* contains definitions relevant to this notice.

Carrying of Fire Extinguishers during the Limited Burning Times

Pursuant to Section 27(3) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, and applicable to all persons, the Shire of Toodyay prohibits the operation of any tractor or self-propelled harvester without a fire extinguisher being carried within in the Local government district of Toodyay during the Restricted Burning Period and Prohibited Burning Period. Section 27(5) of *Bush Fires Act 1954* and regulations 3 and 37(2) of the *Bush Fire Regulations 1954* contain definitions relevant to this notice.

Operation of Internal Combustion Engine Model Aircraft during the Limited Burning Times

Pursuant to Regulation 38A(1) of the *Bush Fires Regulations 1954*, and applicable to all persons during the Restricted Burning Period and Prohibited Burning Period, the Shire of Toodyay prohibits the operation of any internal combustion engine model aircraft when for any day, or any period of a day, the fire danger forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology in Perth in respect of the locality of operation is "high" or above. Operation is permitted during forecast fire danger of "moderate" or below where; fuel load being over flown is less than 1 tonne per hectare or maximum 100 millimetres grass height; and a fire-break cleared of all inflammable materials 3 metres horizontally (wide) and 4 metres vertically (high) fully surrounds the over flown area; and three abled bodied persons with ability to extinguish a fire are present; and two fire fighting vehicles of capacity not less than 500 litres each with minimum 20 meters long 19 millimetres diameter hose capable of delivering minimum 120 litres of water per minute at 700 kilopascals are present.

The above notice does not withstand any other subsequent declaration made under Regulation 38A(1) of the *Bush Fires Regulations 1954*, or declaration of a Total Fire Ban

Shire of Toodyay Bush Fire Control Officers

Pursuant to Section 38 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, the Shire of Toodyay advises appointment of the following persons as Bushfire Control Officers for the Shire of Toodyay.

Craig Stewart (Chief Bush Fire Control Officer), Nicholas Griggs (Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer 1), Robert Koch (Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer 2), Garry Forsyth, Jeffrey Venn, Ian MacGregor, Charles Wroth, Robert Scobie, Greg Warburton, Leon Couper, Wade McMillan, Ebony Francis

Suzie Haslehurst – Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Toodyay



EMERGENCY SERVICES 'Charlie and the Kidds' honoured

Julimar Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Karen Dore

AT THE Brigade's August ordinary meeting recognition awards were presented to "Charlie and the Kidds" by Shire of Toodyay Community Emergency Services Manager Rob Koch and Julimar Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Captain Wade Robson.

Anne and Lou Kidd shine brightly among Toodyay's local heroes.

From the moment they joined Julimar's Brigade, their unwavering commitment has been a guiding light.

Firefighting, executive positions, catering, fundraising, social events – they've done it all, personifying community spirit.

The laughter-filled Julimar Olympics and joyous Christmas parties are unforgettable.

Anne and Lou were of course the masterminds behind these memorable moments, solidifying the camaraderie that continues to warm the Julimar fire place.

Their infectious smiles on Friday nights have become a heartwarming tradition, and their continued presence is a blessing we hope for.

With immense pride, Anne and Lou were honoured for their service with presentations to each of them of their well-deserved 25-year service clasps.



Lou Kidd (right) shares a laugh with Shire of Toodyay Community Emergency Services Manager Rob Koch.

But the spotlight didn't rest solely on Anne and Lou.

Charlie Wroth, a true pillar of the Toodyay community, has been a Brigade member since 1977, when Julimar was known as the West Toodyay Brigade.

With his unparalleled commitment, Charlie has been a valued presence at innumerable fires and Brigade training sessions, sharing his wisdom and experience generously.

He's held various roles within the Brigade, a testament to his dedication.

Charlie's impact as a community champion extends beyond the Brigade's boundaries.

His contributions to St John Ambulance and numerous community committees, as well as his time on the Council, including a term as Shire President, highlight an extraordinary commitment to Toodyay.

The respect and gratitude held for Charlie's decades of community service are beyond measure.

With heartwarming gratitude Charlie was presented with a clasp, recognising 45 years of service.

As we celebrate Anne, Lou and Charlie, we're reminded that recognition isn't simply about time served and tasks completed.

The stories of community champions like these are woven into the fabric of the community and their legacy is the enduring uplifting 'mark' left on our community.



Anne Kidd (right) with Toodyay Community Emergency Services Manager Rob Koch.



Charlie Wroth (right) receives his clasp recognising 45 years' service from Brigade Captain Wade Robson (left) and Shire of Toodyay Community Emergency Services Manager Rob Koch.

34 ambo calls cover 1658km

St John Toodyay Sub Centre
Pam Tennant

FIRSTLY I want to thank all our volunteers, whether they have been with us for many years, or have joined us recently.

The job you all do, as a team, is extraordinary.

Each individual effort, while it may seem minor, is important, and together makes the operation of the sub centre something of which we can be proud.

August was a busy month for call-outs, first aid posts and training, amongst the other day-to-day operations.

Our volunteers attended 34 calls, with our ambulances travelling 1658km.

The Community Transport Service vehicle was also busy and took 24 clients to medical appointments.

We are looking forward to the Toodyay Show on October 7 where we will be providing a first aid post as well as having a display.



Toodyay ambulance volunteer treats an 'injured' person during a simulated car wreck rescue at the Toodyay Show.



Steve Weston trains with in-cab air equipment during a crew protection training drill.

Burning permits needed from end of the month

Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Peter Brennan, Captain

IN THE lead-up to fire season Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade members will be doing refresher training after our monthly meetings.

The training covers a number of key aspects from turnout and return procedures to map reading, radio communications, tyre changing, truck setups, drafting and crew protection drills.

The next monthly meeting will be on Tuesday September 12 at the co-located Emergency Facility, 67 Stirling Terrace, from 7pm.

After the unrestricted burning period finishes on Saturday September 30 we will move into the spring restricted burning period, which runs from October 1 to October 31 each year.

Anyone who wishes to burn during this period will require a permit.

Permits will only be issued for legitimate mitigation outcomes or for primary producer requirements.

Permits are not issued for social occasions, burning rubbish, or for burns that could

reasonably be deferred or avoided.

October is also the time for property owners to get their firebreaks and properties prepared for the coming fire season.

Fire breaks do not just provide breaks between vegetation areas but are also importantly, safe areas fire-fighting appliances can travel along and as a consequence, need to meet the criteria laid down by the Shire.

Furthermore, fire breaks are required to be maintained from 1 November 1 through until April 30.

The Shire does conduct inspections and penalties do apply for non-compliance.

Information on fire-breaks does come out with landowner rate notices; however, information can also be obtained by visiting the Shire Website at www.toodyay.wa.gov.au.

Click on Resident Services, then Fire Information and finally Fire Restrictions and Permits.

Here you will find some very useful information.

Property owners please take special note of the width, condition and clearance height required for fire-breaks.



Upcoming first aid courses

HLTAID011 - Provide First Aid
Course type: Accredited | Duration: 1 day in class + Online learning

Price: \$170.00

When: Thursday 13 July - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Saturday 19 August - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Thursday 14 September - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Saturday 14 October - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Saturday 25 November - 8:30AM - 4:30PM

Where: St John Ambulance Toodyay, 120D Stirling Terrace, Toodyay WA 6566



Understand first aid
Learn about first aid theory and action plans



CPR and defibrillation
Practise CPR skills and how to apply a defibrillator.



Injury management
Treat and manage injuries in interactive training scenarios.



Ready to make a difference?
Book a first aid course with us



St John Ambulance (Western Australia) Ltd RTO Code 0292

EMERGENCY SERVICES

If we can't get in, then we can't fight your bushfire

Coondle-Nunile Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Chris McDonald

MANY of you would have noticed a reduction in how much rain we have had over winter which has resulted in the ground not having as much moisture as in the past couple of years.

This increases the chance of bushfires burning at higher intensity.

Now is the time of year to be out in the garden spraying weeds, cutting grass and maintaining your fire breaks.

Please remember when cutting back vegetation ensure there is room for us to get our fire trucks into your property.

If we can't get in, we can't be trying to



Low branch overhangs a Toodyay firebreak.

save your property when a bushfire comes through.

Please ensure firebreaks:

- Are at least three metres wide to mineral earth (clear of any trees, shrubs, grass or other flammable material);
- Are clear for an additional 0.5m either side (this doesn't have to be to mineral earth, however you should be able to walk or drive over it, for example, grass);
- Are clear to a height of at least four metres (overhanging branches can block access for fire fighting vehicles or damage important equipment like hoses, lights or aerials); and
- Provide a circuit that connects to other access routes (eg. driveway or road, not a dead end).

Firebreaks must allow firefighters to escape in either direction, as the way out may be blocked by fire or firefighting vehicles.

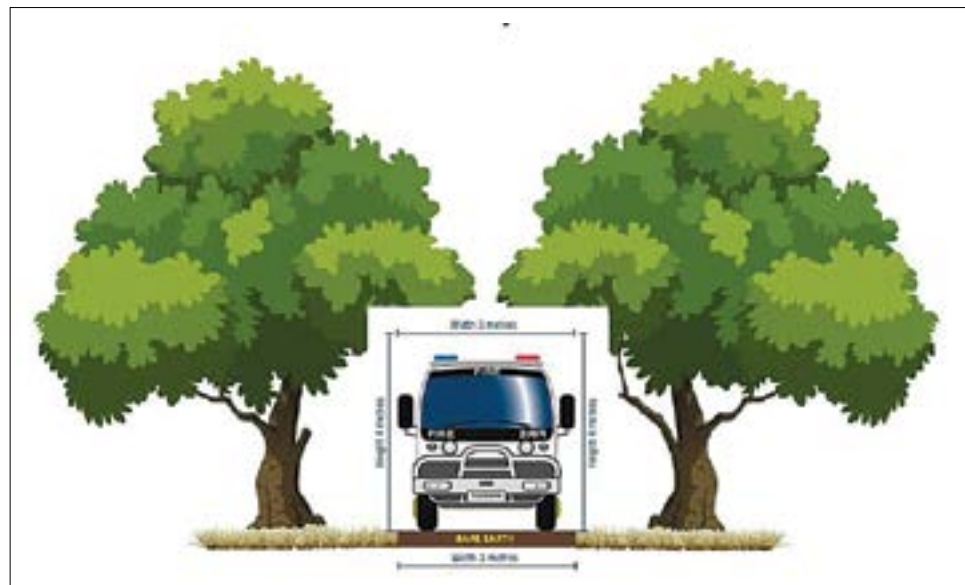
It is important to keep grass around your home and structures cut low to the ground, as this will slow the speed of fire as it travels.

Further information can be found at www.toodyay.wa.gov.au/.

Crews have been conducting training and vehicle checks getting ready for the upcoming bush fire season.

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

Check out dfes.vol.org.au for more information.



Firebreaks must be kept cleared with sufficient clearance for fire truck access.

New scam targets WA seniors card applicants

Consumer Protection

WA SENIORS are being targeted by scammers through a fake WA Seniors Card website requesting money and multiple forms of personal identification.

The fake website, which claims to be "officially approved", charges card applicants a fee of \$29.

A WA Seniors Card is free of charge.

Applicants should be asked to pay a fee, or disclose personal identification such as bank or credit card details in exchange for membership.

WA Seniors Card does not accept applications made by third party organisations.

The fake website, seniorsportal.au, is no longer online, but similarly named sites may be running the same scam.

Commissioner for Consumer Protection Trish Blake said she was concerned for seniors who had handed over their driver's licence, bank or passport details after being targeted by these cyber criminals.

"If you have provided any form of ID to this fake website, make sure to contact ID Care on 1800 595 160 or visit their website www.idcare.org," Ms Blake said.

"If you have already made a payment to this fake website, contact your financial institution and report that it is a fraudulent transaction."

The www.seniorscard.wa.gov.au is the only website where WA Seniors Cards are legitimately available.

Be aware that the first listing on an internet search may not be a legitimate website and not the service provider you are searching for.

Applicants can also obtain a WA Seniors Card in person at Level 2, 140 William Street, Perth.

To report a scam or receive further advice, contact WA ScamNet by phone 1300 304 054 or email consumer@dmirs.wa.gov.au.

For further assistance contact the WA Seniors Card team on 1800 671 233 or email info@seniorscard.wa.gov.au.



Early spring rains offer hope for an average season after an usually dry August.

Local crops on knife edge

Toodyay Agriculture Alliance (Inc)
Frank Panizza

WELCOME early spring rains are giving local farmers hope for at least an average season.

Dry conditions throughout WA in August have put local crops on a knife's edge.

As predicted, 2023 has been a dry year with drought conditions in northern and eastern areas of the state.

Some north-eastern parts of WA have had less than half of their average rainfall for the year.

Areas in the South West have had a better season, initially too wet, but now farmers are well-positioned for a good year.

Crop conditions in the Eastern States are also dry with the long-predicted El Nino now upon us.

El Nino years tend to cause drought over widespread parts of Australia, especially the Eastern States.

El Nino years also tend to see reduced rainfall in summer which in turn increase the summer bushfire risk and severity – not a prospect welcomed by anyone.

Livestock producers have become concerned about the drop in values for their produce in saleyards.

Sheep and cattle prices have seen a steady decline over the past six to nine months.

Prices for prime lamb have declined at least 30 per cent since the start of 2023.

The concerning decline is due to several factors including the poor season, shortages of shearing staff, and the mooted ban on live sheep exports.

Sheep producers are uneasy about the future profitability of sheep with an export ban in place.

Many see selling at least part of their flock as a way to reduce operational risk.

Disappointingly, the decline in saleyard

prices have not seen a decline in prices for lamb and beef in the supermarket.

Worldwide grain prices remain strong.

The war in Ukraine is continuing to unsettle grain markets as a large proportion of the world's exportable wheat and oilseeds comes out of Ukraine and Russia via the Black Sea.

Hot and dry conditions have also affected production of corn and other grain in Canada and the United States, with a flow-on effect on world grain prices.

An issue which needs to be raised is the constant trespassing of tourists and sightseers into canola fields.

This appears to be a problem every year when canola is in full bloom.

Canola in full bloom is a spectacular sight especially with a patchwork of green fields surrounding the canola.

However, some visitors simply see the fence or a gate as an obstacle to entering private property for a better photograph.

In a recent instance we had a person enter a leased property to take photographs while we were spraying.

This clearly has some safety issues as the visitor will have had no understanding of the biosecurity risk involved.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION

Come and hear from all Candidates

WHEN: Tuesday 12 September 2023

WHERE: Toodyay Community Resource Centre
67 Stirling Terrace, Toodyay

TIME: 7pm - 9pm

MODERATOR: Graham Hill, *Chairman Moondyne Men*

Environment Matters at
the *Toodyay Herald*
news@toodyayherald.com.au



Fearmongering fakes are phishing for your funds

Computer Safety
Phil Hart

AUSTRALIANS lost \$3.1 billion to scammers in 2022 (bit.ly/3sdFW4b)

Phishing accounted for \$157.6 million, a tally that seems to grow every year.

Scammers use social engineering when crafting their phishing emails or texts.

They typically try to generate a sense of urgency, fear or panic in the people they target with messages about things most people consider important.

These include suspended bank accounts, tickets for sports events, suspended entertainment services, cheap offers, product surveys and suchlike, or final demands for payment, often with a threat of legal action.



Links in phishing emails and texts always take you to fake websites.

A fake or fraudulent website is designed to look like the real thing, but it is always at a bogus web address.

It pays to look at the address bar in your web browser.

It costs a scammer as little as \$10 to set up a fake web site.

Some fakes ask you for your account details and passwords on the first page.

Other fakes take you through several pages designed to lull you into a false sense of security before showing a page that asks for payment by credit card.

Scammers use that information to drain your bank account or use your card for their own purposes.

While spelling errors and poor grammar used to be common on fake web sites, they are becoming less common with artificial intelligence tools such as ChatGPT.

If the tone of any email or message that you receive does not match the tone you usually get from the purported sender, it is helpful to ask yourself "Hang on a minute – is this for real?".

More information at bit.ly/45totmv.



Side Show Alley - one of the favourite entertainments at the Toodyay show.

Freeze your Show cakes now – and remember to defrost

Toodyay Agricultural Society
Alison Wroth

BY THE date of publication, there will only be a month until the historical 169th Toodyay Agricultural Show on Saturday October 7.

The Show Schedule books are out a bit late this year to the members, and we must apologise for this delay.

The schedule has been on the website since

early August, but we do like our book in the hand, or I do anyway.

To keep expenses down and since both schedule and entry form can be printed from our website, there is only a minimum number printed of 300 this year.

If you are not a TAS Member and get it in the post grab your book quickly from either the Visitor Centre, Shire of Toodyay offices, Makit Hardware or the Toodyay and Districts Bendigo Community Bank.

Entry forms, along with a bank receipt of your fee deposit, can once again be emailed direct to our Show Recorder, which saves time for everybody.

If you do not want to take up this new option, you can still drop entry forms with the correct money in a sealed envelope at the Toodyay Visitor Centre.

Entry forms will be accepted up to 12pm Saturday September 30.

Please lodge entries early.

Both the Facebook page and our website www.toodyayagsociety.com.au are ways of accessing the Society, especially if you have queries for a groundspace opportunity at the Show in the trade or food van area.

Our wood raffle a few weeks ago was record breaking, with incredible support from the community and visitors alike.

Over \$1643.50 was raised with that load of jarrah, so thanks go to Charlie Wroth for the donation of the split wood and congratulations to Mal Williams, from Coondle West Road, who held the winning ticket.

Thank you also to everyone from TAS who manned the stall that weekend, got their heads around the EFTPOS machine at last, and to the people who support us every year.

Our heartfelt thanks for supporting your annual Show.

Now is the time when all the marvellous cooks in the district come out to cook the batch of biscuits, bake that traditional Show Schedule Cake or the President's Favourite Recipe, which this year is a "Tim Tam Cake" and let's all cross our fingers that the day of the Show is not really hot.

We've all got plenty of time to practice and if you bake a cake that you believe would win that "TAS Best Exhibit" Sash, freeze and enter, just make sure that the exhibit is totally defrosted on the day of the Show.

The Bread section was very bare last year, so if you have a bread maker, throw a mixture in the night before and see how it goes.

Bread makes for a wonderful exhibit and then they love it at the auction later in the day.

Give Cookery a go, everybody benefits.

Our stewards pre-Show meeting will be held on either Saturday September 16 or 23 at the Youth Hall at 9am, followed by a lovely morning tea.

The Show Recorder and Schedule Coordinator Sarah will be available.

If all willing and able stewards could make it along, it would be beneficial when we go through the judging file as Sarah will be there to answer queries relating to data input on the day and the collation of the file.

We have a few new stewards this year, so please advise me if you can't attend and we can catch up on another day.

I will be sending the regular bulk email around to all the stewards to confirm the dates and meeting agenda in the next week.

I have not mentioned our issues with the historical bar building at the Showgrounds in any of our articles, as this is still "a matter in progress".

We are in a holding pattern and will wait to see what can be done together with the Shire, for next year's big 170th Agricultural Show.

FREEMASONS HOTEL

RE-OPENING!

THE FREEMASONS WILL REMAIN UNDER CURRENT OWNERSHIP, WHILE PARTNERING WITH A NEW MANAGEMENT COMPANY, THE REC GROUP.

TOGETHER WE'LL BE COMMENCING RENOVATIONS TO THE HISTORIC BUILDING, DEVELOPING THE VACANT LOT NEXT DOOR AND MOST IMPORTANTLY SERVING COLD BEER AND FRESH FOOD TO THE COMMUNITY WE LOVE.

TOGETHER WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU BACK. LETS PARTY!

You don't need to wear a badge to be a leader

Toodyay District High School
Kim Anderson, Principal

New principal

I WOULD like to introduce myself as the Principal at Toodyay District High for the next seven weeks while Mr Ball has been asked to assist schools in Perth.

I have been an administrator for 20 years in five District High Schools—Beverley, Wagin, Dumbleyung, Gnowangerup and recently in York.

Having been a principal in rural and metro schools for 40 years I have a knowledge of the complexities of education.

I have been a member of the Toodyay District High School board for the last two years.

I live in Toodyay and hope to provide a stable influence while Mr Ball is in Perth.

School leaders

IT IS with great pleasure that I congratulate two fabulous Year 10 students, Jayden Hansord and Clive Millett.

Jayden began the year undertaking the role of Deputy School Captain.

Through his actions across this year, Jayden has demonstrated impressive leadership and maturity.

In recognition of his exemplary example, Jayden was 'promoted' to School Captain, together with Michael Woodford.

Clive has been quietly and humbly demonstrating natural leadership in a number of aspects of school life across this year, living up to the adage that, to be a leader, you don't need to wear a badge.

However, it is only right that credit is given where it is due.



Science Fair winners (from left) Myla Cottam, Lola Brockliss, Elix McConnell, Lincoln Miles, Archer Lee Steere and Jye Medley

It is with delight that I congratulate Clive Millett on now being appointed as Deputy School Captain for the remainder of this year.

White card

OUR STUDENTS are offered a wide range of opportunities to explore their future pathways.

The Year 10 students recently completed their White Card training via SIDE, which is a registered training organisation.

This was conducted 'face-to-face' at school across two days.

I am pleased to say that all of our students

were successful.

This qualification, which is for life, enables the holder to work on construction sites.

Congratulations to our fabulous Year 10s who did themselves and us proud through their productivity and engagement.

Ranger taster

THE YEAR 9 students recently had a career taster on how to be a council ranger.

Students learnt how to scan an animal for its microchip, catch and bag a snake safely and how to lasso a dog.

Thank you to Mr Anderson's beautifully behaved dog, Storm, for being a willing volunteer.

Science Fair

TOODYAY District High School's first inaugural Science Fair was held on Thursday August.

It was a huge success with both secondary and primary students involved.

The pride and enjoyment on the students' faces was awesome to see, and the work the students put into their science experiments was amazing.

The Primary School gave out prizes for places in the Upper Primary and in the Junior Primary.

The winners for Upper Primary were: First Elix McConnell; Second Lincoln Miles; Third Jye Medley; and for Junior Primary the winners were: First Myla Cottam; Second Lola Brockliss; and Third Archer Lee Steere.

A big thank you to Mr Norrish, Mr Raymond and Mrs Bowles for all your hard work organising this brilliant event.

Athletics Carnival

OUR ANNUAL Faction Athletics Carnival was held on Friday August 18.

Students from Primary and Secondary competed in many events including high jump, leader ball, pass ball, age group running races and flag relays.

Avon (Green) were the overall champions on what was a lovely sunny day.

It was terrific to see our students competing and displaying such good sportsmanship.

The all-important parent, teacher and staff relay was won by the students this year.

Hopefully the staff can field a combative team next year and win back the relay title.

Thank you to the P&C for providing sausage sizzle lunches, for running the cake stall and to our families for contributing to the cake stall.

Book Week

WHAT a fantastic turn out of dressed-up students and staff we had for our annual Book Week Parade.

The winners for each year group were: Myla Cottam, Lola Brockliss, Elix McConnell, Lincoln Miles, Archer Lee Steere and Jye Medley.

Open night

OPEN Night was held on Thursday August 24.

It was a lovely night weather-wise, and it was wonderful to see so many of our families enjoying the amazing work our students have been doing this year.

The choir performed several songs for everyone's enjoyment.

Thank you to the P&C for putting on a delicious sausage sizzle on the night.

Events

SOME of the upcoming events at Toodyay District High School in the next month are: P&C Father's Day Stall; Zero 2 Hero – In Your Head Forum for student leaders; Interscholar Athletics Carnival; OLNA for Year 10s; and Astronomy Night.



Toodyay District High School students dress up for Book Week.

Vote ① Rosemary Madácsi

For Toodyay Shire Council

A determined candidate working to build a resilient rural community.

Rosemary Madácsi

In four years I have helped to create:

- a cohesive Council which supports robust discussion
- strong financial oversight and comprehensive reporting
- best practice governance to adopt State Inquiry recommendations
- a dynamic and can-do culture across the organisation
- sound budgets from a difficult initial financial position
- growth in bank reserves
- strong targeted plans within the capacity of the community to pay
- a path to reduce financial pressures and consolidate our future
- strategies to preserve our heritage, history and environment
- a stronger regional and state profile

This is my focus with more to be done

I seek your support to continue these reforms

Vote for ONE CANDIDATE

ROSEMARY MADÁCSI	1
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OR

OPTIONAL PREFERENTIAL VOTING

ROSEMARY MADÁCSI	1
SUSAN PEARCE	2
BETH RUTHVEN	3

Written and authorised by Rosemary Madácsi - 83 North Street, West Toodyay WA Email: madacsi248@bigpond.com - Mobile: 0448 473 328

Step up and step out with the Community Singers

Toodyay Community Singers
Anne Millar

WITH the Toodyay Agricultural show nearly here, our lively rehearsals are in full swing.

Would you like to take part? It's not too late, come and join the Toodyay Community Singers to be part of this special choral event on October 7.

It doesn't matter if you are new to Toodyay or have lived in the community for a while – if you enjoy singing, we would love to meet you.

To be part of these invigorating community singing events, come along on a Thursday evening between 5pm and 7pm at the CWA Hall in Stirling Terrace.

Ride-on mowers, quad bikes and leaf rakes par for this course

Bejoording Community Group:
Information Bay (By Bee)

PUT UP your hand if you've ever driven across the Nullarbor.

Keep your hand up if you've played The Longest Golf Course in the World while making the journey.

Okay, so my hand stayed up.

The rest of you had better sit back while you read about our community's version of the game.

It was while sharing our Longest Golf Course (and Big Golf Score) delight with friends one evening that I suggested we ought to do the same in our own backyards.

And so another event was added to our already busy calendar.

With planning done and dusted around the table that night, the idea soon came to fruition.

Greens were mowed and holes prepared with numbered plastic leaf rakes as flags (I expect you're getting the picture).

Once the various modes of transport and a few loose rules were decided upon, the PGA (Progressive Golf Amble) Bejoording-style was born.

On the day of the event the weather was perfect, so we all climbed on board our lawnmowers, quad bikes and set off to Hole Number 1, Dougie's Divot.

Teams were selected, score cards issued and Golf Etiquette touched on before proceeding through the other participating

properties which made up our course, (all with equally appropriate titles).

It was obvious from the outset that the number one aim was to have fun and, oh yes, that we did.

The winning team of Brian, Luke, Jen and Lavinia were heartily congratulated and received a very bucolic First Prize Trophy.

The Runners-Up got to hold up The Plate.

The losing team just got a ribbing and had to do a Shoey.

We then enjoyed an extended stay on the 19th Hole for some of Jamo's Clubhouse Chaos, reliving the day with a barbecue, speeches, and shared photos.

It's been suggested that the trophies become perpetual, so let's hope this becomes a regular event on the Bejoording calendar.

A big thank you to all our Hole Stakeholders – you did a magnificent job on your holes – and a giant thank you to my hubby Tony for making it happen.

Our monthly feast on August 2 was a Taco Night.

This is always well attended and has proved a favourite.

Our chefs, Kim and Darb, put on a beautiful spread with a choice of 'Hot' and 'Not' fillings which we constructed as we saw fit with toppings served alongside.

Despite the cold nights the camaraderie was heartwarming indeed.

For contact information see *Where and When* page 30.



Bejoording residents playing one of the 'golf' holes during the inaugural PGA (Progressive Golf Amble) Bejoording Style.



P&C cake stall at last month's Toodyay District High School Athletics Carnival.

100 bangers raise \$395 at parents' open day

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

TERM three is always a busy one for students, staff and parents.

We held our annual Fathers' Day stall on Friday September 1, raising \$724 for the school and gave students an opportunity to buy a gift for dad or a father figure in their lives.

The school opened its doors to parents and the community on Thursday August 24 in a celebration of student achievements.

The school choir delivered a welcoming performance after which students and parents were free to roam the school, visiting classrooms showcasing students' work throughout the year.

The P&C sold almost 100 sizzled sausages, raising \$395 for the school.

Before that was the athletics carnival on Friday August 18.

The sun was shining, and students put in their best efforts with staff and parents there to cheer them on.

The P&C cake stall and sausage sizzle

raised a total of \$1174, setting a new fundraising record for the school.

A sincere thank you to everyone who contributed to the stall and to the canteen volunteers for the sausage sizzle lunch provided.

We also celebrated our new cubby house in the early childhood area, assembled thanks to the hands-on efforts of Moondyne Men Volunteers.

The school purchased the cubby house after receiving donations from the P&C and Toodyay Op Shop.

Special thanks to Ms Lynda de Ruyter for her efforts in arranging the cubby house for students.

At the term three members' meeting on August 15 the P&C approved \$5600 in donations towards school activities, including \$3000 towards the purchase of a large, enclosed trailer for school camps and Cadets program activities.

Other donations will enable us to purchase uniforms for the Country Week netball team, musical and mini-beasts incursions for primary school students, and Book Week parade awards vouchers to encourage a love of reading.

Turning our attention to the broader school community, each year the WA Council of State Schools Organisation conference brings together P&Cs from across the state to learn from one another.

More than 200 P&Cs were represented at the conference on August 18 and 19.

It was an honour to represent Toodyay DHS P&C on our school's behalf.

The conference reaffirmed the importance of student wellbeing, belonging and parent engagement in students' education experience, and how volunteering provides a sense of belonging, purpose and enjoyment.

Volunteering with the Toodyay DHS P&C can provide a sense of belonging and purpose, knowing your contribution helps to make a difference to students in our community.

For contact information, see *Where and When*, page 30.

TOODYAY SHIRE COUNCIL

Vote Susan Pearce ①

An independent candidate continuing to work for:

- Greater financial planning and oversight
- Strengthened governance
- Protection of the environment and heritage
- Informed debate and decisions
- Open dialogue between Council and community
- Preservation of a rural lifestyle
- Collaboration to produce the best outcomes

Your Vote Counts



Phone 0427 957 425
susanpearce740@outlook.com

**Vote
Susan Pearce ①**

Authorised by Susan Pearce. 740 Salt Valley Road, Toodyay WA 6566

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

Brylcreem – a little dab will no longer do you

Toodyay Historical Society Inc
 Robyn Taylor, Vice President

MANY households in Toodyay have a special place for inherited linens and cottons that display their mother's or grandmother's needlework skills.

They may be beautifully embroidered table and supper-cloths with matching napkins, crocheted doilies to put under vases, or antimacassars.

The last item, a cloth usually with attractive crocheted edges, was designed to hang over the backs of comfy chairs and armrests to keep them spotless, as well as adding a touch of refined domesticity to lounge and drawing rooms.

Macassar was a popular hair oil used in the 19th century.

The male in the house resting his head against a leather or fabric upholstered chair wouldn't be popular with either mistress or maid.

A predecessor of the well-known men's Brylcreem hair grooming product, Macassar oil lost popularity in the Swinging Sixties, when side partings and short back and sides rapidly went out of fashion.

TV ads used to proclaim "Brylcreem, a little dab will do you, Brylcreem, you look so debonair, Brylcreem, the girls will all pursue you, they love to run their fingers through your hair".

The point of this diversion from embroidery to antimacassars and hair oil is the fascinating cultural link between domestic productions, fashions, and new and emerging products in the marketplace.

It's also about the role of women in the domestic environment.

Baby boomers will recall the explosion in popularity of products made from plastic.

Mothers in particular were thrilled when plastic tablecloths, made to mimic elaborate embroidery, did away with weekly washing and ironing.

Plastic flowers could be refreshed with just a rinse under the tap.

At our August meeting, member and Feature Speaker Desrae Clarke spoke of the changes in home crafts during her lifetime, illustrating her talk with examples of fine, hand-made and decorated linens and cottons.

These included a large white cotton supper cloth featuring white thread work made by her husband Wayne Clarke's mother (b. 1909).

The 18cm fringe was knitted in fine cotton by her sister.

There was an embroidered napkin and an egg-warmer made when Wayne's mother was in primary school and a small supper cloth of exquisite drawn-thread work bought in Tasmania.

Sewing, a compulsory subject for girls in primary school, continued into high school



Ian Stannard with his prize-winning gerberas. Photo: Robyn Taylor.



Table and supper cloth with embroidered napkin and egg warmer. Photo: Wayne Clarke.

if mothers thought 'Domestic Science' (cooking and sewing) was going to be more useful than science and languages.

Girls married young and were expected to have a trousseau, or 'hope chest', with linens and special items for their future home.

Another thread going through Desrae's talk was current concerns about waste, our throw-away culture and the need to repair and recycle.

If you are interested in the history of embroidery, a refreshing and humorous take on the subject can be found in Rozika Parker's *The Subversive Stitch: Embroidery and the Making of the Feminine*, published in 1984 by The Women's Press and reprinted in 1986.

In the Show and Tell session, Ian Stannard brought along an early flour sifter and chocolate sauce pot.

Beth Frayne showed photos of the Avon Descent and Food Festival in Toodyay from a display set up in Duidgee Park.



This had been organised by the Shire and our Society for the 50th boat race that took place on August 12.

Our August excursion to member Ian Stannard's beautiful and productive property at Gidgegannup on a perfect spring day was truly delightful.

We admired his replica timber pioneer cottage, prize-winning gerberas and carnations and came away with bags of large, delicious passionfruit.

Our September excursion will be a visit to historic Syred's Cottage at Bejoording with a bring-your-own picnic lunch.




Details to be sent to members. For contact information see *Where and When*, Page 30.

Community Investment applications now open

For funding up to \$10,000. Applications close 30 September 2023.

Chalice is committed to positively contributing to the local communities that surround the Gonville Project, to achieve meaningful social and economic benefits. One way Chalice can contribute is through our **Community Investment Program**, which aims to support local community groups and projects in the region. When applying, applicants should consider the focus areas:

	Education
	Environment
	Community Connection

Chalice considers the Shires of Toodyay, Northam, Chittering and Goomalling as our priority communities.

In the recent Local Voices community survey, respondents told us that it was important for Chalice to provide support to the local community through environmental initiatives.


Do you know of any local groups doing great work that is environmentally focused?

In line with Chalice's commitment to strong environmental stewardship, we encourage funding applications for community environmental projects and conservation activities.

Apply Now

To apply for funding visit

www.chalicemining.com/community-investment



Shop 5, Charcoal Lane Toodyay (Thurs, 8.30am - 11.30am)

E: community@chalicemining.com

P: 0487 371 961

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 **Bendigo Bank**

Classically trained Leah tunes up in Bolgart



(Left to right) Sponsor Lester Snooke, Club Champion 2023 Matthew Edmonds, Fairlea Cup Winner 2023 Glenn McGill, and Runner-up to Club Champion and Fairlea Cup Todd Meston.

Bolgart News

Pam McGill

A WARM welcome to Leah and daughter Digsy who are looking forward to settling down in Bolgart and getting involved in the community.

Once settled, Leah – a classically trained musician – will be offering private piano, voice and music theory lessons for both children and adults.

Bolgart Progress is organising an arts and crafts display at the Bolgart Memorial Hall during the Arts Trail in September.

A broad range of media is acceptable including artworks, photographs, quilts, crochet designs and so on.

Items can be priced for sale. Enquires to bolgartprogress@gmail.com or 0488 733 351.

School news

Students celebrated Book Week at the school last month by dressing as their favourite book character for assembly.

Well done to everybody who participated in this wonderful display.

The Victoria Plains Small Schools Association (VPSSA) inter school athletics carnival will take place in Goomalling on Friday 15 September.

This year's carnival will be hosted by Sacred Heart Catholic School.

Aussie of the Month: Dakota Tregenza and Lara Tregenza.

Merit Certificates: Lilly Stewart, Levi Smith, Arvea Croseser and Rocket O'Sullivan.

Golf results

Ladies' - Merle Manuel Trophy Stroke: Winner Jenni Knowles; Runner-up on countback Pam Meston.

Avon Valley Championships in Quairading: Bronze division gross winner Serena Syred

(Serena was also runner up to the Nett Event).

Veterans event: Winner Joy Hamilton.

Nett team event: Serena Syred, Joy Hamilton, Vivienne Camerer and Nolene Kaszanski.

Kath Travers Memorial Trophy sponsored by the Travers Family: Winner Vivienne Camerer; Runner-up Jenni Knowles.

Renae Syme Trophy: Winner Joy Hamilton; Runner-up Pam Meston.

The Adele Ludemann Trophy Hidden Partners sponsored by the Ludemann Family: Winner Pam Meston and Vivienne Camerer; Runners-up Merle Manuel and Lynn Marcelli.

Ladies Champion 2023: Joy Hamilton; Runner-up Vivienne Camerer.

Nett Winner: Jenni Knowles; Runner-up Serena Syred.

Congratulations to everyone.

Men's - Men's Champion 2023: Matthew Edmonds; Runner up Todd Meston.

Congratulations to Matthew on winning his first championship.

A great achievement.

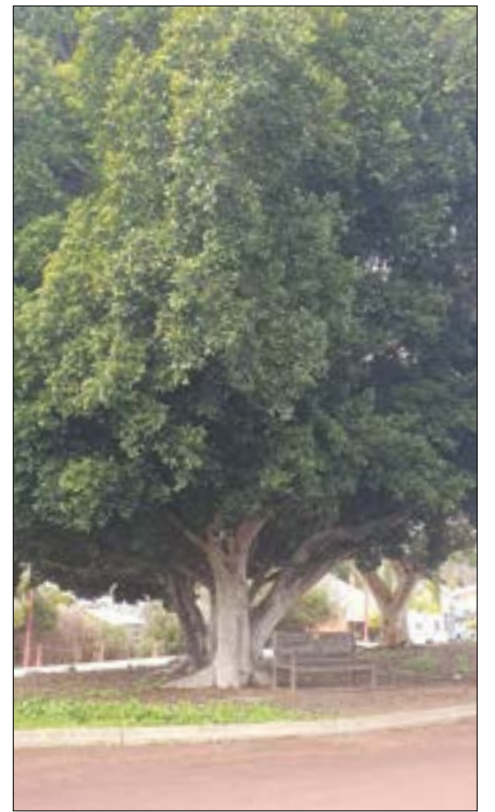
Fairlea Cup 2023: Winner Glenn McGill; Runner-up Todd Meston.

Round 1 Winner: Phil Syred; Round 2 Winner: Mark Travers.

Congratulations everyone.

Thanks to Lester and Pip Snooke from Bolgart Rural Merchandise for their generous ongoing sponsorship of the championships.

Knee-deep in invective and wood shavings



Promisingly big tree outside Toodyay's Alma Beard Medical Centre in Stirling Terrace – look out, we may get you one day.

Avon Woodturners

Hamish Dobie

HERE at the Woodturners Shed we work with many different types of wood.

There are hardwoods, softwoods, dark woods, light woods, fruit woods, fragrant woods, but no Tiger Woods.

Working with different types of wood can need different tools, and sometimes a more light-handed approach is required to get the desired result.

Going too hard at a softwood can result in a chip or tear, followed by a stream of invective.

I still find it hard to fathom that, when you start off with one log of wood on a lathe, you can end up knee deep in wood shavings before you have a finished product that is almost the same size as the log you started with.

How can one log hold so many compressed shavings?

Australia lays claim to having the strongest wood, the Australian buloke, which is an ironwood tree.

Fortunately, I haven't come across anything this hard, and I tend to stick to jarrah, quondong and olive.

All three easy-to-turn timbers display different but beautiful patterns on the finished product.

A lot can be learned from our highly experienced wood turners, Max and Dave, who can create something unique by fusing different woods together before turning.

Sometimes they will hollow out a small pot so perfectly it would make a dentist jealous.

Then there is Peter, who has painstakingly created segmented bowls from small squares of different types of wood to produce toy artillery cannons for his grandkids.

Tea break is when we all come together and discuss everything topical, whether it be where we can obtain rare types of wood or, more likely, how the Matildas played in the World Cup.

A special thanks to Rob, who brings in buckets of oranges to give away.

We are all fit and full of vitamin C.

Spring is a good time to join a group or club or become a volunteer to help the community.

Not only does this help the group or club but participating with others gives a sense of achievement and belonging, and subsequently improves mental health.

So come on down to the Woodturners hideout in Shed 1 at the Community Depot on Railway Road, on Wednesdays or Sundays from 9am until noon and become a creator of wood masterpieces – or just make a pile of wood shavings like me.

For contact information see *Where and When*, page 30.

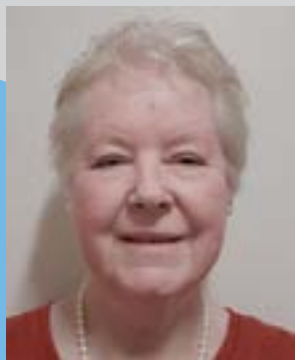


Adele Ludemann Trophy Hidden Partners winners Vivienne Camerer (left) and Pam Meston (right) with sponsor Sue Ludemann.

To re-elect a candidate with honesty and integrity

VOTE 1 Beth Ruthven

During her term in local government Beth has demonstrated commitment and attended every Council meeting in the past four years. She has found time for necessary reading and research to make informed decisions and consistently reinforced transparency, compliance and accountability. Beth holds a strong interest in financial matters and has served as Chair of Audit and Risk Committee for four years. She holds no vested interests to cloud judgement and is an active member of the Toodyay community.



Beth is proud to have been part of Council responsible for following achievements:

- Saved the Community Resource Centre from closure
- Council meetings live-streamed since 2020
- Process to reduce Council to seven members before it was included in Local Government Reform Package
- Stopped the traditional ratepayer-funded meals and alcohol at Council meetings
- Established a more equitable and transparent Community Grant process
- Made it possible for Toodyay to establish a new medical practice after the withdrawal of the Wheatbelt Health Network

VOTE 1 Beth Ruthven

Written and Authorised by Beth Ruthven
895 Coondle West Road, West Toodyay.

Boyhood flashbacks as cubby house gets built

Moondyne Men
Graham Hill

OUR TEAM had a bright and early 6.15am start at last month's International Food Festival, but everyone enjoyed the day.

The Avon Descent and food fair were a great success – a credit to the Shire of Toodyay's organising team.

Our new *Facebook* page is attracting a lot of interest with plenty of positive feedback.

This is mainly thanks to Barry Squires who has created an informative and interesting page with a professional format.

On Monday 31 July we had a visit from the team at Chalice Mining.

The ethics of the company was explained by Katie, Matthew, Matt and Elaine giving us a much better picture of company operations.

We had several challenges in July, including a clean-up for Sheila at Coondle and furniture removal from Julimar to Toodyay for Barbara.

By far the most interesting activity was building a cubby house for the Early Learning Centre at Toodyay District High School.

Our team enjoyed the construction work – and flashbacks to early childhood.



Moondyne Men hard at work on cubbyhouse construction for Toodyay District High School students

Our end-of-the-month breakfast was a great success, attended by 25 current and prospective members.

We are becoming adventurous, with a visit to Moondyne Joe's Cage planned for September.

This will be followed by lunch at a local restaurant.

Several Moondyne Men who are also members of the Toodyay RSL Sub Branch will be helping out at the Dowerin Field Day, which is a major fundraiser for the RSL.

The event is an excellent opportunity to highlight our close working relationship and reward the RSL for its generosity in supplying a place for us to meet.

For contact information see *Where and When*, Page 30.



Barry Squires looking at a next mode of transport.

Angels, ghosts and witches

Toodyay Music Club
Jenny Edgcombe

THE MUSIC Club's warm-up songs for the August meeting featured a very enthusiastic rendition of *Sunny Side* and other familiar numbers.

The afternoon's entertainment was packed with musical tales of angels, ghosts and witches as we romped through our 'Supernatural' theme day.

I freely admit that prior to this meeting, I had not previously known much about the Burns poem, *Tam O'Shanter*.

In my ignorance I might even have thought it was about a hat.

Anne's spine-chilling rendition of this piece made me realise that it is, in fact, a compelling ghost story.

In a different vein, *He's Just a Ghost Story* is a charming song about calming a child's nightmares, and Spencer sang it beautifully.

Joe's songs are always a little unpredictable.

This month, he took us from the flippant ghost parody, *I'm Not Here*, to the sublimely creepy tale of the *Ghost of Billy Mulvihill*.

Jenny came armed with some lively witch songs and a weird nylon witch hat.

This frivolity was tempered by the beautiful, haunting song, *Angel Band*.

A dramatic song, *Devil Woman*, was one of Eileen's choices, followed by the delightful *Wild Mountain Thyme*.

Maurice came up with an inspiring rendition of *I Had a Dream*, as well as an unusual but very impressive version of *Black Magic Woman*.

There were many more songs and plenty of chatter over afternoon tea.

The afternoon as a whole was lighthearted and most enjoyable.

You are very welcome to join us, as a performer or part of the audience.


For contact information see *Where and When*, Page 30.




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08 9622 5588, www.northamhyundai.com.au



*T&Cs apply.

Kwell, or sheoak, a vital part of Noongar spirituality

Noongar Kaartijin Aboriginal Corporation

THIS month we highlight the traditional use and understanding of three native trees that grow alongside our bilya (rivers).

Signs will be installed along the existing Bilya and Pelham walk tracks in coming months as part of a developing Noongar Trail with 12 sites where people can learn more about local Noongar culture and history.

Kwell – Sheoak

THE KWELL is native to Noongar country and has many uses.

Its needles were used for bedding in the mia-mia (shelters) and were sometimes covered with yonga (kangaroo) skin.

Yorga (women) often gave birth under the kwell because of the softness of its needles.

The young cones of the kwell were eaten and its wood was used to make boomerangs.

When kwell leaves turn brown, families would make camp closer to the river knowing that fish are running.

The kwell is a vital part of Noongar people's spirituality and contributes to social and emotional wellbeing.

It is believed that the sound of wind



blowing through the leaves when you sit under a kwell is the sound of the spirits of the old people whispering to you.

Bibool – Swamp Paperbark

THE BIBOOL has many uses.

Strips of bark were used for waterproofing shelters.

Tightly rolled bark would be set alight in torches that would stay smouldering due to the high oil content.

The green leaves can be used in smoking ceremonies.

Smaller pieces of bark were used to carry water, and food was wrapped in bark for preservation when travelling.

Food such as kooyar (frogs), djildjit (fish) or yonga (kangaroo) were wrapped in bark before being placed on hot coals or in an earth oven to cook.

During times of drought, the trees were bled to obtain water.

The crushed leaves contain oil similar to that of tea trees which is mildly antibacterial and is inhaled to treat colds.

The flowers would be steeped in cold water to make an infusion of nectar.

The soft bark was also used to make baskets and to wrap newborn babies.

Moitch – Flooded Gum

THE MOITCH (also known as kulurda) grows along the Gugulja (Avon River) and provides habitat for a wide range of wildlife.

For Noongar, the moitch had various uses.

Sap was extracted from the tree for medicinal and adhesive purposes, and the wood was used in tools and weapons.

The bark was used to create shelters and containers, and the leaves could be used to make baskets or for wrapping food.

The leaves produce eucalyptus oil which was used for medicinal purposes such as inhaling to clear blocked sinuses.

Crushed leaves were also used as a poultice to stop bleeding, and mud was sometimes used to hold the poultice and assist with healing.

The edible substance produced by mites that live on the leaves was collected and rolled into a large sweet to suck on.

Please vote 'Yes'

THE DATE for Australia's Voice to Parliament Referendum has been announced for Saturday October 14.

We invite everyone in Toodyay to consider the importance of this vote.

We are voting 'Yes'.

If you are indifferent, incurious or have no strong opinion about the outcome ... then we ask that you vote 'Yes' with us too.

This is because for many of us, a 'Yes' vote will mean so much.

It will make a difference in the lives of others but voting 'Yes' won't take anything from non-Aboriginal people.

Our members, families and friends will take part in a 'March for Yes' event on

Sunday September 17 in Victoria Gardens in East Perth, on the south side of Claisebrook Inlet. Check out www.yes23.com.au for more details.

We are also organising a local gathering at Duidgee Park on Saturday September 30.

Our Corporation Chairman Robert Miles invites everyone in Toodyay to join us at both events. More details will be posted soon on our Facebook page.



Kwell – Sheoak.



Bibool – Swamp Paperbark



Moitch - Flooded Gum.

Local MP says cultural heritage law backflip leaves questions to answer



WA Opposition MPs (Shane Love centre) with motions from a public rally at Parliament House on the day of the Government's cultural heritage law backflip.

Shane Love

Local WA Nationals MP and Leader, State Opposition Leader

THE State Opposition has been briefed on key changes that will come into effect following the recent spectacular WA Government backflip on new WA cultural heritage laws.

State Member for Moore Shane Love said the Aboriginal Heritage Legislation Amendment and Repeal Bill 2023 would restore the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 with key amendments.

"Just six weeks after their implementation, WA Labor has bowed to public pressure and announced their government will scrap its botched cultural heritage laws," Mr Love said.

"Whether you emailed, called, signed petitions or showed up to Katanning or Parliament, I would like to thank you for voicing your very real concerns at WA Labor's policy.

"Your voice is your power and in a state where our voices can often be drowned out by Labor, you persisted and were ready for the fight."

Mr Love said debate on the Bill, which repeals the 2021 Heritage Act, was set to get underway in coming weeks.

The legislation from 1972 will undergo modifications to prohibit 'gag' clauses in agreements involving Native Title parties and allow those parties to review ministerial decisions.

"Importantly, the Government has also promised to cover the cost of land surveys

for 10 years, which will not be compulsory for landholders," Mr Love said.

"I strongly encourage people to get in touch with me to ensure your questions and concerns are raised."

Mr Love said the Premier still had questions to answer.

"WA Labor reeks of a government which listens to the polls, not to the people," Mr Love said.

"Only a matter of weeks ago, Premier Cook said his laws were 'not radical' and were 'ready to go'.

"Now he says the laws 'unintentionally caused stress, confusion and division in the community'.

"Questions still need to be answered by the Premier.

"Will regional Western Australia be treated with more respect in the future?"

"And, after all the disturbance and amendments to the 1972 Act, will landowners be able to go back to business as usual?"

"After weeks of ignoring a 30,000-person strong petition, overcapacity at every Government-run education session, dozens of representations, labelling opponents as 'racist' and 'dogs returning to their vomit' and calls for the Opposition to 'get on the right side of history', WA Labor has retreated.

"It is because of your hard work WA Labor Government ate its words and crumbled.

"What West Australians deserve now is more than an apology – we deserve a new government.

"Our communities will not survive another term of Labor."



Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal Corporation is supporting a **YES** Vote

The Voice is not the answer to all problems - but we believe the Voice is a step in the right direction.

Here in Toodyay, having a positive experience of a voice at a local level through a 'reconciliation plan' with the Shire of Toodyay - we can imagine a voice at a national level. A simple idea to make a difference in the lives of all Aboriginal Australians.

"We need a new approach and a united front that all Australians can be proud of ... we all need to reflect on what we stand for as a nation. Do we stand for better outcomes for our first nations people, or do we continue with the status quo". Corporation Chairman Robert Miles

This October 14, you have the opportunity to make change, for the better. Voting No leads nowhere. Walk forward with us and Vote Yes.

History is calling

See NKAC regular article on how to get involved at the Perth 'Yes' event on 17 September



Toodyay veterans honour 523 comrades lost in Vietnam War

Toodyay RSL Sub Branch
Max Howard, President

EACH year on August 18 we gather to pay tribute and offer thanks to the 60,000 Australians who served in Australia's longest conflict of the 20th century.

This year, a beautiful sunny winter's day marked the 50th anniversary of the end of that conflict.

During the war 523 regular soldiers and National Servicemen lost their lives with around 3000 wounded.

August 18 acknowledges the battle of Long Tan, in which 18 of our vastly outnumbered soldiers died, with 24 wounded.

In this conflict the Army was supported by the Royal Australian Navy, the Royal Australian Air Force, and the Medical Corps who all performed their missions with great success.

The Toodyay service was attended by several Vietnam veterans, members of the Sub Branch

and local Shire, with wreaths laid and a prayer of remembrance offered, followed by the President's talk.

Members then retired to the Victoria Hotel for lunch. Warm thanks to all who attended.

The Sub Branch will hold its Annual General meeting on September 9 at the green shed at 1pm, all are welcome.

All positions will be vacant with a new group elected for the following year.

It would be good to see new faces volunteering for the executive.

The building project is proceeding well, with the building committee deciding on a modular design.

Options are being studied and proposals will be put to members for a decision.

We are pursuing grants for the project, and currently have a healthy bank balance.

All veterans please be aware the Sub-Branch is there for you. For contact information see *Where and When, Page 30*.



CWA members and supporters plant a banksia seedling, nurtured since it was received as a gift from the 2022 CWA state conference in Gingin last July.



Vietnam veterans (left to right) Bruce Guthrie, Daisy Day, Paul Pescud and John Adams at the Anzac Memorial at the 50th anniversary service.

Doors to shut for new roof

Country Women's Association
Vivien Street

WE HAVE now secured the funds to proceed with replacing the CWA Hall roof, with plans going ahead to organise the work.

The hall will be closed during renovations, with groups who use the hall notified to make other arrangements.

Once work is completed, we will hold a celebration for all involved.

A big thanks to our three major sponsors Shire of Toodyay, CWA of WA and Chalice Mining who gave us a tremendous boost.

Local community groups and individuals also donated generously, with hours of behind-the-scenes help with events and stalls.

We invite all past members of Toodyay CWA to attend the opening, so if you know a past member please let us and them know.

Last coffee morning we planted a banksia, one of many seedlings given out at the 2022 CWA conference at Gingin.

It has grown into a sturdy little tree under Julie-Anne's care.

Her husband, Lance did the hard digging while we admired from the sidelines.

Thanks to you both.

We hope the tree will thrive in its new location.

Our Avon Descent stall was well-supported, and as predicted the warm scones were

snatched up by stall holders and lucky early shoppers.

Our next stall for the public will be at the Christmas Street Party, but this month we will hold a stall at our International Day for local CWA branches.

This year we are learning about Malaysia and visiting branches who join us.

Expect a Malaysian-style midday meal on the day, with colourful Malaysian dress along with raffles, quizzes and fun.

We had one outing last month when four members enjoyed a friendship day at Wanneroo with hoy games, raffles, morning tea and midday lunch.

This month we have visits planned to Midland and Caversham, and will join in Jennacubbine's 90th birthday celebrations.

Four or five members will help with the Time for Tea stall at the Ellie Eaton Pavilion at this year's Royal Show, so please pay them a visit on September 29.

Looking forward to October we are holding a day to raise awareness of the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren group.

Please invite anyone you think might be interested to come along on October 12.

We would like to offer as much support as we can to this valuable group of people.

Full details are on page 5 and on posters around town. For contact information see *Where and When, Page 30*.



RSL Toodyay are building !



RSL Toodyay have embarked on their building project in Clinton St, Toodyay with planning now underway.

The community facilities will comprise; an air conditioned meeting hall, modest kitchen with cafe area, up to date toilets, up to date access, outdoor bbq area and veranda with plenty of parking and gardens.

We would now love the Toodyay community's input.

- Are you a small community group that needs a place to meet? Talk to us now about your needs during the design phase, we'd love to help.
- Are you involved in construction, electrical, plumbing, earthmoving, landscaping etc? We will be looking for business' who are able to provide these services locally.
- Are you able to assist with funding this project? With substantial funds to complete the project raised, we are looking for the final flourish.

Details and further information are obtainable from toodyayrsl@gmail.com or calling Paul on 0466 984 301

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