



SHIRE NEWS

October 21 Local Government Election

The Shire's 2023 Ordinary Election will be held on October 21, via postal voting, to fill three Council vacancies. While voting in local government elections is not compulsory in WA, we strongly encourage all local electors to have their say.

The State Government is making changes to the *Local Government Act 1995* to ensure local governments can better serve residents and ratepayers. The key reforms relevant to the Shire of Toodyay that will be in place for the October elections are:

Changes to Council representation: Toodyay's Council will be reduced from nine Elected Members to seven, aligning Council size with population size.

Optional preferential voting: To bring local government elections in line with State and Federal elections and restore the right of voters to express preferences, you will be able to vote for a single candidate, multiple candidates, or all candidates by numbering them accordingly on your postal ballot paper (e.g. 1 for one candidate, 1 and 2 for two candidates, 1-3 for three candidates). You must vote for one or more candidates, but the amount and order is up to you.

Find out more about these reforms, and access general local government election information and current candidate profiles on our website: www.toodyay.wa.gov.au/council/local-government-elections.aspx.



Gadgets and gizmos aplenty at the CRC

Saturday August 19 was the CRC's tech-tastic Robotics Day at Toodyay Recreation Centre, part of National Science Week 2023. Guests of all ages enjoyed an array of interactive activities – battling with remote control robots, painting 3D objects and landscapes in virtual reality, and maneuvering drones to do backflips and fly through hoops. A big thank you goes out to Inspiring WA for funding this event.

August also saw the end of our weekly digital skill lessons, run through the Australian Government's Be Connected program. It was fantastic seeing the participants share experiences, have group discussions, and become more competent and confident on their computers and devices over the 10 weeks. Look out for our next Be Connected event for Get Online Week in October.

A terrific Toodyay International Food Festival

Rumour has it the 2023 Toodyay International Food Festival was the best ever, and we couldn't agree more! Not even cloudy skies could keep the crowds away on August 12.

With the capable hands of our Economic Development Coordinator Kim at the helm, we not only served up a wide variety of international food and music for everyone to enjoy, but also put youth in the spotlight with an additional staging area showcasing entertainment from younger talent. This youth



focus continued through Freestyle Now Skatepark Competition, complete with accompanying DJ, where festivalgoers witnessed a spectacular display from skilled skaters, boarders and bikers.

A surprise waterway getaway by the infamous Moondyne Joe added more fun to the day, as he escaped the hot pursuit of town troopers and disappeared down the Avon River in a kayak – sadly, several hours too late to place in the Avon Descent.

The TIFF's eats and entertainment were carefully selected to create a vibrant and memorable atmosphere worthy of the Descent's 50th anniversary, and the feedback we have received suggests those expectations were exceeded! We hope you had a fabulous (and delicious) day, and that you're already counting down to 2024.

Thanks again to our sponsors – Lotterywest, Chalice Mining, Bendigo Bank, Toodyay Op-Shop, Elders, Toodyay Real Estate, Toodyay IGA and Darren West MLC – and all proprietors, performers and attendees alike who made the day such a success.

Chalice & Shire of Toodyay Sign Heads of Agreement for Community Fund

The Shire, together with Perth-based exploration and development company Chalice Mining, is pleased to announce the signing of a landmark Heads of Agreement (HOA) for the future establishment of the Chalice Mining Community Fund.

This HOA establishes a framework under which Chalice and the Shire can plan and prioritise future spending initiatives to deliver long-term benefits to the local community, from a potential mine. Chalice has agreed to provide funding for the delivery of community projects and programs, identified by the Shire and

aligning with Chalice's eligibility criteria – including those focused on community development and sustainability, social investment, and local employment.

We appreciate being able to work collaboratively with Chalice, in a way that is unprecedented in our state, to ensure that direct benefits flow to our community in the event of a mine being established in our Shire," said Shire President, Cr Rosemary Madacsi of the milestone.

For more information, view Chalice's full Media Statement in this issue of the *Herald* or visit our website.

Digging up the past

There are two reasons for archaeological excavation: to discover more about the past, and to test the historical record. Much has been uncovered about Toodyay's history through past excavation activities.

In February 2002, a group of 26 archaeological students from the University of WA, along with their lecturer Dr Alistair Paterson and other assistants, undertook an excavation of the Newcastle Gaol and the Police Stables site opposite. In June 2010, another joint project with UWA resulted in the excavation of the Toodyay Convict Depot remnants surrounding the Shire Administration Centre (Old Court House). Other investigations over the last 20 years have occurred at Toodyay Library, Wendouree Tearooms and West Toodyay.

There are currently nine boxes of bagged archaeological material stored at the Gaol museum workshop. Most of it is fragmentary, such as soil samples – but there is a group of smaller, mostly complete objects including buttons and glass stoppers.

Our museum volunteer Carolyn has recently begun the task of accessioning more than 60 of these items into the museum collection. This involves time-consuming research into identifying each object, and then creating a manual record describing it. After that, the



process includes photographing the object and adding all of the information to our electronic database.

No paws for thought as sled dogs take on Toodyay

It was full speed ahead for the Dryland Sleddog Club WA as its members and their furry friends took to the tracks of Julimar's Malkup Brook Reserve on August 26-27. Around 70 competitors from WA and interstate took part in the time trials – held



Prepare for fire season in springtime

Spring has arrived and summer is just around the corner. That means now is the time to start preparing your property for the upcoming fire season.

The Shire's Fire-Break Notice sets out minimum property preparation standards, and is a legal requirement for landholders. A copy of the Notice can be found in this edition of the *Herald*, on our website, and accompanying your annual Rates Notice.

Remember, bushfire preparation doesn't end with preparing your property. Make sure you have a bushfire plan that everyone in your household can understand, and can easily follow in the event of an emergency. For more information and a guide for making your plan, visit www.mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au.

Lastly, put these dates in your diary: the Shire's Restricted Burning Period (RBP) commences **October 1** (subject to conditions); and fire-break inspections carried out by Shire Rangers commence **November 1**.

Any burning after the start of the RBP will require a permit, which you can apply for via our website. Penalties apply for not having a valid permit or breaching permit conditions. Be a responsible burner – don't play with fire.



Our Plan for the Future officially launched

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the official launch of Toodyay's new Council Plan – Our Plan for the Future 2023-2033. Toodyay Recreation Centre was a wonderful venue for the launch on August 4, and we had a terrific turnout of Toodyay locals helping us celebrate. We hope you enjoyed the evening and the chance to discover our long-term vision for the community.

View and download the plan on our website, or contact us to access a physical copy.



NO ONE PLANS



Q MAKE EVERY JOURNEY SAFE



Mile A Minute crochet blanket by Glenyce Bosnjak.



First effort at crocheting by a visitor, face washer and shower scrunchy

Crafty ladies go Mile-A-Minute in Show crochet run-up

The Crooked Needle
Jean Melhuish-Hill

THE CRAFT ladies are now seriously looking at what they are going to enter into the Toodyay Agricultural Show.

There is the knitting, crocheting, quilting and other forms of craft – but which ones to choose? Not limiting themselves to formal craft, many ladies are making preserves, baking, and growing vegetables and flowers to enter in these categories as well.

One of the girls found a Mile A Minute crochet pattern.

This is where you start crocheting with 10 chains then treble three times, two chain then treble three.

Treble into the first chain, three chain turn and three treble, two chain, three treble into the chain space and repeat to make a strip of any length you require.

After finishing the strip, you treble into each space, with six trebles in the corners to make a long narrow strip.

This is then joined to other long narrow strips until you have created a blanket, a bag or anything else you can make from it.

While I haven't tried this pattern myself it may be one for down the track.

Even with a few ladies off on holidays we are still averaging around 18 attendees each week. The UK, Darwin and trips on The Ghan are all places of recent interest.

But you can't stop them crafting. Lee King found herself knitting in the middle of the Irish Sea, trying to blend in unnoticed.

We would like to welcome some new members to the group, with Terri Watson, Barbara Iocco, Annette Bazley, and Raelene Bazley recently joining us.

I had a girlfriend Julie and her husband from Adelaide visit for 10 days.

While we left her hubby with mine Julie enjoyed meeting the ladies for a good chat.

She did however complete two crochet items. Julie had never done crochet before and took home a cotton face-washer and shower scrunchy.

In September we are looking forward to a visit from some of the ladies at the Residency who will join us for morning tea and critique the fiddle muffs and blankets that we have made which will be donated to them.

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

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

It's stitchin' time for those unfinished exhibits

Ragbags Quilting Group
Kerry Gregory

I HOPE you had a chance to see the WA Quilters Association Quilt West Exhibition at Claremont Showgrounds early last month.

By all reports it was stunning. We had visitors that weekend, so I was unable to attend, but judging by the fantastic photos the quilts and displays were inspirational.

As always happens following such a wonderful exhibition, our members are inspired to go home and fetch out some UFO projects that require just a little effort and time to complete.

With our Toodyay Show fast approaching, it's a good time to get stuck into them, with last month's article featuring tips on how to present patchwork and quilts for Show judges.

There are other categories in the Show schedule that keen fabric crafters should consider:

Hobby Crafts Recycled Creations Class 530 lists one item made from recycled materials, sewn article;

Machine Sewing Classes 591 – 593; Teddies, Dolls and Toys Classes 594 – 602; and

Needlework Miscellaneous Class, which calls for any item from recycled fabric.

Making items to enter in these categories



Recycled bags made from old chintz curtain fabric with denim and a once-favourite jumper.

100 meals a week earns nomination for Woolies community award

Toodyay Locals Care

TOODYAY Locals Care (TLC) has been nominated for the Woolworths Community Group of the Year Award.

Headed up by Rosalyn (Roz) Davidson, TLC is a small team of Toodyay locals who works to feed, clothe and furnish those in need in Toodyay and surrounds.

The Award recognises groups that make a significant contribution to their regional or rural community by going above and beyond their primary community service to make our regional communities stronger and more vibrant.

Started by Roz Davidson and incorporated

in 2018, the group has a core of about 15 volunteers who seem to live by the ethic "if you can be anything, be kind".

The team prepares more than 100 meals each week for those in need.

This food, which is donated by Toodyay IGA and would otherwise go to landfill, is cooked by volunteers before its "best-by" date, then frozen into single meals.

It can then provide a hot meal to those in need from a freezer and microwave on the veranda.

Feeding the needy is just one of a whole range of services provided by TLC, which is also registered with Centrelink as a Work for the Dole centre.



Yellow-throated miner. Photo: Lyn Phillips.

Dusky miner loves to forage leaf litter for tasty bugs

Bird of the Month
Desraé Clarke

ALTHOUGH the yellow-throated miner is widespread across mainland Australia, the species in southern WA may also be known as the dusky miner.

It has a sooty mask extending to the feathers covering the ear opening, or ear-coverts.

The 25 to 27.5cm species has a grey crown, with the colouring of the forehead, chin, and fore neck a pale yellow.

The upper body is grey, the wing and tail dark grey with olive-green on the outer feathers, and the underbody and rump are whitish.

The bill is yellow, and legs are orange yellow.

The miner breeds from August to November, building a large cup-shaped nest lined with fine grasses, wool, hair, and rabbit fur.

It lays three to four salmon or buff-coloured eggs, spotted reddish or purplish brown.

The yellow-throated miner breeds in close-knit colonies with shared care and feeding of

the young.

After leaving the nest, fledglings stay together and continue to be fed by the adults.

Prey are mainly insects which the bird pries from beneath tree bark and gleans from among foliage.

It spends a lot of time on the ground walking over litter to disturb beetles, ants, wasps, bees, bugs, weevils, and caterpillars.

Occasionally fruit and seeds may be picked up and occasionally blossom nectar.

It favours a wide variety of habitat from the drier woodlands and grasslands to home gardens, golf courses and gum trees along the rivers.

It has a pre-dawn call of whistles, a variety of twitters when feeding together, and whistle warnings.

The Toodyay Naturalists' Club welcomes sightings and observations to be reported and recorded on the Club's data base.

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

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Gonneville

Project Update

Gonneville Scoping Study Information

Chalice recently released our Scoping Study for the Gonneville Project. The Study has outlined the potential for Gonneville to deliver a low-carbon, green metals mine with substantial economic and social regional benefits.

What is a Scoping Study?

- « A Scoping Study is an initial high-level evaluation of potential mine development options.
- « The Gonneville Project Scoping Study outlines a development plan which includes an indicative open pit and processing concepts. Underground mining options will continue to be investigated.
- « While the Scoping Study is the first step to consider the mine scope, costs, and timeline, it is not intended to provide a final mine plan or definitive plans for logistics and infrastructure.

Economic studies have forecast that the Gonneville Project has the potential to deliver substantial benefits to the region:

- « Contribute up to ~\$18 billion to the WA economy over 18+ years of operations.
- « 1,200 peak jobs during construction and 500 jobs during operations, with first production targeted for the end of the decade.
- « Chalice will prioritise local jobs for both construction and operations phases.

Where is the potential Gonneville Mine located?

- « The Project Area is on 100% Chalice-owned farmland, located ~25km west of Toodyay.
- « The proposed mine does not extend into the Julimar State Forest, located to the north of Gonneville.
- « Access to the Julimar State Forest remains open to the community.

In our recent Local Voices community survey, respondents told us that the following is important:

Local water resources

- « Any potential future mine will source water that does not impact local groundwater supply.
- « Detailed ground and surface water studies are underway to understand and manage any impacts of a potential mine to local water sources.
- « Chalice has commenced discussions with the Water Corporation to investigate water supply options.
- « Chalice recognises that water is a critical shared resource that must be managed efficiently and responsibly.

Roads

- « Chalice is currently investigating both road and rail transport options.
- « Studies will continue over the next 2-4 years to confirm logistics options, with community consultation throughout the process.
- « We recognise that roads are an important issue for the community, however it is only once a Feasibility Study is completed that we will fully understand the transport requirements for a potential mine.

Biodiversity

- « Chalice is taking a responsible and balanced development approach that maximises production of critical green metals but also recognises the potential impacts to the environment and local communities.
- « Chalice has also made a biodiversity commitment of no net-loss of species or habitat diversity.
- « On-the-ground restoration work has begun to support fauna habitats and connect remnant areas of vegetation.

Next steps for the Gonneville Mining Project

Chalice has commenced a Pre-Feasibility Study and plans to commence formal referral of the Project to WA and Commonwealth Governments in the first half of 2024.

Feasibility and Permitting WE ARE HERE

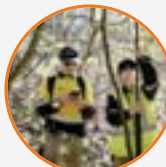


2023+

Mine Studies - Over the next ~2-4 years:

- Scoping Study
- Pre-Feasibility Study
- Feasibility Study

The certainty of the Project increases with each stage and it is only at Feasibility Study stage that the final mine layout and infrastructure can be confirmed.



2024+

Approvals Process - Over the next ~3 years:

- Environmental approvals process and regulatory permitting begins.

Studies have commenced to support environmental impact assessment by the State and Commonwealth environment agencies, including for:

- Flora and fauna
- Surface and groundwater
- Air quality
- Noise
- Road and transport
- Cultural Heritage
- Greenhouse gases

Chalice will continue our community consultation throughout each stage, and will provide multiple opportunities for input particularly during the permitting process.

Talk to us

Email community@chalicemining.com
Phone 0487 371 961

Chalice Pop-Up Office

Open 8.30am – 11.30am Thursdays
Shop 5, Charcoal Lane, Toodyay

Visit our website

To read our Info Sheets visit:
www.chalicemining.com/community-information-sheets/

Kids suit up in holy armour

The Factory Toodyay Baptist Church
Jenny McDougall

JULY was a special month as we welcomed our new Pastor, Ray Brown.

Ray will be in Toodyay fortnightly, and we look forward to his teaching, support, and friendship.

Last month the children were kept busy discovering the protection offered by wearing the Armour of God.

With cardboard, foil, paint, and music, the children had fun creating body-sized suits of armour.

Last week, with their armour completed, they proudly marched into church.

September welcomes the 'Festival of Fun and Games Day'.

Come join in the fun Saturday September 23 from 2 to 4pm.

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



Toodyay Baptist Church children display their homemade Armour of God.

ENVIRONMENT

Marauding dogs kill rescued kangaroos

Marsupial Mammals and Pappas (Inc)
Brian Foley

OUR WORST fears have been realised with yet another dog attack on our rescued kangaroos – for the third month in a row.

Once again, while the dog could not get into the release pen, it nonetheless did significant damage.

The two juvenile kangaroos were due to be released the next day.

Instead, the carer who had hand-raised them had to shoot them to put them out of their obvious pain.

Marsupials, especially kangaroos, suffer myopathy when stressed.

A lactic acid build-up shuts down the muscles around the heart and other organs, and the condition is almost always fatal.

Stress can come from a variety of events, but a dog running around an enclosure barking is one of the worst.

Stress-induced myopathy will come on very quickly.

Even though the carer was at home and chased the dog off within minutes, the damage was already done.

The Shire ranger attended and was given photo evidence of the dog.

We have been advised it was an Irish wolfhound that had escaped an owner's property.

We were told that the owner went inside to make a coffee and the dog was gone in those few minutes.

We can only presume the owner has been fined and the dog seized until fencing has been erected so the dog cannot escape.

The situation in Toodyay is out of control, with dogs roaming at will.

In the first 23 days of August we noted close to 30 reports of dogs out of their property.



One of the two kangaroos sedated for examination after last month's dog attack.

It is not good enough.

These attacks are not only costing animals lives – we also have to consider the mental health effects on our carers.

The Shire has to get tough on owners who let their dogs roam by applying the maximum fines allowed under the Dog Act.

The cost of treating kangaroos as a result of dog attacks is now well over \$2000.

If you can help we have an account at the Toodyay and Districts Bendigo Community Bank, BSB 633000, Account 186438040, or see us at the Toodyay Markets.

Marsupial Mammals and Pappas (MMaP) is a registered charity, and your donation is tax-deductible.

MMaP also desperately need your help to support our volunteers travelling in the Pilbara and Kimberley at significant cost.

We soon will be back in Port Hedland and Derby to release more than 60 kangaroos.

For more information on this project, visit <https://gofund.me/277e7030>.

We have also had more birds and an echidna with a dog bite come into care in Toodyay, along with more than 20 orphaned joeys.

If anyone would like to become a carer for a kangaroo joey please contact us.

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



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ENVIRONMENT

Fire pit warms garden lovers on Konnongorring visit

Toodyay Garden Club
Jan Ackroyd

THE TOODYAY Garden Club's winter 'garden' visit at the beginning of August was different from our usual outing.

We thank our committee members for organising this trip out to the Konnongorring farming property of Kylie and Nathan Davey.

On a cold morning with a chilly wind, Nathan had a welcoming pit-fire burning next to the large undercover area where we gathered to hear some history of this family-run farm.

Originally bought by his great-grandfather 100 years ago, Nathan has been at the property for 33 years.

Starting from scratch with 1500 acres, the family gradually acquired adjacent properties to build it up to the 10,500-acre farm it is today.

One half of the property is cropped with wheat, oats and barley while cleanskin sheep run on the other half.

Interestingly, they export to a particular sultan in the Middle East who specifically requests their meat, which is processed locally before it is shipped.

Nathan has a commitment, along with many neighbouring farming families, to protect the environment.

One of the things he has done is fence off 200 acres of virgin bush on his property, eradicated the feral animals, and put a 99-year caveat in place to preserve it for future generations.

Another project began in 1989 when 24 families in the area formed a group to find major sponsors to help regenerate a 21,000-hectare catchment of six creeks which ultimately flow into the Mortlock, Avon and Swan river systems.

The regeneration of the area was achieved with extensive tree-planting and constant monitoring of the water flow for quality.

Nathan generously hired a small bus to take groups on a tour of the area.

We drove through parts of his property, up to the Gabby Quoi Quoi Lookout for a view over the catchment area, then on to the area's CBH facility and the small church that was built in 1961, funded by the local people.

With a guided tour of the sheds, workshops, huge seeding and harvesting machinery, along with Nathan's collection of restored farm vehicles and tractors, the visit proved highly informative and interesting for many of us who had never witnessed how a farm is run.



Fire pit at Kylie and Nathan Davey's Konnongorring farm kept us warm on a cool morning.



One of Nathan's collection of restored farm vehicles.



Max the giant chuditch charms volunteers at last month's Friends' Avon Descent marquee.

Human chuditch highlights critically endangered critters

Toodyay Friends of the River
Bridget Leggett

FRIENDS of the River had a busy time over the Avon Descent weekend, with the International Food Festival and working bees on the Sunday and Monday.

Toodyay Friends of the River shared marquee space in Duidgee Park with the Julimar Conservation and Forest Alliance (JCAFA) while the food festival was underway.

Thanks to the Shire of Toodyay for making the marquee space available to us.

The Friends' display included maps of the catchment of the Avon and photos of the flooding at Duidgee Park in February 2017, fast-flowing water and significant erosion at Red Bank Pool in August 2021 and a contrasting photo of black swans flying over glassy water from June 2016.

Max the human-sized chuditch drew the festivalgoers' attention to the plight of endangered and critically endangered species in Julimar Forest.

The JCAFA display also featured a range of the animals and plants found in Julimar, and an opportunity for visitors to sign a petition to have the forest reclassified as a national park.

Despite 40 years of promises, there has been no progress on giving the area the protection it deserves.

If you missed the chance to sign the petition, it can be accessed at www.bit.ly/julimar-petition.

The Sunday working bee completed plantings for the year, adding sedges to the work already done to stabilise the banks of Boyagerring Brook near Toodyay District High School.

The sedges were grown by Boola Boonup

(place of many trees) – formerly WA Farm Trees – and now operated by Noongar Land Enterprise Group.

Friends walked a section of the Bilya Walk Track on the Monday, checking Avon Descent access points for rubbish and were pleased to find minimal impact.

Our observations matched those of TFOR Project Officer and Shire Reserves Manager Greg Warburton who had inspected other sections of the river the previous day.

Congratulations to this year's Avon Descent organisers and volunteer clean-up crews.

While out on the track we checked the track counter.

Since November last year, we have recorded 3000 walkers along the track.

The number of individual users will be considerably lower, as some locals regularly walk the track, however it shows the track gets considerable use.

The next working bees will be on Sunday September 10 and Monday September 11.

Details of meeting points and activities will be posted on the Drummond House noticeboard, emailed to members and put on the Friends' website and Facebook pages.

For contact information see Where and When, page 30.

Birthday party is the icing on the cake



Cutting the birthday cake of the Toodyay Autumn Club at the Toodyay Club are Freda Richardson (cutting the cake) with President Jeff Porter looking on.

Toodyay Autumn Club
Mike Cox

WE HAD a busy time last month with an enjoyable visit to the Northam Club for a day of carpet bowls.

We arrived early at their clubrooms and after welcoming us with morning tea, we had a few games of bowls, then our guests treated us with lunch and then a raffle of mystery prizes.

After a couple more games it was time to make our way back to Toodyay, not forgetting to thank the ladies for the refreshments.

Next day we were off to the Toodyay Club for our birthday party, again having a good hearty lunch cooked by the staff then the birthday cake was brought out and enjoyed by us all.

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ENVIRONMENT



A revegetation offset site which was previously used for pasture on the corner of Racecourse Road and Toodyay Road. A lack of sufficient weed control prior to seed sowing and planting renders weed control difficult. Weeds dominate slower growing native species, causing the site to be overtaken by excessive weeds, eucalypts and acacias, thus greatly compromising the area's natural biodiversity.

Sham offsets disguise a clear environmental loss

Safe and Scenic Toodyay Road
Bethan Lloyd

MAIN Roads WA has always been keen in interactions with our group to emphasise its claimed environmental credentials by pointing to environmental offsets to counteract its clearing of native vegetation for road building.

The theory, as generally proclaimed by supporters of environmental offsetting, goes somewhat like this:

If you knock something down – say a critically endangered woodland – you make up for that loss by permanently protecting the same type and category of critically endangered woodland elsewhere, saving it from future development that might otherwise have resulted in it also being bulldozed.

In this sense, environmental offsetting means that development can be allowed in environmentally sensitive locations as long as the developer pays for conservation activities elsewhere, such as protecting or restoring another habitat of equal value.

In essence, this supposedly means no net loss to the environment.

What is ignored, however, is the obvious fallacy in the reason for environmental offsetting, a fallacy which makes it essentially flawed.

The truth is that a permit to clear an offset site of similar environmental significance and value should never be granted anyway, and to suggest that a destroyed habitat can be reproduced elsewhere shows an obvious ignorance of environmental processes.

There is no net gain for the environment through offsets – it is always a clear loss.

Instead of two areas being conserved for their environmental value, we end up with only one which should have been kept in the first place, thus resulting overall in a 50 per cent loss in biodiversity.

What is really needed – and would be an offset in the true sense of the word – is effective and well-managed, long-term revegetation of already degraded sites to counterbalance or 'offset' the destruction of areas of high environmental value by recreating new ones of similar standing.

However, 70-80 per cent of plant species from some ecosystems do not germinate readily from seed and need specific conditions to grow successfully.

Such enterprises often result in poor biodiversity outcomes compared with what was there originally.

Only too often, soil on revegetation sites has been compacted by hard-hooved farm animals, with subsoil having been brought to the surface and the destruction of essential fungal mycorrhiza which many plants need to survive.

Weeds from previous agricultural use are often abundant on offset sites or are introduced so that even where direct sowing methods are used, establishing a revegetation site of required environmental value can hit and miss.

Previously used fungicides and fertilisers can affect the success of native plant germination and survival on land set aside for environmental offsets.

Botanists still only have limited knowledge about what triggers some native seeds to germinate and grow successfully when planted out.

Hence, any revegetation undertaking is overshadowed by a strong risk of ineffectiveness and potential failure.

What we do know is that it needs a lot of work and time to revegetate an offset site successfully to be even half as good as the original site.

It also needs professional and intensive management for many years to come.

Otherwise, environmental offsets are likely to end up as weed-infested paddocks with a monoculture of gum trees and short-lived wattles.

The attached image of a local offset site shows what can happen.

As former Australian Competition and Consumer Commission Chair Graeme Samuel highlighted last year in his review of national environmental laws, offsets have become the developers' default position.

Environmental offsets are now being negotiated from the outset instead of being seen as tools of last resort, as initially intended.

When an environmental offset is required as a development condition – and it almost always is – compliance is often poor and rarely enforced by governments.

Indeed, the concern is that conservation will no longer be seen as an obstacle to development but simply be another 'tax' to be paid in the form of offsets.

As a detailed research article on the effectiveness of recent environmental offsets in WA pointed out, the use of environmental offsets has increased in many parts of the world in the past 10 years but their effectiveness is rarely assessed.

"At most, 39 per cent of offsets studied delivered an outcome and can be considered effective, with land acquisition comparing favourably with other offset types," the article said.

The results showed a clear need for better on-ground management and research into the nature of offsets.

In other news, the Gidgegannup-based Rethink Eastlink community group has presented a petition to State Parliament calling on the WA Government to scrap plans to redirect Great Eastern Highway from Bakers Hill and link it to Toodyay Road west of Gidgegannup.

Nearly 1200 people signed the petition against the so-called 'Orange Route' which has been planned for more than 40 years.

Though not strictly in our area, there are many common issues in the two community-led campaigns.

Both show an urgent need for more environmentally sustainable and responsible planning regulations and development practices when building and maintaining our roads.

For more information, email info@sastr.com.au or visit sastr.com.au.

Many thanks to all those who supported our fundraising raffle – congratulations to prize winners Robyn and Colin.

Lifting turtles to cross busy roads can lead to big stink

Python Watch
Desraé Clarke

WHAT is the difference between a turtle and a tortoise?

A turtle has webbed feet and lives predominantly in water, whereas a tortoise – like those on the Galapagos Islands – has a dome-shaped shell and lives mainly on land.

With the warmer months almost with us the female long-necked turtle will begin her trek from the river to grassed areas, often across a busy road, to build a nest.

If you happen upon a turtle making her way across the grass, allow her to continue and don't return her to the waterway.

If she is crossing a road, lift her out of danger's way and allow her to keep making her way in the same direction.

Be aware a foul-smelling odour may be released from the glands at each section of the bridge where the carapace joins the bottom shell or plastron.

She will dig a vertical shaft about 15cm deep and 5cm wide, digging and pushing the soil to one side with both hind feet.

Between October and February she will lay up to 25 white, brittle-shelled eggs that she then gently manoeuvres into the chamber.

The soil is pushed back into the hole to be

firmed by using the hind feet.

Up to three clutches of eggs are laid between September and January.

The youngsters hatch in the following August with the incubation period up to 300 days.

The young's trek to the waterway is fraught with danger, with many perishing after becoming entrapped in long grass.

Large water birds, such as the heron, predate on the little ones, as do other birds such as the kookaburra.

Domestic dogs and cats also take a toll on the youngsters.

The fox is a predator of the adult long-necked turtle, often leaving the top shell (carapace) or remains of destroyed eggs as evidence of its repast.

The plastron, or underside of the shell is whitish, while the carapace, head and neck are brown or black and covered in algae, making the turtle difficult to see in waterways.

If undisturbed, the little snout of the long-necked turtle may be seen breaking the surface of the water with tiny nostrils.

It may also be sighted basking on a nearby log.

However, if disturbed by the slightest sound or movement, it will quickly plop down into the water and disappear.

The long-necked turtle is a carnivorous or meat-eating animal that preys on tadpoles, fish, molluscs, and crustaceans.

It will also take young coots and ducks.

You may wonder how a turtle would manage to eat young waterbirds.

The prey is clasped tightly in its horny, beak-like mouth and it proceeds to shred the food with its black, needle-like claws that protrude from its small, webbed feet.

If you have observed the long-necked turtle, it would be really appreciated to place it on the Toodyay Nat's Club sightings area of our webpage.

Photos are very welcome.

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



Two long-necked turtles. Photo: Wayne Clarke.

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Bakers Hill Fellowship

Meets every Sunday at 10am. Bakers Hill Primary School Music Room. Pastor Peter Booth 0417 945 725.

Toodyay Baptist Church

10.30am Sunday at 18 Stirling Terrace, Toodyay. Phone Joy 0432 470 771.

Catechesis Group at St John the Baptist Church, during school terms Tuesdays 4.30-5.30pm ages 3-12. Sharon Pegrum 0466 430 979, sharonpegrum@outlook.com.

Uniting Church

10am St Stephen's Church, Toodyay.

EDUCATION/SCOUTS/PLAYGROUPS ETC

Bizzy Bees

Pre-kindergarten for 3-year-olds. Mondays 9am-11am, Toodyay DHS. Jessica Donovan 0407 128 105.

Toodyay District High School P and C

Meets Tuesday of week 5 each term at 5.30pm in the TDHS staff room. Kelly-Anne Murray 0406 585 716.

Toodyay Playgroup

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-11am. Wednesdays Bubs Play 10am-noon. Jessica Donovan, 0407 128 105

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Bejoording Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

3rd Friday of the month at 5.45pm at the Bejoording Fire Shed.

Coondle-Nunile Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

2nd Saturday October to April, June and August, 5pm Coondle Fire Shed.

Julimar Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Meets 3rd Saturday 6pm Julimar Fire Shed, Training Sunday 10am.

Morangup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

3rd Saturday 5.30pm at 3 Wallaby Way, Morangup. Sharon Gamble or secretarymvbfb@gmail.com.

St John Morangup Sub Centre

For Volunteering, First Aid Kits & Postcode 6083 Benefit Fund Memberships. 48 Wallaby Way, Morangup. 8am - 4pm Monday & Wednesday. 0418 741 971.

St John Toodyay Sub Centre

For Benefit Fund Memberships, First Aid Kits & Refills, Volunteering, General Enquiries. 120B Stirling Terrace, Toodyay. Phone 9574 2390. Emergencies call 000.

Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

2nd Tuesday 7.30pm at Toodyay Fire and Emergency Services Centre.

Toodyay State Emergency Service

4th Tuesday, 3 Wallaby Way, Morangup. Local Manager - Jeff Venn 0438 490 331. toodyaylocalmanager@gmail.com.

Toodyay Volunteer Fire and Rescue

1st Monday Fire Station 7.30pm.

ENVIRONMENT

Avon Valley Environmental Society

3rd Friday monthly noon. Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Centre, 269 Fitzgerald Street, Northam. Janet Wilkinson 9574 5947.

Earth Solutions - Avon Valley

2nd Tuesday (not Jan) at 6pm. Old Northam Railway Station, 425 Fitzgerald Street Northam. Karen 0438 223 886, Belle 0478 641 463, or email bellem@westnet.com.au.

Toodyay Friends of the River (TFOR)

2nd Sunday or following Monday. 9am (winter); 8am (summer). Details on TFOR noticeboard outside Drummond House. 0429 984 482. Email: info@tfor.org.au.

Toodyay Garden Club

1st Thursday 10am. Phone President: Hamish Dobie 0423 115 204 or email toodyaygardenclub@gmail.com for next venue.

Toodyay Naturalists' Club

Meets 3rd Saturday. Call 9574 5574 or info@toodyaynats.org.au.

FARMERS MARKET

Toodyay Farmers Market

3rd Sunday of each month. 0429 984 482. toodyayfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

FESTIVALS

Toodyay Moondyne Festival

moodynecommittee@gmail.com.

HEALTH

Australian Breastfeeding Association

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 3 Elizabeth Place, Northam 10am-noon. 3rd Tuesday Toodyay Playgroup noon-2pm. Louise 9574 0229.

Child Health Clinic

Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Bree Byfield. 9621 0100

Memory Café

Toodyay Forget Me Not Memory Café 2nd Tuesday of each month (10am-noon) at the Toodyay Bakery.

Toodyay Men's Shed

Monday, Thursday and Saturday, 8.30am-noon at Harper Road. Phone Secretary, 0499 403 830.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Liz Boston, JP

Email: lizboston3160@gmail.com or 0428 742 349. Leave message if no answer.

MINIATURE RAILWAY

Toodyay Miniature Railway

Operates Easter Saturday and thereafter on 1st and 3rd Sundays until November. Phone President Mark 0424 281 770.

MUSIC

The Toodyay Community Singers

CWA Hall, Stirling Terrace at 7pm Thursday nights. Anne-Marie Millar 0408 364 918.

Toodyay Music Club

2nd Saturday 1pm CWA Hall, Ring Joe, 0400 862 694.

PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Morangup Progress Association

Chairperson: Brian Allan. Hall Hire: 0472 975 593 www.morangupmpa.com.au.

SENIORS

Autumn Club

Wednesday 1-4pm Toodyay Sports Pavilion Glenyce Bosnjak 9574 4587.

Butterfly Cottages

Thursday every two months. Jenn Nock. Email: butterfly2j@gmail.com.

Fitness and Fun for The Over 55s

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am, Youth Hall at showgrounds.

Ida's Hideaway

Saturdays 1-4pm Toodyay Community Resource Centre. Ring Ann Sinclair 0407 775 459.

Silver Chain Social Centre

Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays Toodyay Community Centre, 78 Stirling Terrace. Information 1300 650 803.

SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Country Women's Association

10am on the 4th Thursday of the month and Coffee morning 2nd Thursday of the month at 10am CWA Hall. Bookings call Margot

Watkins on 0405 067 591 or 9574 2823.

Moodyne Men

We meet Mondays and Thursdays from 9am to noon at the RSL Hall, Clinton Street. Contact Secretary Colin Bird 0424 195 003.

RSL Toodyay Sub-Branch

Meetings 2023: May 13, July 15, Sept 9 (AGM) Oct 7, December 9. Saturdays 1300 at the RSL Shed, Clinton Street, Toodyay. Bob Wood 0412 681 794.

Safer Toodyay Inc

Meetings announced in the Herald news article. Enquiries please contact Secretary on email: secretary@safertoodyay.org.au or 9574 5574.

Toodyay Lions Club

1st and 3rd Tuesdays Freemasons Hotel. Clint Fricker, Secretary, 0423 226 898.

Toodyay Masonic Lodge

4th Thursday Masonic Hall Fiennes St 7.30pm. Graham Barber, 9574 5717.

Toodyay Red Cross

2nd Monday February, May, August and November Anglican Hall 1.30pm.

Toodyay RoadWise Committee

2nd Wednesday of month at 9.30am at the Toodyay Community Centre. Bob Neville, 0419 853 160.

SPORT

Toodyay Bowling Club

Ladies Thursdays 8.30am. Liz Sullivan 0429 311 256. Men Fridays 3pm. Andrew Watson 0418 269 773. Mixed Winter Bowls Thursday 12.30pm. Liz Sullivan.

All welcome.

Avon Valley Adult Riding Club

4th Saturday (February-November) at Northam. Tina 0499 030 177.

Mortlock Pony Club

1st Sunday February to November at Goomalling. Tanzi 0427 859 493.

Toodyay Golf Club

Sundays - mixed comp with tee off at noon; ladies Wednesday with a 1.30pm tee off Contact Liz 0429 311 256; Men's scrungers Thursdays with a 2pm tee off. Contact Bruce 0417 028 089.

Avon Valley Shotokan Karate Club

Wednesdays at Youth Hall, Showgrounds. Peewees 3.45-4.30pm, juniors 4.30-5.30pm, seniors 6-7.30pm. Email avonvalleyshotokan@gmail.com.

Toodyay Soccer Club

Mondays 4-5.30pm in terms 2 and 3. For ages 5-15yrs. toodyaysoccer@gmail.com.

Toodyay Tennis Club

Winter social tennis - Tuesday 9am Rec Centre, unless raining. Members \$4, visitors \$8 pay on the day, includes morning tea. Racquets available. Email tennis@toodyaytennisclub.org.au. Phone Ph: 0433 510 416. Facebook @toodyaytennisclub.

VINTAGE VEHICLES

Avon Valley Vintage Vehicle Assoc

3rd Saturday 10.30am at old engineer's quarters next to Northam Railway Museum, Fitzgerald Street, Northam 9622 5932.

Classifieds

For Sale

LAZYBOY power recliner with adjustable lumbar and head moves included. All papers. Paid \$2450 July 2023, asking \$2000 ono. Phone 9574 2053.

RSL TOODYAY has for sale a 10 x 6 colorbond (green) shed. The shed is located at Clinton Street Toodyay. You dismantle and remove. Make an offer and it could be yours. Contact Paul on 0466 984 301 to inspect.

Public Notices

Annual General Meeting

ARTS Toodyay AGM will be held on Wednesday September 6 2023 at the Toodyay Club, Oddfellows Street at 6pm.

TOODYAY Herald AGM will be held on Saturday September 23 in the new office (Duke Street entry) at 10am.

In Memorium

WYATT (Frank)

My dear friend, your sudden departure saddens me deeply. I am lucky to have many happy memories of our times together. You are now with your God, and I am sure you will be looked after as you deserve. Until we meet again, your friend Miska.

Toodyay Have A Go Day
WEDNESDAY 27 SEPT 2023

Calling all people with disabilities, OTs and Physios!

TADWA is hitting the road to bring our range of customised bikes, trikes and Sandcruisers, together with our recumbent bike for people with disabilities to have a go.

Come along to this FREE event and have a go at bike riding. Our friendly recreation team, including an OT, are offering complimentary mini bike assessments and are available to discuss your individual needs. OTs and Physios are most welcome to attend to have a go or view our range.

RSVP to recreation@tadwa.org.au by Tuesday 26 September to let us know that you are coming and to discuss how we can help you do what's important to you.

For more information please contact Sarah or Tammy on (08) 9379 7479.

27.09.2023 | 9:30AM - 3:00PM
TOODYAY RECREATION CENTRE

I ndis freedom wheels

Critical refuge for vulnerable spotted carnivore



ENVIRONMENT

Protest banner at Newcastle Bridge during last month's Avon Descent river race.

Julimar Conservation and Forest Alliance
Sharon Richards

EASILY recognised by its spotted coat WA's largest marsupial carnivore is the chuditch or Western quoll, *Dasyurus geoffroii*.

The smaller Northern quoll can be found in the Kimberley and parts of the Pilbara.

They are members of a large group of meat-eating marsupials called the Dasyurids which include other quoll species, the Tasmanian devil and thylacine.

The chuditch was once found across much of inland Australia but is now

confined to isolated pockets of our own South West.

Julimar Forest is a critical refuge for the chuditch although the population that survives there has descended from translocated individuals.

In the early 90s the then Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) launched a campaign to rescue the species.

Julimar Forest was identified as ideal habitat and continues to be a vitally important part of the species' conservation.

As with most of our native mammals, habitat loss and predation by foxes and cats continue to drive the chuditch's decline.

It is currently listed as "Vulnerable".

As some chook owners will attest, the chuditch is a voracious hunter.

They are mostly solitary, only coming together in the mating season during the winter months.

Two to six pouched young are produced and when they are too big to carry around the mother secretes them in a den.

Chuditch need large territories to survive and Julimar Forest provides the crucial northern jarrah habitat it requires.



The Dowerin Rose (Eucalyptus pyriformis) is a highly decorative mallee to 3m tall with large flowers varying from yellow to orange and red. It grows on a variety of soil types.

Order seeds early so we can grow what you need

Toodyay Seed Group
Bethan Lloyd

TOODYAY Seed Group finished up at the end of July with around 1500 plants distributed to private landholders, with a smaller number going to community projects this year.

We had a few left over as they did not all grow to a saleable size.

There were quite a few latecomers who wanted plants this year, so if you have a planting project planned for next year we urge you to get your order in by November.

We can then grow what you need rather than making do with what's left.

The plants, which are available from the end of May, are \$1 each for private landholders and free for community projects.

Planting before the end of July is always preferable so plants get established well before the weather dries up.

The last part of August has been quite dry so we hope we get some more rain in September.

If planting late you will have to water plants to get them through the summer.

Deep infrequent watering is better than little and often as it establishes a deep root system more tolerant to the hot weather.

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

Fungi Foray keeps Nats busy in forest

Toodyay Naturalists' Club
Desraé Clarke

THE MONTH of August has been a busy one.

A 'Fungi Foray' was held in the Julimar Forest with Nats members and enthusiasts from further afield.

Fungi play an important role in maintaining health in a forest and of course there are many critters that depend on fungi as food.

A presentation was given at the August Nat's meeting by Desraé and Wayne Clarke on a CALM (as the overriding State conservation body was known) Landscape Expedition to the Gibson Desert in 1998.

What is a desert?

A desert is an area of unreliable rainfall.

This was an interesting answer to that question as it was expected to be a landscape of no vegetation and bare, sandy hills.

Imagine the surprise to find a relatively thick plant coverage and two large trees in the

vicinity of the camp.

The expedition attracted participants from interstate and overseas and from all walks of life to assist in research of the flora and fauna of the area.

Twenty traplines were set to catch small critters.

Each trapline consisted of a 30 metre length of soft wire netting, 15cm high with plastic household buckets and 20cm diameter polypipe pieces, the height of the buckets spaced along the length of the net. The polypipe and buckets were both dug into the ground with the tops level with the ground.

The small creatures scurry through the spinifex, hit the netting, run along it to fall into either the buckets or the pieces of polypipe.

It was imperative that receptacles were checked early in the morning to count, photograph and release the creatures.

The mechanism used to track larger animals was by dragging a piece of railway line behind a truck over two tracks of 30km and 32km.

Early checking found camels, kangaroos, feral cats, dingoes, foxes and reptiles had crossed the graded areas.

A third area of research was that of making, and then checking, 50-metre square plant quadrates on the effect of plant growth on burnt and unburnt areas.

The burnt areas yielded 25 species whereas the unburnt quadrates held five, including the dominant spinifex.

Nats continue to receive interesting natural history observations from the community.

It is greatly appreciated as the information can be included on the Club's database of records.

The next meeting of the Nats on Saturday 16 September is to be an 'out and about' wildflower excursion in the Wongan Hills area.

Final details will be distributed shortly.

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



Chuditch trapped during a 1999 CALM survey in Julimar Forest.



A 'trapline'. Photo Wayne Clarke

DID YOU KNOW PART OF YOUR SERVICE IS AN INSPECTION? DURING AN INSPECTION A TECHNICIAN MAY PICK UP ON REPAIRS OR MAINTENANCE THAT MAY NEED DOING ASAP OR IN THE FUTURE. THIS CAN SAVE YOU DOWN TIME AND MONEY.

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LEADER OF THE NATIONALS WA

Hard work pays off for home-grown hockey champ

Suzette Geary

LOCAL sportsman Damon Geary is proud to be part of a state championship winning hockey team after a thrilling playoff in Shepparton, Victoria last month.

Damon's gold medal success was built on the grassroots community sports he played at Toodyay District High School.

As the years passed, his competitive fire continued to shine brightly, and this year the stars finally came into alignment.

The WA State Country Men's and Women's Teams travelled to Shepparton for the 2023 Hockey Australia Country Championships on August 5-12.

After losing their first two games in the competition, the men's team rallied in a sensational comeback.

They qualified to face off against the home side in what proved to be a thrilling final.

The hard fought contest was decided in the third quarter when WA scored to edge out Victoria, running away winners with a final scoreline of 1-0.

Damon said the team had become a "strong unit" by the end of the tournament, working and scoring for each other.

"Hard work really does pay off," he said. "It was a great experience."

Damon's sporting background at Toodyay District High School opened many pathways in various sports.

Junior hockey became his strength.

He took part in many state development squad training sessions in Perth before Fremantle Hockey Club picked up Damon from the State Schools' Selection.

This in turn led to opportunities with Australian coaches.

However he deferred nomination for the state side after his mother was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Finally this year the timing was right with Damon selected for the WA State Country Men's Hockey Team.

As part of Hockey WA's efforts to raise the



Celebrating WA's win at the Hockey Australia Country Championships in Shepparton, Victoria are (from left) coach Lawrie Tylor, assistant coach Dean Lomax, Damon Geary with the winning cup and manager Andrew Hoare.

profile of the sport in the regional WA, team trials were held in Northam for the first time.

Recent turf additions to the Northam ground made such high-level play possible, and also helped improve local skills.

Damon thanked Hannes at Northam

SportsPower for their sponsorship, which allowed him to travel to the championships to represent WA.

"SportsPower do so much within the community to assist regional Wheatbelt players," he said.

Lay off the grog mum, it can damage bub's brain

SaferToodyay
Jess Daniels

SEPTEMBER 9 marks an important day of awareness.

Every year, International Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Day falls on the ninth day of the ninth month.

The symbolism should not be overlooked.

It points to the importance of remaining alcohol-free for the full nine months of a pregnancy.

Research has shown that to prevent harm to an unborn child from alcohol, women who are planning to get pregnant, or who are pregnant, should not drink alcohol.

It is also recommended to not drink alcohol if breastfeeding.

Alcohol consumed at any stage of pregnancy passes directly to the developing baby and can damage its brain, body and organs, a condition known as Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).

People with FASD can experience learning difficulties, memory loss, behavioural problems, and face difficulties in decision-making, understanding basic instructions, and adjusting behaviour in different situations.

FASD is the leading preventable developmental disability in Australia.

There is no safe level of alcohol consumption during pregnancy, which is why the moment you start trying to become pregnant is the moment you stop drinking alcohol.

For further information, you can visit nofasd.org.au, everymomentmatters.org.au or contact Holyoake - Wheatbelt Community Alcohol and Drug Service on 9621 1005.

HEALTH

Get behind the wheel of your own health

Warrior Wellbeing

The Regional Men's Health Initiative

EMPOWERING men to take responsibility for their wellbeing and health is our core focus at The Regional Men's Health Initiative.

We do this in light of the adverse statistics that represent men's health in general, and because a large proportion of men do not see developing their health knowledge as a priority.

Men tend to have a more functional view of their health and often won't seek help until actually impaired by the problem.

We often challenge men on these points - but what does it mean for a bloke to take responsibility for his own wellbeing and health?

As blokes we take responsibility and make a lot of informed decisions throughout our lives on a variety of things such as family, work and social issues.

Why then should decisions about our health and wellbeing be any different?

Too many blokes are running into trouble because we keep avoiding looking after our wellbeing and health.

Being a passive participant is not good enough.

We need to be the one in the driver's seat in all areas of our health, be it physical, mental, social or spiritual.

Taking responsibility for our wellbeing and health means becoming an active and informed healthcare consumer.

It means scheduling regular service visits with our doctor and being aware of issues that affect us at certain stages of our lives, such as the potential for prostate problems as we get older.

We also need to consider issues that could be common or hereditary in our families and discuss these with our doctor.

It's a bit of a generalisation but how many of us guys rely on our wives or partners for our health, for example when it comes to our diet, what food is in the house, and what we eat for dinner?

Remember that it's not our wife's, mate's or doctor's wellbeing and health - it's ours.

Good wellbeing and health can only happen if and when we as blokes take responsibility.

While taking charge is important, it doesn't mean we have to go it alone.

We all need help sometimes.

From a community educator and support worker perspective, this often means our role involves walking beside someone helping to establish relevant pathways of support.

It could also be simply listening to and validating people's issues and accompanying emotions.

We see it as walking beside the ute with the window down but not hopping in.

It's your ride - you are the one in the driver's seat.

RAC Council Elections

Voting opens: 22 September 2023, closes: 20 November 2023

VOTE for Stephen Fox

Stephen Fox is a Woorlooloo resident seeking re-election to the RAC WA Council

From Stephen

"As an active and supportive RAC member since 1973, I have been fortunate to apply my working life experiences to the role of RAC Councillor. I gained the confidence of my fellow Councillors who, elected me to the committees of both, Member & Policy and Rules Review.

In addition to a strong trade background as an electrician, I built a successful kit-car manufacturing business, worked in community development and in the Caravan Industry R&D.

I have a long history of participation with three terms in local Government (Shire of Mundaring), 17 years' service with St John Ambulance as an active and regular Volunteer Ambulance Officer (Typically attending in excess of 50 calls a year).



Stephen Fox and the RAC Elephant in the Wheatbelt.

I have served on the Motorsport Peak body CAMS (Renamed Motorsport Australia) on their national Board, as well as serving on the WA State Council of CAMS including Chairman for five years. I have also as a Ministerial Appointment served on the Road Safety Council".

For further information visit www.stephenfox.online

VOTE Fox for RAC WA Council
Contact Stephen Fox via email: fox@wn.com.au

How to vote 2023

Eligible Voting Members will receive the RAC Election supplement and voting instructions by:

- ✓ **Email**, if you have a valid email address on your membership or
- ✓ **Post**, if you do not have a valid email address on your membership

HEALTH



Is panting normal?

Should you be concerned about your dog's pants?

Heartlands Veterinary Hospital
Dr Caitlin Giardina

DID YOU know dogs only have sweat glands on their paw pads?

Dogs are highly susceptible to overheating, but panting allows our furry friends to cool down.

Panting evaporates water from the mouth, tongue and upper respiratory tract, creating a naturally efficient cooling effect similar to sweating in humans.

Panting can look like a lot of work, but dogs

have wonderfully elastic airways, and can take 300-400 breaths per minute without using too much energy.

But the question is, when should you be concerned?

Since panting is a great method for cooling down it is normal for your dog to pant on a hot day or when exercising.

If your furry friend starts panting suddenly for no reason, or if the panting is constant, then please give our team at Heartlands Vet Hospitals a call.

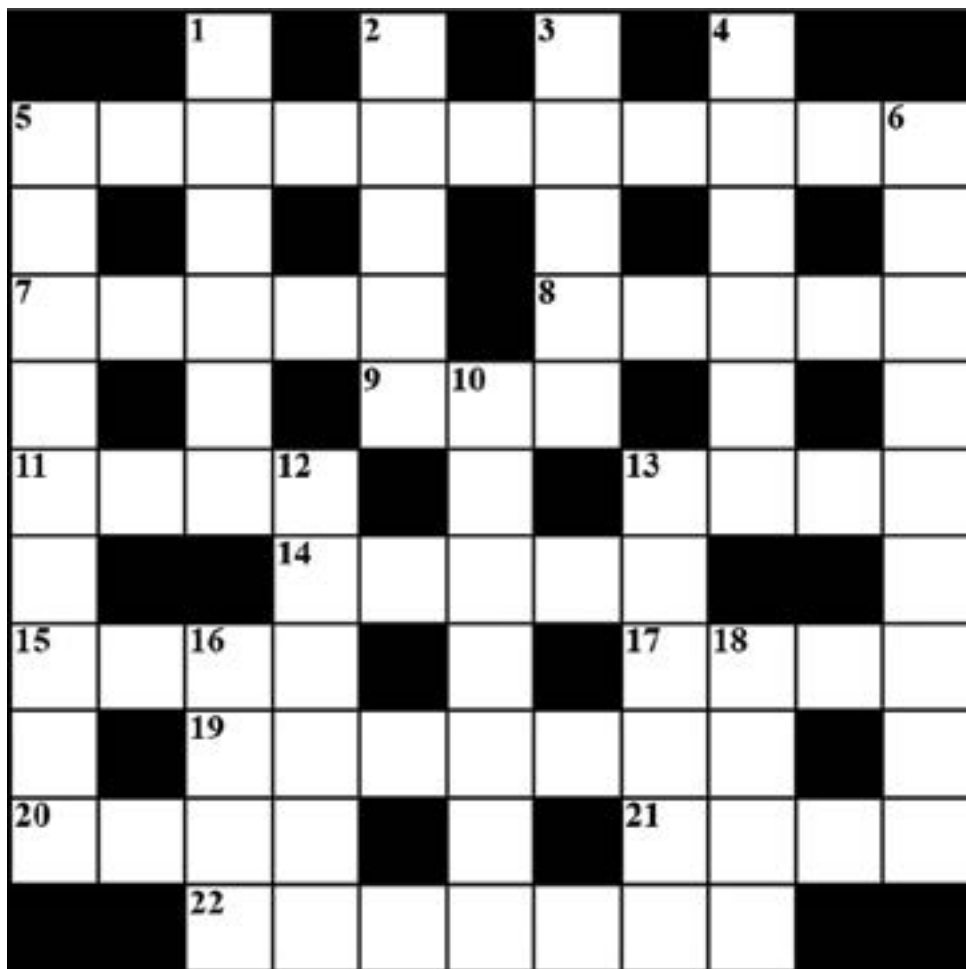
We will check out your beautiful pooch's pants looking for any signs of illness.

PUZZLES

Combo Crossword

- ACROSS**
 5 Out of order
 7 A cereal
 8 Rugby term
 9 Regret
 11 Clears
 13 Intend
 14 Use foolishly
 15 Leer at
 17 Song for two
 19 Messages
 20 Southern European
 21 Give as loan
 22 Took out

- DOWN**
 1 Grievance
 2 Cow's milk bag
 3 Money holder
 4 Go hungry
 5 Huge
 6 Stood over
 10 Out-manoeuvre
 12 Move aside
 13 Interfere
 16 Go first
 18 Utilised



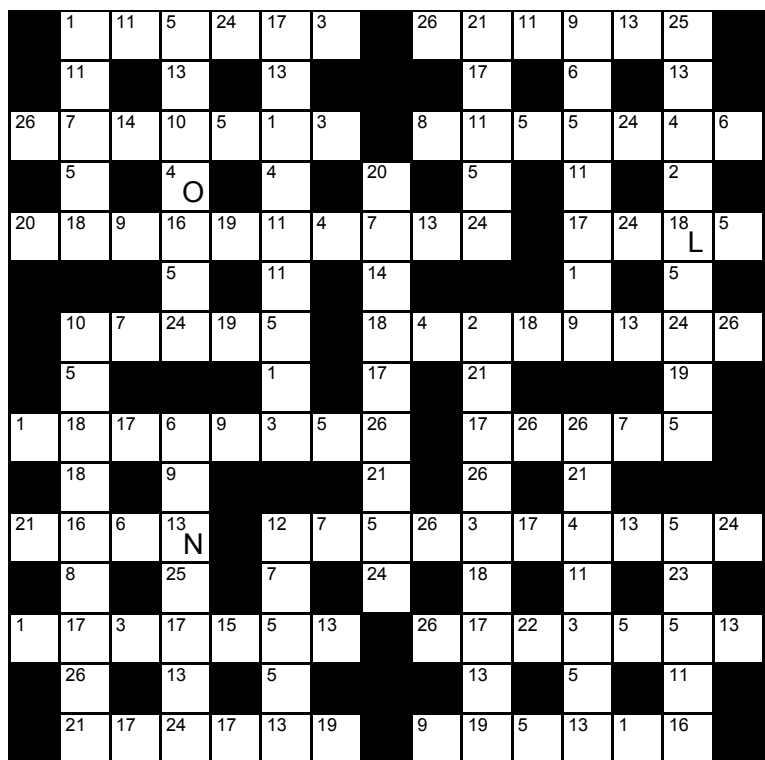
Cryptic Clues

- ACROSS**
 5 Jade lad must process is not well adapted
 7 Cereal in listener's confused network
 8 Where forwards pack self-contained strong drink
 9 Express regret in French street
 11 Catches profits after expenses
 13 Intend to be stingy
 14 Be profligate with unwanted material
 15 Dogleg has a queer look
 17 Song for two should be paid to beginner
 19 Go off and start some messages
 20 European national in his lavish home
 21 Temporarily give up splendid piece
 22 Document allowed in and taken out

- DOWN**
 1 Plan it to become a grievance in court
 2 Right off steering device for bovine milk carrier
 3 Movement of the lips where money may be
 4 Return vermin, half have to go hungry
 5 Short time, nothing to us, but of great importance
 6 Overshadowed note maid delivered
 10 Take attention from others in high part of race
 12 Deviate suddenly from answer verified
 13 Daughter led me astray and does intervene
 16 Go ahead with new deal
 18 Employed, but secondhand

Crosscode

Crosscode is a logic puzzle. Each letter is a number. Begin by guessing the first word and placing the additional letters into the crosscode. Keep guessing words/letters until completed.



| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |

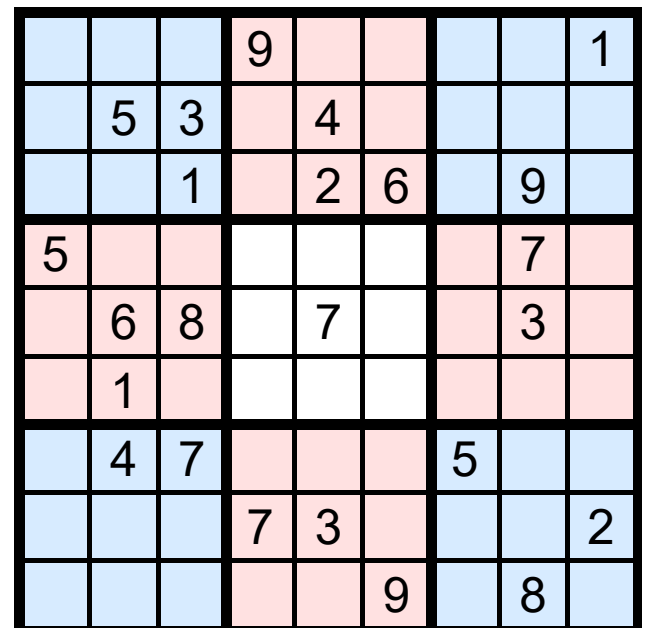
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
| N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |

Notes

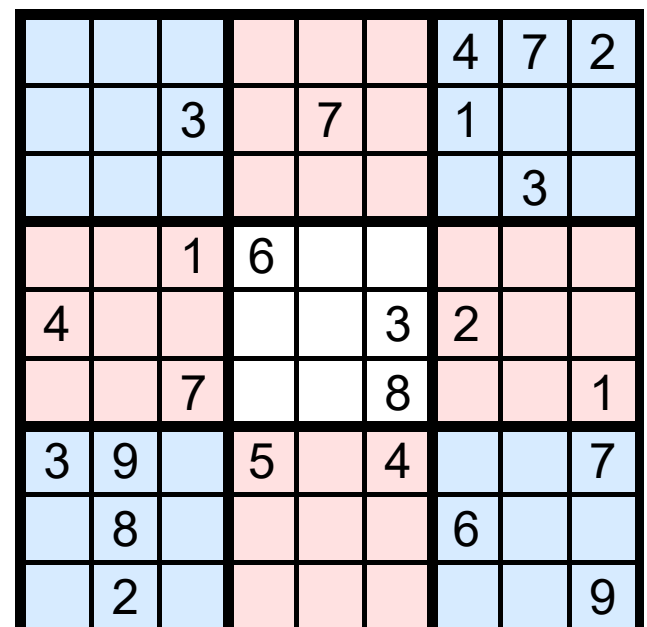
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Sudoku

Sudoku is based on the logical placement of numbers. Sudoku doesn't require any calculation nor special math skills; all that is needed are brains and concentration. Every number from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine columns, nine rows and the nine 3x3 boxes.



Easy



Hard

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THE POWER OF BEING UNDERSTOOD
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**Puzzle Solutions
 page 35**

Toodyay Rainfall

Recordings and average commenced on 1/1/1877

| YEAR | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC | TOTAL |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| 2019 | 1.8 | 0 | 5.8 | 15.4 | 8.7 | 125.7 | 128.4 | 66.3 | 13.4 | 15.2 | 6.0 | 0 | 386.7 |
| 2020 | 0 | 31.6 | 9.8 | 6.4 | 38.2 | 48.9 | 43.7 | 61.8 | 30.2 | 5.9 | 48.8 | 3.5 | 328.8 |
| 2021 | 0.03 | 17.3 | 137.3 | 11.1 | 121.7 | 30.4 | 154.2 | 70.3 | 39 | 61.6 | 2.2 | 0 | 645.13 |
| 2022 | 31.7 | 4.5 | 14 | 30.9 | 36.8 | 43 | 42.7 | 151.1 | 44 | 15.6 | 12 | 5.1 | 431.4 |
| 2023 | 0.1 | 0 | 54.9 | 29 | 21.8 | 74.3 | 42.4 | 19.8 | | | | | 242.3 |
| Average | 12.10 | 14.30 | 19.50 | 23.30 | 54.90 | 77.10 | 101.60 | 60.40 | 35.40 | 24.70 | 12.70 | 8.80 | 425.50 |

HEALTH

Test your poo early and keep living the dream

Cancer Council WA
Kaylor Andrews

TWO WEST Aussies diagnosed with bowel cancer are encouraging others in the Wheatbelt to seek medical advice earlier if they notice changes in their body.

Damien Healy and Cherie Slater are part of an ad campaign that features real people telling their own stories rather than stern and scary warnings from authorities.

Cancer Council WA Wheatbelt regional education officer Kaylor Andrews thanked the two brave champions, both of whom had lived in the Mid-West, for their generosity in sharing their stories.

“Their personal stories, which feature in the ads, as well as videos on the campaign website, give the campaign authenticity which we believe will have a powerful impact,” Ms Andrews said.

The ‘Give yourself the best chance’ campaign comes off the back of new data that shows testimonial-style ads create better connection with viewers, who find them more memorable than messages delivered by doctors.

Cancer Council WA launched its new campaign (see print ad below) through its Find Cancer Early Program.

Ms Andrews said research showed people living in regional Australia had lower rates of five-year survival for all cancers combined, compared with people living in major cities.

“Previous research in Western Australia shows regional people present to the GP at a later stage because they are less aware of cancer symptoms, more optimistic, more laid back, less willing to seek help and sometimes make excuses for not seeking



Damien Healy is stoked he found his cancer early and is living cancer-free.

help, therefore resulting in later stage cancer diagnoses,” she said.

“While the Find Cancer Early messages are getting through, there is still a long way to go.”

Ms Andrews said Toodyay residents over 40 should see their doctor if they noticed anything unusual, like blood in their poo or wee, or were coughing up blood.

In most cases, such symptoms do not mean you have cancer – but it’s important to discuss them with your doctor just in case.

“Give yourself the best chance of finding cancer early by going to the doctor earlier if you have symptoms, so that treatment is easier, and you can be around longer for friends and family,” Ms Andrews said.

It’s important to remember bowel cancer



Cherie Slater says “don’t be shamed” about talking to your doctor – it can save your life.

screening kits, cervical screening and screening mammograms are designed for people who do not have any symptoms.

The organisation warns waiting to participate in a cancer screening program if you have symptoms could delay your diagnosis and risk a worse outcome.

Hesitant because feared worst

DAMIEN Healy, a 45-year-old man from Geraldton, had his bowel cancer diagnosed early after seeing Find Cancer Early adverts.

He visited his doctor when he had blood in his poo and pains in his tummy.

Damien was hesitant to get his symptoms checked out because he feared the worst.

He didn’t want to hear bad news and hoped it would just go away.

It wasn’t until Damien saw the Cancer Council WA Find Cancer Early television advertisement that he realised the importance of getting his symptoms checked.

He booked an appointment with a doctor and was referred for a colonoscopy, which led to the discovery that he had polyps.

The polyps were removed in November 2021, and one was found to be cancerous.

His surgeon said if he’d have not seen his doctor about his symptoms, he wouldn’t have made it to 50 years of age.

Damien didn’t need to undergo radiotherapy or chemotherapy, and is cancer-free.

“I’m stoked I found my cancer early so I can keep living the dream,” Damian said.

Unbearable tummy pain

CHERIE Slater, a 53-year-old Badimia Yamatji Wadjuk Noongar woman, started experiencing symptoms in her late 40s.

She ignored them for two to three years before presenting to emergency with unbearable tummy pain in January 2022.

She was diagnosed with stage 4 bowel cancer that had spread to other parts of her body and has been undergoing chemotherapy, surgery and radiotherapy ever since.

Cherie ignored her symptoms because she felt shame going to the doctors about it.

“Please don’t be shamed about telling your doctor what’s happening with your body, because these are the questions that could save your life,” Cherie said.

If you find cancer early, you can avoid being diagnosed with stage 4 cancer like me.”

Cancer Council WA

Have you had any of these?

- Blood in your poo
- Blood in your pee
- Coughing up blood

**If you have and you are over 40...
Tell a clinic nurse, doctor or health worker**

We have a better chance of surviving cancer and having more time with family and friends if cancer is found early.

Department of Health
Cancer Council WA

For more information visit findcancerearly.com.au or call 13 11 20

“Find cancer early and give yourself the best chance of successful treatment, so that you can get back to doing the things you love with the people you love.”

- Cherie, Badimia Yamatji Wadjuk Noongar woman

SPORT



Members of the Avon Valley Shotokan Club acknowledging the new equipment, thanks to a grant from Chalice Mining.

Members snap up chance to win dojo photo contest

Avon Valley Shotokan Club
Nat Kielbasa

THERE are times when it would be wonderful if we could take our memories and share those moments with others.

With that in mind we are currently running a photography competition for our members.

We are also thanking our supporters and donors who are helping make such valued memories – and prizes – possible.

Imagine a hall filled with laughter and infectious enthusiasm.

Young children, teens and adults jump hurdles, balance on wobble boards, throw medicine balls of all sizes, test out punching bags, and race through obstacle courses.

That is our dojo.

Karate isn't just about learning punches, kicks and blocks – it is also about respect.

Perhaps you've seen a demonstration and wondered why the students bow so often?

That is a sign of respect, a way of thanking teachers for their guidance and thanking other students for their support.

Bowing at the door shows gratitude for a

safe space in which to focus and learn.

It is important to all of us at Avon Valley Shotokan to show our heartfelt gratitude to those who choose to support our club.

Whether through a sponsorship, grant, or even a snack purchased from our market stall, your support helps our students thrive.

In particular we say 'thank you' to Chalice Mining for their grant that allowed us to purchase new equipment.

With the funds we saved we are able to give back to our members of all ages.

The winner of our photo competition will have their fees paid for a term.

Second prize is your own break board, while our third-placed photographer will take home a set of nunchucks.

Members are encouraged to send in your best karate photo.

You also have the chance for your photos to appear in our 2024 calendar which will be available for sale in the community.

We are excited to see what you all create.

Ash Grundy scores two big wins

Toodyay Golf Club
Liz Sullivan, Secretary

THE TOODYAY Golf Club held three events last month.

August 6 was a stableford event sponsored by Toodyay Tyres.

The winner with 38 points was Ash Grundy, winning on a countback from Wayne Mastin with Murray Riseley third with 34 points.

August 13 was a 4BBB sponsored by Toodyay IGA.

The winning combination with 43 points was Bruce Shaw and Ash Grundy.

Second with 40 points were Eugene O'Sullivan and John Jaworski.

Third with 38 points were Mike Ryder and Murray Riseley.

The Woodland Cup, a 27-hole stroke event, was played on August 20, with the winner being Dave Gordon with 110, second was Mike Ryder with 116.5 and third Murray Riseley on 123.5.



Toodyay Herald Courtyard

Space available for day events
Applications to:
courtyardcoordinator@gmail.com

Toodyay picnic races to restart next year



The Toodyay Race Club is looking forward to being off and running again in 2024.

Toodyay Race Club
John Prater

AFTER meeting with Shire of Toodyay representatives last month we are more relaxed and happy to say the 2024 Picnic races will be returning to Toodyay.

We were pleased to hear that "Council is receptive to contributing to the renovation of the race course to make it safe and to potentially attract larger events to Toodyay, not just limited to the Annual Picnic Race Day".

Shire CEO Suzie Haslehurst had some encouraging things to say when she met last month with myself and one of our committee members.

We now appear to be all working together to achieve what had seemed impossible a few months ago.

Returning the Cup to Toodyay is by no means a 'done deal' but with the present goodwill and cooperation between the Shire and the Race Club we are optimistic and looking forward to the TABtouch Toodyay Cup as the feature race of the 2024 Family Picnic Race Day.

I want to thank those who emailed me last month after I invited people to send us their support for our efforts and hard work.

I ask you to please make a note in your

diaries of the busy bee on Saturday September 16.

We will contact you personally by phone or email when we have confirmed arrangements.

It was great to hear from some new members in town who have not yet had an opportunity to come to a local race day, asking for more information about the club.

We have sent out copies of our booklet "Challenges and Champions", a brief history of our club written by Toodyay Historical Society member Beth Frayne for our 150th anniversary in 2015.

"Challenges and Champions" costs \$5 on the society's website but if you would like to join our team of volunteers, we will send you a free copy with details of membership of the Toodyay Race Club.

The best email to use is info@toodyayraceclub.com.au.

Financial members have received information about the arrangements for this year's Toodyay Cup meeting.

It will be held at Belmont Racecourse on Monday September 25 on the King's Birthday long weekend.

We would like to thank TABtouch for continuing its sponsorship of the Toodyay Cup, and our other race sponsors who stayed the course with us again this year.



INVITING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

TO PREPARE MEALS ON FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHTS IN OUR MODERN AND WELL EQUIPPED COMMERCIAL KITCHEN

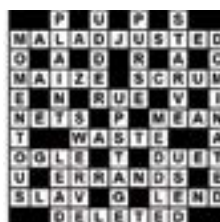
FLEXIBLE ARRANGEMENTS AVAILABLE

LEASE HIRE WORK FOR WAGES

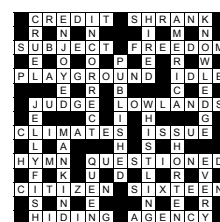
ALL OFFERS CONSIDERED

ENQUIRIES TO DELINA HAYWOOD 0427 291 454
goomallingscc.chairperson@gmail.com

Puzzle Solutions



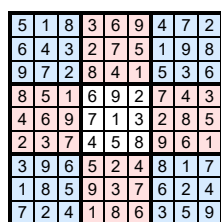
Crossword



Crosscode



Sudoku Easy



Sudoku Hard



tony maddox

realestate

Your locally owned real estate

Principal's Pen

Here in our office, we have an active sales team – we work for you!

There is nothing we won't do to help make this process as easy and care free as possible. From advertising your property, to actively sourcing buyers, to engaging with your settlement agent and helping organise your pest, building and electrical inspections! We can handle the whole process on your behalf from start to finish!

With Sam currently being THE TOP selling agent in Toodyay on our team, we can't fail!

Add Tony, with his local knowledge, extensive contact list and long-term connection to Toodyay and surrounding areas, we really do have all bases covered.

And you know what they say... behind every good man is an even better woman, and that's where Jess comes in! She will handle all the paperwork, settlement, and inspections on your behalf, to make sure it's all smooth sailing, and a pleasant experience for both you as the seller, and your potential buyers.

But be careful boys, once she's finished her course to become a Sales Rep, you're going to have some competition!!

But wait, THERE'S MORE!! We also have Faith! Who has just finished her Triennial License! Not only is Faith our Senior Property Manager over seeing all things rental related, she is now also selling! Look out Tony, she might be after your spot!

Faith is busy making sure our Merredin branch is up and running as smoothly as our Toodyay office is!

Faith and her team, consisting of Jo – who handles our Merredin rentals – Gracie who is in charge of our Toodyay rentals, and Jemma who is our office all-rounder, are always working hard to ensure everyone is happy – Happy owners and happy tenants = Happy Property Managers!

We pride ourselves on taking the pressure off our buyers, sellers, landlords and tenants, by doing all the dirty work! We have a wide range of contacts for all trades to make sure we can cover your needs, from electrical, to plumbing, to gardening, and maintenance and repairs!

Our office is open 7 days a week!

Pop in and see us to discuss your needs!



Who are we? What do we do? What can we do for you?
Thinking about selling your house? - Thinking about buying a home?
Thinking about buying an investment property and need efficient property managers? - If you said yes to any of these, then we can help you!

CLEARING SALE



269 Eadine Road, Clackline
On 23rd September 2023 at 11.00am

See website for further details! www.asktonym.com.au
"Farming Equipment and Machinery"

AUCTION



Townsite House, 31 Hamersley Street, Toodyay.
On Site, on 30th September 2023 at 12.00 noon.
Sold on an "AS IS" basis.

All offers presented prior to auction day.

www.asktonym.com.au Telephone: 08 9574 2917

Toodyay Office: 100 Stirling Terrace, Toodyay 6566 - **Merredin Office:** 66 Barrack Street, Merredin 6415