

The Toodyay Herald

Your locally owned
community newspaper
Est. 1902

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

October 2023
Edition 428

Miner shatters Julimar residents' dreams

Michael Sinclair-Jones

DUST, noise and a massive open-cut mine planned next to their homes have dismayed a group of Julimar residents who say their bush lifestyle dreams have been destroyed.

The affected residents include artists and writers (pictured right) who say their properties have been ruined and lives permanently disrupted – with worse to come.

They live in the Moondyne area of west Julimar amid gently rolling hills and trees in what was until recently an idyllic setting.

That was before Perth-based Chalice Mining bought 2500ha (6200 acres) of nearby farmland (see Page 5) to build a Kalgoorlie-sized super pit, starting in 2026.

The miner says it currently houses up to 30 workers at the site and averages 72 vehicle movements a day, seven days a week, on 2.3km of unsealed Keating Road that links local residents' homes to the outside world.

One family says dust has affected the health of their three-year-old son who travels the same road twice a day to attend pre-school.

Another local resident who runs a bush writers' retreat on a 30ha (75 acres) property said Chalice had offered them \$300,000 in compensation while farmers with land needed for mining got millions of dollars.

"Such a small amount of money wouldn't buy even a 200sqm block in Balga," she said.

"We grow our own vegies and the dust gets into everything, even the dog bowl," a third resident with an art gallery and pottery said.

A couple with their own vineyard said their plans for bush chalet accommodation for up to 40 guests for weddings were now ruined.

"We came here to build our dream homes and live creative lifestyles in a pristine environment and now this," one owner said.



Julimar residents at the entrance to Chalice Mining's Jackalup acquisition at 229 Keating Road. The Perth-based miner is working to build a massive open-cut super pit, ore processing plant and tailings dump next to their properties, which owners say are already suffering dust, noise and light pollution caused by drilling operations, increased traffic on local unsealed roads and loud music from a nearby workers' camp.

A Chalice spokesperson said all land purchases and offers were based on a "dollar per hectare purchase price metric calculated at a substantial premium to market".

"Larger farming properties have been acquired for a much higher price than smaller properties," Chalice said.

The miner had set a 60km/h speed limit for

workers on Keating Road and was operating a daily water cart on the gravel surface.

Dust levels measured from April to June were within national air quality guidelines and would be further monitored this summer.

Noise levels would be assessed next year when State mining approvals were sought.

More Page 5, Letters Page 4.

\$50,000 for top Wagyl barrister

AUSTRALIA'S former top law officer has been hired to defend Toodyay real estate agent Tony Maddox against a charge of allegedly breaching Aboriginal heritage law.

Mr Maddox has engaged former Federal Attorney-General Christian Porter to fight a charge that he allegedly damaged an Aboriginal heritage site by building an unauthorised vehicle crossing over Boyagerring Brook on his Nunile property.

The State says the waterway is the home of the Wagyl, an Aboriginal spiritual belief.

Mr Porter's fees for a three-day Perth trial next year are expected to cost up to \$50,000.

Mr Maddox said the State had allowed him to resume pumping bore water into the creek to form a small artificial lake on his property.

Coming events

Toodyay Farmers Market
Sunday 15 October 9am - 1pm

classifieds	29
emergency services	7,8
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Former WA Nationals Party leader backs Yes vote



Former State Opposition and ex-WA Nationals Leader Mia Davies joined about 100 supporters at a Toodyay 'Yes' vote rally for this month's Voice Federal Referendum on Saturday October 14. "I see it as a positive for our nation, a moral obligation," the Wheatbelt MP said. "It is about bringing people together, not creating division – it is a message of love." See Roger Simms Page 2, Editorial Page 4.

Six candidates vie for three council vacancies

THREE sitting councillors and a former shire deputy president are among six candidates contesting three seats at this month's Toodyay Shire Council elections.

The former shire deputy president is Toodyay Race Club President John Prater.

The other candidates are Shire President Rosemary Madaesi, Shire Deputy President Beth Ruthven, Cr Susan Pearce and newcomers Ray Mills and Shelly Dival.

This month's Herald has provided the six candidates with free space and colour photographs on Page 3 to state in their own words why they should be elected.

A postal ballot of all 3638 registered Toodyay electors opened on September 15.

The new council will meet soon after the poll closes on Saturday October 21 to hold a secret ballot in the council chamber to elect a shire president for the next two years.

The council agreed earlier this year reduce its size from nine to seven members.

Cr Phil Hart did not seek re-election to the smaller council.

For buying, selling or renting we get the job done **9574 4200**

COUNTRY REALTY

The Toodyay Herald

The Toodyay Herald is a free monthly newspaper published and owned by a not-for-profit incorporated association - The Toodyay Herald Inc. Contributions via email or on flash drive are preferred. There is no charge for articles that appear in the paper. **Deadlines** for the next edition are listed below with the paper on the streets in the first week of each month except in January when there is no edition. **All advertising** should be emailed to advertising@toodyayherald.com.au. Editorial contributions and photographs should be emailed to news@toodyayherald.com.au. **Photographs** for publication should be at least 500kb in file size to ensure quality reproduction in the newspaper.

SUBSCRIPTIONS - Subscriptions are \$33 (postage and packaging) per year (11 issues). Please send a cheque to PO Box 100, Toodyay 6566.

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COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

President: Peter Ruthven
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PRODUCTION

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

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THANK YOU

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

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RATES - NO GST IS APPLICABLE

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NEXT TOODYAY HERALD EDITION

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Noon Friday
 October 20

STORY DEADLINE

Noon Wednesday
 October 25

DISTRIBUTED

Thursday
 November 2

Please note our email addresses

Advertising: advertising@toodyayherald.com.au

Articles and stories: news@toodyayherald.com.au

Spotlight on a fair go

Roger Simms

A GLANCE at a list of Australia's 44 referendums since nationhood in 1901 throws a sharp light of contrast on the 45th – the Aboriginal Voice proposal due to be decided on Saturday October 14.

So many past propositions have dealt with what might be called matters worthy but dull such as State debts, trade and commerce, industrial issues, railway disputes and the like.

All very important, of course, but not touching directly on matters of human interest.

Referendums No. 20 and No. 26 – in 1946 and 1967 – were closer to the human dimension and are among the only eight of the 44 to have been passed.

The first established a national social security system which evolved into Centrelink, and the second approved the Commonwealth enacting laws for Aboriginal people and including them in population counts.

Now we are about to decide on No. 45, a proposition that could scarcely touch more deeply on questions of human interest – and on historical, political and, yes, philosophical considerations that arise.

There's not much time left for the undecided, including me, to think through the crudeness and rudeness of all that has passed for debate so far and set about making up our minds about Yes or No.

On face value, the referendum proposal invites support.

We are being asked to think about our nation's beginnings, to recognise and respect the many thousands of years of Aboriginal culture and tradition, to consider Aboriginal disadvantage and to approve a way to lift standards of Aboriginal health and access to opportunity.

The proposed vehicle for recognition and change is an Aboriginal Voice enshrined in Australia's Constitution to give advice to the Federal Parliament and the Federal Government on matters relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

It's not hard to see the proposal, in both name and spirit, as a statement from the heart, deserving of a heart-felt response.

It is, as the official Yes case says, an idea that came directly from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and supporting it will bring reconciliation, unity, hope and make a positive difference.

However, the Yes case, like the referendum proposal itself, is essentially short on detail and leaves the No case well placed to exploit doubt.

Two main issues have been driving opinion that a Yes vote may not be the best way to achieve the goals stated and conceivably not the best thing for the nation as a whole.

The first touches on the cohesion of Australian society.

Conservative spokespeople have warned

of division, arguing that the Voice would give one racial group a special right under the Constitution, an additional say on public policy through access to Parliament and Government.

They suggest it would be a form of permanent affirmative action.

Aboriginal Senator Jacinta Nampijinpa Price, from the Northern Territory, has been a strong public voice on this point, arguing that division is basically what the referendum is about.

"Do we divide our country along the lines of race? Australians have to decide," she says.

For its part, the Yes case says the Voice will bring the country together. Voting Yes would mean becoming reconciled with our past and moving to a better future.

The other big question is whether voters will accept the Prime Minister's simple assurance that the Voice would be solely an advisory body and that good advice would be accepted, bad advice rejected – and that that would be the end of the matter.

If there were guaranteed certainty on this point, there would be solid support.

But that's not how some well credentialed people see it.

The concern is that a Constitutionally enshrined Voice advising both Parliament and the Government could frustrate government policy and delay projects through litigation involving appeals to Australia's High Court.

No issue would be beyond the Voice's scope, the No case argues.

It quotes former conservative High Court judge Ian Callinan: "I would foresee a decade or more of constitutional and administrative law litigation arising out of a voice"

The Yes case quotes former more liberally minded High Court Chief Justice Robert French: "The Voice is a big idea but not a complicated one. It is low risk for a high return."

It's not been easy to find footholds in fact about all this.

Former WA Governor Malcolm McCusker suggests we should not base our decision on others' opinions "be they sporting heroes, politicians, ex-politicians, retired judges, film stars or anyone else."

Good advice, up to a point, but we've got to base our decision on something.

I'm falling back on my usual starting point in deliberation: the old Aussie concept of a fair go.

One thing I am decided on is rejection of the notion that the world will think less of Australia if we vote No.

What sort of a country would we be if we worried about that?

The decision on Saturday October 14 is for Australians to make on the basis of whether the referendum proposal is the right thing for our country or not.

Making our choice as part of our democratic way of life is the important thing that we would want the rest of the world to see.

New Herald courtyard available for hire

Judy Morrissey

THE VACANT courtyard next to the town's Christmas 360 shop is now managed by *The Toodyay Herald* and available for hire.

The central location makes it an ideal site for people wanting to display products to sell or for groups to promote their services.

It can also be used for craft markets, art displays or to demonstrate skills such as spinning, weaving, wood turning, etc..

There is no charge for not-for-profit community organisations; corporate hire will cost \$10 an hour, paid in advance.

All organisations must supply a Public Liability Certificate of Currency.

Unfortunately, services such as water and electricity cannot be provided.

For further information about using the courtyard or to unlock the front gate for an inspection, please email courtyardcoordinator@gmail.com.

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

October - November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Oct 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	Nov 1	2	3	4

Toodyay Shire Council elections – who will you vote for?



Shelly Dival

TOODYAY needs change – a fresh face and a new look to our future.

With strong intergenerational connections, (my parents, children and grandchildren live here), I stand for collaborative community building and progress, with one eye on preserving Toodyay's history and the other on our future as a vibrant and exciting place to live.

With world experience and as an advocate for change, I have an eye for detail, am astute, have an inquiring mind and forthright approach.

I will ask the questions that need to be asked to ensure good fiscal management and sound governance.

If you want vibrance, connectedness, innovation and creativity; if you want an analytical, big-picture thinker with a 'can-do' attitude; if you want a candidate with an unapologetic vested interest in my Shire (a born local), then I'm your person.

I 'know' Toodyay and, most importantly, I love it!

facebook.com/ShellyDivalToodyay
0433 510 416

Written and authorised by Shelly Dival, 303 Harders Chitty Road, West Toodyay.



Rosemary Madacsi

"THE FUTURE is not some place we are going, but one we are creating. The paths are not to be found, but made," John Schaar.

My strength is to analyse and find solutions to build and plan through commitment, diligence and persistence.

Toodyay has a bright future but we need to plan now.

Within 10 years, the political landscape will shift to Asia.

Climate change will impact our lives, landscape and agriculture.

Chalice Mining's proposed Julimar mine is likely to be operational.

That is what I have been doing – through government, regional committees and businesses.

My focus is to build the foundations for the community to face these changes today and tomorrow, establish greater financial security and services, and retain what we value.

I have lived regionally for 50 years and nursed before becoming an environmental scientist.

I have the knowledge, skills and experience to understand and manage change.

I offer a stable, solid work ethic to support the community.

Written and authorised by Rosemary Madacsi, 83 North Street, West Toodyay, WA.



Ray Mills

IN TIMES when leadership and experience are of utmost importance, I stand as your choice for Councillor, prepared to lead our community toward a brighter future.

I was motivated to run for Council, driven by a commitment to provide the leadership and vision our community urgently requires – a platform for change.

My extensive experience in international corporate governance is invaluable in the context of local government.

My insights and business acumen promise to accelerate the level of due diligence within the council, ensuring that every decision is meticulously considered in the context of improving our community.

As a business leader and a local, I bring the right blend of qualities to the table that makes me the right candidate.

With a proven corporate track record, I have consistently exhibited strategic prowess, bringing forth intentional and calculated decision-making.

This, in turn, positions me as the ideal advocate for our community who can represent the Shire of Toodyay at that political level.

Written and Authorised by Ray Mills, 61 Grandis Road, Morangup, WA



Susan Pearce

I WAS elected to Council in 2019.

I have worked collaboratively and diligently with administration and Councillors for the best community outcomes for our youth, families and aged.

If re-elected, I will continue to engage, listen and provide the community with open dialogue and a voice in Council.

I will also continue to undertake careful financial planning, support sustainable development and review rate policy.

I will continue to advocate for initiatives supporting community needs and concerns, particularly the Staying in Place concept that supports our aged residents to continue living in their homes.

I was delighted to be part of Council supporting the Noongar Kaartdijin Truth Telling Project resulting in a National Excellence Award.

I will continue working towards reconciliation.

I will continue to support community initiatives, including my role as a St John Ambulance volunteer transport driver and active supporter for Toodyay Locals Care.

I seek your vote to continue building a stronger, engaged and supportive community.

Written and authorised by Susan Pearce 740 Salt Valley Road Toodyay WA 6566



John Prater

I'M A LONG-standing Toodyay resident, raising my three children and holding leadership roles, including former Toodyay Junior Football Club President and 16-year Toodyay Race Club President.

I have a deep understanding of our community's needs and councillor responsibilities, and I will use this knowledge to provide practical solutions and clear direction for the Shire.

My commitment includes advocating for community groups, emergency services and mental health assistance; recognising their critical role in community wellbeing.

Increasing community consultation via community-led Works Committees and monthly information sessions in Toodyay, Morangup and Beejording.

Preserving our cultural and historical heritage.

Fostering an environment that attracts young families and promotes community growth.

Championing tourism and events as avenues to stimulate our local economy.

Transparency, accountability, and strong financial management, focusing on addressing the rising costs in our community.

Reviewing the Recreation Centre management to provide a cost-effective alternative to benefit and boost community use of the facilities.

I represent new leadership for a brighter future.

Written and authorised by John Prater, 72 Sandplain Road, Toodyay.



Beth Ruthven

I HAVE served on Council since 2019 and have a deep understanding of shire budgets, spending priorities and financial planning in my role as Shire Audit Committee Chair.

It has required time and commitment to help steer our community through tough economic times, including the 2020 pandemic, high interest rates and critical labour shortages.

I have attended every Council meeting in the past four years and nearly every forum and workshop in person or online, including as Deputy Shire President for the past three years.

I have shown the time and commitment that I believe are necessary to serve our local community effectively.

I have no vested interests to cloud my judgment and have strived to always work cooperatively with other elected members and staff to achieve the best solutions to often complex problems.

I am pragmatic and understand that change takes time.

That is why I seek your vote – to continue helping our community to achieve a better future.

Written and authorised by Beth Ruthven, 895 Coondle West Rd, West Toodyay.



Darren West MLC

Here to Help

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Darren West MLC

The Toodyay Herald

Who's right?

WHEATBELT MP Mia Davies called it a "message of love".

"I see it as a positive for our nation, a moral obligation," the former WA Nationals leader told a recent Yes rally in Toodyay (pictured Page 1) to support this month's Voice Federal Referendum.

"It is about bringing people together, not creating division."

But create division it has, including in her own party where current leader, fellow local MP Shane Love, now opposes a Yes vote after a political backflip over WA Labor's botched cultural heritage laws.

Our nation is divided into two camps – those who say 'It's Time', as Australians did 50 years ago in a landmark federal election that got us out of the Vietnam War, and those who say 'No'.

Both could be right.

Whatever the case, one thing is for sure – there will be mass heartbreak and political angst across the nation if we get it wrong.

And it won't end there, you can be sure of that.

Two hundred years of calamitous baggage is a lot to unpack in one vote, and there may be other, better ways to do it.

Only you can know in your own heart if 'It's Time' on Saturday October 14.

Who's wrong?

SOMETHING is wrong when people who settle in a quiet, peaceful valley suddenly find their lives upended by the arrival of a monstrous great mine on their doorstep.

You can't blame the miner for wanting to exploit a valuable commodity that could help save the world from fossil fuel ruin.

And you can't blame neighbouring property owners who have just seen their life's dreams destroyed.

They must at least get a chance to resettle somewhere similar to the idyllic bush environment where they chose to live.

But who will buy their land now that it is worthless through no fault of their own?

Chalice Mining shares have crashed more than 60 per cent since April but the miner says it still has \$145 million in cash.

The State Government will reap billions of dollars in royalties when mining starts.

Now is the time for politicians to step in to find a solution before more damage is done and lives destroyed.

Who cares?

THIS month's Toodyay Shire Council elections have been overshadowed by the Voice Federal Referendum on October 14.

WA local government turn-out is always patchy and often struggles to reach more than 30 per cent in shires such as Toodyay.

Postal ballots were mailed out last month and many electors are likely to have already returned their votes in reply-paid envelopes to be counted on October 21.

If you think it doesn't matter, please remember that 27,000 Australians died in World War 2 defending your right to vote. Best you use it.

Michael Sinclair-Jones
Editor



The way we were This undated photo shows a blade shearing team on the Toodyay property of Frederick Augustus Lee (born 1858), who was the brother of Thomas, Donald and Joseph Lee, also of Toodyay. Son Augustus John Lee (born 1884, second from left) is holding a pair of blades and his father, Frederick Augustus, is pictured next to him in the centre. Two of the men are smoking pipes. Photo: Doris Martin, Bolgart.

LETTERS

Valley of broken dreams

MY HUSBAND and I bought our dream retirement block in Julimar almost 10 years ago now.

Eighty acres of pristine forest in the corridor between the Avon Valley and the Julimar State Forest became our new home.

The first thing we built was a pizza oven so that we could relax, watch the sunset and listen to the bird song.

We then built off-grid chalets for ourselves, our children and their grandchildren.

These also function as a writers' retreat so that others enjoy the peace and tranquility of this beautiful valley as a creative space.

Over the years we have made our best friends from our neighbours: Karen the international artist, Simon the boilermaker (who can make anything with wood, metal or steel), Shuba the accountant/fashion designer, and Pete the winemaker whose shiraz is elixir from heaven.

Every weekend we gather at each other's houses to celebrate the joys of life, work and friendship.

Our grandchildren get to watch baby echidnas and emus frolicking in the bush, and red-tailed black Carnaby's nesting in the trees.

Together we watch the beauty of Julimar unfold through spring, summer, autumn and winter.

Baby echidnas waddle and spotted quolls squeak.

All of our dreams have been shattered by Chalice Mining, which wants to destroy the forest and build an open pit mine right next to our bush property.

In the few years since Chalice Mining has been here (and it is only exploring now), its workers already make 24-hour noise and light pollution, and create endless traffic that destroys our gravel roads, the only entrance to our properties.

In summer, the dust from Chalice Mining's cars and trucks covers our houses and fills our drinking water.

Our lives and our businesses have either been ruined or put on hold.

Who wants to come to a writers' retreat, an artist's studio or a winery when you have 24/7 noise, dust and rutted gravel roads?

It breaks my heart to see my friends' lives and dreams ruined.

It breaks my heart to think of all the animals who cannot speak up for themselves.

Who will look after the baby echidnas that nest next door to our house?

Where will the red-tailed black cockatoos nest?

Where will the echidnas and quolls hide?

Where will the baby emus and wallabies lie down to sleep?

If Chalice Mining has its way, it will destroy the forest.

The miner wants to make a lot of money for its shareholders and does not care about the forest, animals, or local residents.

In 20 years' time, when the forest is gone and another huge open scar covers the Earth, will our grandchildren curse us for not leaving them a living inheritance, for not speaking up for the forest?

Kirsten Lambert
Julimar

Concern over mockery

I WOULD like to comment on last month's Herald letter "Peculiar creatures" in which a writer has again raised the Wagyl.

I'm not concerned with the writer's personal view, but I am concerned about continued mocking of the Wagyl.

Traditionally to Noongar, the Wagyl is creator of the universe and giver of lore, dominating the earth and sky and created waterways, country, family and knowledge.

Surely this concept would sound familiar to many of us.

It is hardly different to other cultures and religions across the world, including Islam, Christianity and the beliefs of other Indigenous peoples in other countries.

Each has a spiritual 'creator', and all have practice and protocol.

Now, with the Voice Referendum upon us let's remember that it is a heartfelt request from Aboriginal Australians (after more than a decade of discussions across Australia) asking to be heard about things that impact them.

The Voice may not be the answer to all Australia's problems but it is a step in the right direction.

So, while the result may mean nothing to many, it means everything to some.

Don't confuse the Federal Voice Referendum with recent publicity about the State Heritage Act and a local prosecution.

They are different.

And it's important to remember that it was a neighbour – not Aboriginal people – who set this prosecution in motion.

But it's Aboriginal people who are bearing the full brunt of a public backlash, including the mocking of their beliefs and culture on this page.

Aboriginal people here have never in the history of the WA Aboriginal Heritage Act chosen to raise it against any local landowners.

As for the Voice referendum, Aboriginal people are simply asking all of us to walk alongside them to help make a lasting and positive change for their future generations.

It would be a shame if those to whom the Voice didn't matter crushed the dreams of those for whom it could mean the world.

If the Voice vote is rejected, I hope new Truth in Politics and Media laws proposed by

Independent Federal MP Zali Stegall (NSW) succeed, with the Referendum providing a clear example of why such a law is so desperately needed.

Helen Shanks
Toodyay

Engulfed in dust

KEATING Road, Moondyne, is besieged by ceaseless dust pollution stemming from Chalice Mining.

Despite assurances of meetings and resolutions, we find ourselves gasping for breath amid the constant dust stirred up by heavy mining traffic on a public road.

Oh, and they do water their own road to keep the dust down.

My three-year-old was reluctantly taken to an ear, nose and throat specialist due to health hazards caused by this relentless dust exposure, with growing concerns about his overall growth and development.

The undisclosed results of dust monitoring systems raise unsettling questions.

Chalice Mining, are you listening? This issue transcends being a mere dust nuisance – it profoundly affects our lives and daily well-being.

The time has come to prioritise people over precious metals and accept responsibility for the dust storm that has engulfed our cherished neighbourhood.

Shuba Johns
Moondyne

Curious silence

I FIND it disappointing that I have had no reply from Toodyay Shire Cr Mick McKeown to fully explain why he opposed this year's shire budget which was passed 6-1 at a Special Council Meeting on August 28.

This is despite two follow up emails to him after my letter raising those questions was published in last month's Herald.

I also find it curious that Cr McKeown has not done me the courtesy of explaining why he did not reply.

I had to read last month's Herald to discover that he is citing a risk of causing reputational damage to the Local Government.

By not responding to a member of his constituency about valid questions he seems to be causing such damage regardless.

Jo Hart
Morangup

Not Geoff

I REFER to a letter headed "Peculiar creatures" about the Wagyl which was published in last month's Herald.

It was signed by G. R. Brown of Jurien Bay, giving an address and phone number – not Geoff Brown of Toodyay.

Geoff Brown
Toodyay

More letters, Page 9.

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.

Wheatbelt Clinical Psychology

94 Stirling Terrace Toodyay WA 6566

Richard Taylor Clinical Psychologist

Foundation member
Australian Clinical Psychology Association

Bulk Billing/Private Health Funds/Telehealth

0427 447 190

business hrs

Embattled residents face Julimar moonscape

Concerned local residents*

IF YOU were to believe Chalice Mining's marketing hype about its latest discovery of palladium in Julimar and its "world class", "low impact" and "leading exploration techniques that recognise environmental sensitivities," you could be forgiven for thinking it's the next lean green cure for the state's climate and cash-flow woes.

Until, that is, you ask the local residents like us who live on the doorstep of this planned behemoth.

Chalice Mining's public relations strategy trumpets "community engagement" as one of its "top priorities".

Well, we the residents beg to differ.

World class?

We built our dream homes in Julimar for its unrivalled peace, tranquility, stunning star-filled clear skies and natural bush habitat long before Chalice Mining arrived at our doorstep.

This truly "world class" part of the world is blessed with spotted quolls, red-tailed black cockatoos, echidnas, emus and a host of wildflowers.

Chalice Mining recently boasted that there will be at least "\$18 billion forecast contribution to gross state product, including royalties and direct economic contributions to the region" with "everyone benefiting" from such lofty returns.

Everyone?

Low impact?

As landowners who live within a radius of three kilometres from the site, we now have 24/7 noise, light pollution, and traffic.

Our houses are covered in dust all through summer because of a massive increase in mine-related traffic on local gravel roads.

Our already pot-holed and rutted access to the wider world is not designed for the frequency or size of the vehicles it is now carrying, and this is before construction or actual mining has even begun.

We shudder to think of the permanent health implications for children and adults who live in the area.

From October to April, a layer of dust covers our homes, our drinking water and the vegetables we grow, and we are breathing it in every day.

When mining does start and millions of tonnes of waste will pile up in large tailings dumps, with the dust will likely contain silica by-products and fibrous materials akin to asbestos.

If dust pollution is already an issue, imagine



Chalice Mining's worksite at 229 Keating Road where the company has announced plans to create a massive open-cut mine measuring nearly two kilometres across, 1.5km wide and more than half a kilometre deep on a scale similar the world-famous Kalgoorlie Superpit.

how much more will this be amplified in the years ahead?

What long-term, perhaps even deadly, effects or outcomes will we face?

Community engagement?

The occasional misleading email, a "tour" of the site with sandwiches, and a questionable survey which included 'locals' from Northam, Bindoon and Bullsbrook does not constitute local community engagement.

Our complaints about aircraft flying directly overhead, constant noise and light pollution go unheeded.

We have strange and uninvited vehicles entering our bush properties and contractors running residents off the road and scaring our animals.

The constant stress and anxiety from knowing that our plans for creative income, retirement and the loss of the serenity that we once enjoyed is all-consuming.

While we understand that you cannot stop progress and one can see that this project will be a financial boon for our local shire, State Government and Australian economy, we appear to be acceptable collateral damage.

If Chalice Mining is as community-minded as it says, you would think it would have engaged with us to offer compensation commensurate with the value it has placed on its Julimar mineral deposit.

When Chalice Mining shareholders reap the benefit from this publicly owned resource, remember that digging a massive

open cut mine in our backyard comes at the expense of the forest, endangered animals and the locals who were here first.

To finish, here are a few words from Chalice.

"Chalice has engaged early, actively and transparently to build respectful and collaborative relationships with stakeholders.

"Chalice is committed to achieving lasting social and economic benefits for the communities in which we operate."

Really?

*Names and addresses supplied.

Night noise to travel up to 20km

Richard Wilkinson
Retired sound engineer*

RECENT events have prompted me to readdress the anticipated noise disturbance and transport logistics of a proposed large open-cut mine in or near the Julimar Forest.

I wrote in *The Herald* last year that assuming a base noise level of 90 decibels – similar to that of a noisy motorcycle – the intrusive effect of a large open-cut mine in a quiet environment such as Julimar could be felt up to 20km away.

Even then, a light sleeper may have to close their bedroom windows year-round to get a good night's rest.

When assessing disruptive impact, the frequency and type of noise – continuous or intermittent – must also be considered.

If crushing or other processing occurs, the base noise level will be considerably higher.

In the 1960s I was involved in establishing noise footprints around European airports when new Boeing 707 passenger aircraft were initially banned due to noise emissions.

Similar work should be done here.

However the most important factor relates to increased transport needs and its effect on the living environment.

Chalice Mining says it plans to extract up to 30 million tonnes of ore every year at Julimar for an initial 18-year period.

This equates to 30 trains up to 1.5km long – or 3000 large trucks – every 24 hours.

Access roads or conveyors would be needed to transport the ore to a railhead and a new standard-gauge rail line would be needed to connect it to the existing network. My experience as Westrail Operations

Research Leader in the early 1980s suggests the existing rail network can't handle such an increase.

It represents twice the amount of grain already being railed to WA ports each year.

Significant new storage and loading infrastructure would be needed.

Current rail access to Kwinana is limited to perhaps an extra five trains per day at most.

Construction of new roads and railway lines creates extra noise at intrusive levels.

The impact of mining on flora in environmentally sensitive areas may be obvious but damage to animal life may be harder to detect.

These factors need to be investigated before it is too late to stop or limit the project.

We may need certain metals to help reduce climate change but the minerals are available in far less-sensitive environments further from cities, state forests and national parks.

The level of damage that may have already occurred at Chalice Mining's Julimar test-drilling sites – including on private farmland – needs to be independently tested.

The Avon Valley Environmental Society, of which I have been Treasurer for many years, has met Chalice Mining several times in the past year or so.

At our first meeting about 18 months ago, we gave Chalice Mining a list of questions. No answers have been forthcoming.

*The author is a university qualified noise expert who has worked in the British aviation and WA rail transport industries.

Chalice Mining later told *The Herald* that it answered a list of questions last November and is "continuing to investigate" other questions posed about the impact of a mine.

Vote 1 Rosemary Madácsi

For Toodyay Shire Council

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- strong financial oversight and comprehensive reporting
- best practice governance and actioned Inquiry recommendations
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- sound budgets from a poor initial financial position
- growth in bank reserves
- strong targeted plans within the capacity of the community to pay
- a path to mitigate pressures and consolidate our future
- strategies to preserve our heritage, history and environment.
- a strong regional and state profile

This is my focus with more to be done.

I seek your support to continue these reforms

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

Shotgun, ammo stolen from Morangup farmhouse

Police Beat

With Sgt Kevan French

Toodyay Police Station



POLICE are investigating the theft of a 410-gauge shotgun from a farmhouse in Morangup.

The theft was discovered when the farmer returned to his property late last month after a 10-day absence.

He found his house had been broken into and a Boito shotgun (pictured) missing from his bedroom, along with more than 20 rounds of ammunition.

A farmhouse door was forced to gain entry. Other guns and ammunition were stored as required by law in a secured cabinet in another location.

Forensic officers from Northam attended the farm soon after the theft was reported and searched the site for evidence.

The farmer now faces the prospect of being prosecuted for allegedly failing to correctly secure the stolen shotgun and ammunition in an approved cabinet.

Police are concerned that the stolen items could be used by criminals to commit further offences or be offered for sale on the black market to other criminals.

On the same day as the Morangup theft, three rifles, a shotgun, ammunition, cash and two sets of car keys were stolen from a Geraldton house.

The two thefts followed last month's fatal shooting of a man at Kellerberrin and a May

shooting at an Atlantis Baptist college.

The State Government last month announced plans to strengthen WA gun laws which it says aims to improve public safety and reduce overall gun numbers.

There are currently 360,000 licensed firearms in WA, including 21,000 owned by people older than 80 and 650 older than 90.

Local police have been notified by the Perth Firearms Branch that about a dozen Toodyay gun owners have failed in recent months to renew firearms licences that have now expired.

Failure to renew a gun licence within three months of its expiry date carries a fine of more than \$400.

Alleged offenders will be served with infringement notices (pictured) and have their guns and any unlicensed ammunition seized, as required by law.

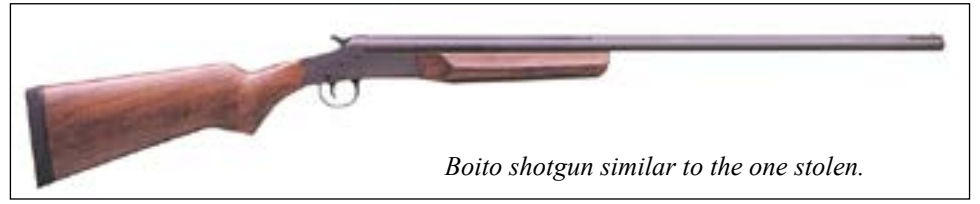
Strike Force Vulcan returns

TOODYAY property owners are reminded of their legal responsibilities as an expected bad fire season approaches this summer.

Strike Force Vulcan is being reassembled with a mix of uniformed police and detectives seconded to the Perth Arson Squad to investigate suspicious fires.

Apart from fines of up to \$3000 for failure to comply with bushfire regulations, offenders can be jailed for up to 15 years for offences under WA criminal law.

Section 444A of the State Criminal Code requires a person who "has charge of or is in control of a source of ignition" to avoid lighting a fire that damages or destroys property.



Boito shotgun similar to the one stolen.

They must use "reasonable care and take reasonable precautions to contain that fire" and prevent damage or destruction if it spreads "beyond the capacity of the person to extinguish it".

Section 444 says any person who "wilfully and unlawfully destroys or damages any property" by fire is guilty of a crime and liable for life imprisonment.

If the property is not damaged by fire, the penalty is 10 years' jail or - if "committed in circumstances of racial aggravation" - 14 years.

If "the amount of injury done does not exceed \$25,000", a magistrate can jail an offender for three years and impose a \$36,000 fine.

"Property that is capable of being destroyed or damaged by fire includes vegetation."

The Shire of Toodyay restricted burning season started on October 1.

We urge everyone to know the law, be extremely careful with any kind of fire and please avoid any risky activity on hot days, including using tools such as angle grinders and brush cutters that could create sparks.

Please report any suspicious activity to 131 444.

Anyone with information about bushfires or arsonists are urged to call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or make a report online at www.crimestopperswa.com.au

Movement at the station

TOODYAY has a new police chief in Sgt Jamie Boryczewski.

Sgt Boryczewski takes over as Officer-In Charge from Sgt Dave Flaherty, who was seconded in June to serve in Perth as Senior Vice President of the WA Police Union.

Sgt Boryczewski has served as a Det-Sgt in Geraldton and was acting Officer-In Charge at Three Springs before taking up his new post in Toodyay this month.

He is joined by Const. Ella Harnetty who started her first country posting here three months ago and has settled in well to her new role.

Meanwhile, Sen. Const. Adam Robertson - who some will remember also entertains country audiences in his spare time as a skilled rodeo clown - resigned from the WA Police force last month to take up a new position as a Worksafe senior investigator.

And I have been promoted to Sergeant and will take on new responsibilities this month as Midland District Operations Supervisor, though I will continue to live in Toodyay.

The changes leave two local vacancies which are being advertised internally within the WA Police Force.

Local police will have a stall with lots to see and do at the Toodyay Agricultural Show on Saturday October 7 when you will be able to meet and talk to the new team.



New Toodyay Sgt Jamie Boryczewski.

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 Firearms Act 1973 of Western Australia

Infringement Notice No: 19110004
 Date of Issue: [redacted]
 Amount Due: \$421.00 (AUD)
 Due Date: [redacted]

Part A: License Holder Details
 License Name: [redacted] Given Name: [redacted]
 Date of Birth: [redacted] License Number: [redacted]
 License Type: [redacted] Expiry Date: [redacted]

Part B: Offence Details
 Description: [redacted]
 Penalty: \$421.00 (Amount Due)
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Part C: HOW TO PAY THE MODIFIED PENALTY (AMOUNT DUE)

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By Person: Pay in person at Accredited Post Office

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Firearms infringement notice.

Beware the sugar rush this Halloween

Safer Toodyay

Desraé Clarke

AS HALLOWEEN approaches there are a number of safety guidelines that should be followed by the 'trick or treaters' in our community.

This October 31 celebration of ghoulishness, a US cultural phenomenon, is steadily growing in popularity throughout Australia.

Trick and treater safety

PLAN your route and let someone know your plan.

Your young ones should be in the company of a responsible adult, not going out into the neighbourhood alone.

It is preferable to go about in the daylight hours, but if this is not possible, ensure you or your kids are wearing bright clothing with

'glow' material attached, and carrying torches. Check for signage stating the residents of the house do not want to participate in visiting 'trick and treaters'.

Thoroughly check your goodies before eating to ensure they have not been tampered with.

Household safety

BE EXTRA vigilant when driving from your residence, especially when backing out where groups of children are around.

Kids do not always behave predictably or responsibly and can quickly move outside your field of view, so please drive slowly.

Ensure your vehicle and house is locked to prevent visits from opportunistic thieves.

Property damage can also occur with overly exuberant kids on a 'sugar high'.

Preservatives and food colourings in sweets can provoke behavioural changes that may result in vandalism and property damage.

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EMERGENCY SERVICES

Summer will be a scorcher, so prepare now

Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Peter Brennan, Captain

THE PROHIBITED 'No Burning' season begins November 1, so by now fire breaks should be in place and properties cleared in preparation for the coming hot summer.

We strongly encourage all households to now take the time to visit the Department of Fire and Emergency Services website at dfes.wa.gov.au/emergencywa/prepare.

This website provides simple advice and directs you to resources where you can find practical actions to prepare for and cope with a range of emergencies.

You can't outrun it, or outlast it.

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

To help you prepare for what you might do when threatened by bush fire, visit mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au.

It could just help save you and your family's life during a bush fire emergency.

This website will help you review how fireproof your plan is.

Every summer our brigade members turn out across the State to real examples of just how fast fires move.

Your best chance of surviving a bushfire is to plan now for what you would do when one

comes your way.

Have a backup plan if you intend to defend your property.

The attached photo from the FESA report on the Investigation of House Losses in the Toodyay Bushfire 29 December 2009 gives an insight into how quickly the fire spread.

The first 000 call was at 12.57pm followed by a 'Watch and Act' advice to the community.

At 1.30pm an Emergency Warning was issued after first responders advised the fire was travelling extremely quickly in a south-easterly direction.

The temperature at the time was around 42C with the fire being driven by a 41kmh wind.

The fire started near River Road south and west of Folewood Road, on the north west side of the area circled by the red line.

The outer rim of the red line represents the edge of the fire at 2pm.

Each subsequent coloured line represents the fire edge in one hour increments.

By 11pm the fire had reached the Northam-Toodyay Road near the Dumbarton Road intersection.

As is evident, the fire covered a lot of ground in just 10 hours.

By 2am firefighters had brought the fire under control.

Crews spent 10 weeks mopping up. So please, act now.

Take five minutes to discuss with your family or neighbour when will you know to leave, where will you go and which way will you go.

Volunteer rewarded for frontline service



Michael Morgan.

HUGE congratulations to Michael Morgan from Toodyay and Steven Douglas from Northam who received their Ambulance Service medals on September 5 at Government House.

Michael is a committed volunteer who regularly undertakes frontline volunteer shifts as both an Emergency Medical Technician and as a call taker for the Toodyay sub-centre.

The Service Medal is available only to volunteers who have completed 12 years of 'efficient service'.

'Efficient service' is where a volunteer has provided at least 60 hours of annual service to the community per calendar year through their St John volunteering.

St John volunteers are also granted the Service Medal by maintaining the skills to perform their roles and ensuring their service remains at a satisfactory level of quality.

Michael Morgan started with St John in 2003.

During his 20 years of service, Michael has made significant volunteer contributions across multiple roles including frontline Emergency Medical Technician, Patient Transport Officer, Volunteer Leadership Group member for Northam depot, Toodyay sub-centre chairperson, and most recently as Volunteer Development Officer.

We all congratulate Michael on receiving a well-deserved Award.

Award for courage and leadership

TOODYAY Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service Captain Ian MacGregor took out the Volunteer Fire and Rescue Individual Achievement Award for his response to a fatal crash in October last year.

Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner Darren Klemm AFSM said award winners had displayed incredible commitment to their roles, going above and beyond to protect their communities.

"This year's winners should feel incredibly

proud of their achievements and service to our community," Commissioner Klemm said.

"These stories of firefighters giving up their personal time to protect others highlights the selflessness and resilience of our emergency services personnel."

He said the awards also celebrated the important role firefighters played in building a safer WA through education and community engagement.

"I extend my congratulations and sincere thanks to the 2023 award winners and finalists, but also to all Western Australian firefighters who display courage and devotion every day."

Captain of the Toodyay VFRS for close to 25 years, Ian McGregor is a born leader and respected mentor who empowers volunteers to reach their full potential.

Standing up for the wellbeing and safety of first responders, Ian's empathetic leadership approach was on show when he attended a fatal crash involving a young family on Goomalling-Toodyay Road in October 2022.

Ian led a multi-agency debrief for all first responders so everyone could process the traumatic incident together.

He also organised mental health support.

Toodyay community members extend our gratitude and commendations to Ian for his work.



Ian MacGregor.



Map depicting estimated rate of fire spread.

RE-ELECT

Cr Susan Pearce Vote ①

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- Building on experience and achievements

I seek your vote to continue building a stronger, engaged community

HOW TO VOTE

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MADACSI, Rosemary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Your choice for:

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- Financial oversight**
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- Preservation rural lifestyle**
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- Transparency and accountability**

Please return your signed ballot via Australia Post prepaid envelopes **POST EARLY** or alternatively place your voting envelope in the ballot box at the Shire Office before 6pm Saturday 21st October

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

Written and printed by Susan Pearce 740 Salt Valley Rd Toodyay 6566 Email: susanpearce740@outlook.com Mobile: 0427 957 425

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

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EMERGENCY SERVICES

Nuala steps down but her skills won't be lost at ambo centre

St John Toodyay Sub Centre
Pam Tennant

The Annual Review meeting of the St John Toodyay Sub Centre was held on September 19, and four Committee members were elected.

Two members were re-elected and two new members joined the committee.

Nuala Ennis, who has been secretary for the sub centre retired and did not re-nominate for committee.

Her long service is appreciated and we will miss her contributions at meetings; however, fortunately she is not lost to us as she remains within the sub centre as a volunteer service officer.

Pam Tennant was re-elected as chairperson, Monika Williams accepted the position of vice chair, Sandra Smith took on the secretary's role and Heather Appleby was re-elected as treasurer.

Also at the AGM two volunteer ambulance officers were presented with certificates which recognised their exceptional clinical skills

when attending a job earlier this year.

A previous similar certificate was awarded earlier in the year to a third volunteer.

All three officers had been on scenes with a paramedic from the Northam depot and it was on his recommendation that these certificates were awarded and their expertise recognised.

During the last financial year the Community Transport Service assisted 213 clients and travelled 25,000Kms taking them to medical appointments.

Our volunteer ambulance officers were called to 407 jobs and the ambulances covered just under 20,000kms.

We saw some retirements of long-serving volunteers throughout the year, and our appreciation and best wishes go to Mike, Carolynne and Wendy.

We have gained eight new volunteers over the past few months and all of them are training and working towards their qualifications.

We hope that we never have to be called to help you, but if you need us, call 000 and we will be there.



Coondle-Nunile volunteer firefighters control an early local outbreak as warmer weather heralds the start of this summer's Toodyay bushfire season.

Firies learn to suck it up from local waterways

Coondle-Nunile Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Chris McDonald

CREWS have been undertaking training to draft water from creeks and dams – often the closest water supply when fighting fires in crop country.

Done with a different hose than on fire trucks, drafting uses the fire pump to pull water from a non-pressurised supply into the vehicles' tanks.

Crews also conducted a hazard reduction burn.

This helped familiarise our newer members with the equipment.

Already this spring crews from around the Shire of Toodyay have turned out to quickly bring a few bushfires under control.

Our members will be on the gates at this year's Toodyay Agricultural Show to help people out, so please come and say hi.

With warm weather on the way we remind everyone to have a bushfire plan prepared and to review it regularly.

If you are interested in meeting some new people who live and work in Toodyay, new members are always welcomed.

It only takes a couple of weekends of basic training to become a trained bushfire fighter.

If you wish to increase your skills there are plenty of courses along with monthly refresher training.

For contact details, see *Where and When*, page 28.

All brigades in the shire are looking for volunteer fire fighters to join up.

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

Check out Toodyay Shire fire information page to help you get ready for the upcoming bush fire season at www.toodyay.wa.gov.au/resident-services/fire-information.

Scepticism is your friend in medical misinformation

Computer Safety
Phil Hart

MEDICAL misinformation pervades social media. It can also be lethal.

For example, a man in Arizona died after drinking chloroquine phosphate on the recommendation of former US president Donald Trump.

Andrew Wakefield claimed measles, mumps and rubella vaccinations cause autism.

That claim, while unfounded, has nevertheless driven vaccine hesitancy, contributing to outbreaks of measles in Europe and the US.

The death rate of measles in children is one to two per 1000 cases.

One in five internet searches for diabetes results in misinformation, which can be lethal for people with Type 1 diabetes.

Cancer has its fair share of false claims, and

there is also the perverse claim that polio vaccine causes polio.

While there are efforts by social media platforms and search engines to combat medical misinformation, such efforts necessarily have limited success.

The final defence against medical misinformation is you, the reader.

Scepticism is your friend.

Check the source of what you are reading.

Is it a medical journal, a university publication, or government information?

What medical qualifications does the author claim to have?

Can those claims about medical qualifications be verified?

If the claim is anecdotal rather than coming from a double-blind medical trial, then it should be regarded with suspicion.

If in doubt, talk to your doctor.

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Bring on the bling for Show Day

Toodyay Agricultural Society
Alison Wroth

OCTOBER has arrived with great speed, especially for organisers of the 169th Toodyay Agricultural Show.

You can organise the best event but October weather can be fickle and it always comes down to if the day is suitable to bring out the crowds.

Thankfully we have a Special Show Train to bring visitors from Perth for our big day.

We are fully booked with trade stalls for a Toodyay Show bulging at the seams to cater for all of your interests.

Sponsors' tents, entertainment and community stalls will extend further onto the main oval.

This joins the equestrian area which will have guaranteed activity on the oval all day.

The entertainment list this year covers a huge variety of attractions for all ages, including free activities in the Kids Zone from 10am to 3pm.

Attractions include Sideshow Alley, the Royal Australian Navy Band, Instrukta prime mover, baby animal farm, a local vintage Mack truck display and more than 14 classic vintage motorbikes to view in the Show Pavilion.

Our Showgrounds' wonderful scenery makes the day special, so thank you Shire of Toodyay workers who maintain the grounds and provide that extra bling for Show Day.

The Shire's in-kind support over many years and that provided by supporters both big and small shows what our community is made of.

Support from the Toodyay and Northam Community and Districts Bendigo Bank enables us to put on the best fireworks display for the next two years.

Heartfelt thanks go as well to Chalice Mining which enables us to pay for all the community groups who take on the tasks that keep the event running smoothly.

The family-friendly Terrace Bar will look a bit different this year but we are doing our best to ride the bumps and will still supply a bar, just not the historic building.

With all the wonderful furniture and lighting, the area is still going to look a treat.

Our major sponsors also include Steve and Debra Andrijich, Dunning's Fuel, Morgan's Feed Supplies, Toodyay Op Shop, Makit and CSBP.

Without their support and that of local businesses, community groups and individuals, we would not be able to pull the Show together every year.

Toodyay Cricket Club will open the Terrace Bar at noon and our auction of donated produce begins at 6pm, before fireworks at 7.30pm and a band rocking until 9pm.

On behalf of the President and our wonderful Committee, good luck with your entries and I hope you enjoy a breathtaking 169th Toodyay Agricultural Show.



Unseasonably warm weather is causing some crops to dry out prematurely.

Heat threatens this year's harvest

Toodyay Agricultural Alliance
Frank Panizza

WEATHER again has dominated local farmers' thoughts over the past month.

Good early September rain was unfortunately followed by some very early heat which caused crops and pastures in some areas to dry out prematurely.

Northam recorded 34.4C on September 22, very narrowly missing beating the hottest-ever September day of 34.6C on 30 September 1918. Northam's average September temperature

is a mere 21C.

However, 1918 was markedly different with annual rainfall totalling 682mm.

Recent heat has modestly trimmed yield expectations and may affect grain quality.

Sharp finishes to a growing season usually causes smaller or sometimes lighter grain.

Pastures have dried in some areas, while others still doing well, primarily driven by soil type and position on the landscape.

Most local farmers have completed their pasture topping and are part way through hay making programs.

Hay quality appears to be good so far, albeit at a yield well below last year.

The Alliance held a well-attended general meeting last month and heard from two candidates for this month's Shire elections.

Both spoke briefly about what they could bring to council if elected, and a little about themselves and their life in our community.

They fielded general questions which mostly covered the Shire's current financial position and the road network in general.

Particular concern was raised about Toodyay Recreation Centre costs.

I wish the Toodyay Agricultural Society the best of weather and a good turn-out for this year's Show on Saturday October 7.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4

Thin edge of the wedge

CHALICE Mining is running a clever and well-funded public relations campaign to earn its 'social licence' for the proposed Gonnevillie mine.

It is spending lavishly to gain community trust.

However, Gonnevillie may just be the thin edge of the wedge.

As Chalice says in its recent corporate presentation, 'The Gonnevillie Resource occupies around only two kilometres of the more than 30km long Julimar Complex - its development could be a province opening play'.

A 'province' in mining-speak is a geographic area containing particular mineral deposits.

Chalice's statement implies that the plan is to first mine Gonnevillie, as a way to open up mining in the rest of the 'province', namely the Julimar State Forest.

Keep in mind that the Gonnevillie mine will be a hole in the ground approximately 1.7 cubic kilometres in size (1.9 x 1.5 x 0.6 km).

It will generate huge amounts of tailings and contaminated water, along with requiring 18 million litres of water per year for processing.

We do not know where this water will come from, nor do we know whether or how that hole in the ground will be filled, and somehow revegetated, at the end of the mine's life - or who will pay for that.

Now, imagine if similar holes in the ground are dug out along the '30km long Julimar Complex', as Chalice calls it.

It would cause horrific environmental destruction and must never be allowed to happen.

It is one thing to develop a mine on private land that is already partially cleared; it is quite another to do so on public land consisting of mature forest.

The Julimar forest has survived more or less intact after previous extractive industries such as selective logging for timber and tannin.

But there is no way it could survive a new assault of this magnitude.

Chalice offers soothing words about 'offsets', but as pointed out in the excellent article by Bethan Lloyd in last month's *Herald*, offsets are largely a sham.

The fact is, we need all the forest we can get.

We are in the middle of global climate and biodiversity crises threatening the very survival of our modern civilisation.

Healthy forests are essential to halting both of these crises.

The more we destroy our forests, the more we will destroy ourselves.

We cannot extract 'green metals' at the expense of green forests.

The best way for Chalice to earn community trust would be for it to publicly declare a permanent end to its exploration of the Julimar Forest.

The Julimar is non-negotiable, and we must reinforce its protection by urging government to confirm the Julimar as a national park.

Peter Cook, PhD
Toodyay

History is calling

WHY IS it not possible to have open, grown-up and rational debate about this month's Voice Federal Referendum?

I am tired of the personal attacks that follow whenever I try to raise the subject in a sensible, non-emotional manner.

The reveal from a parliamentary leader that Indigenous leader Marcia Langton is calling all No voters "racist and stupid" is a clear indication of how divisive the Voice actually is.

(I don't like the leader concerned but I read it the same way as him this time.)

It's really a step too far.

Then I find our own *Toodyay Herald* is being, unheralded, used as a platform to promote the Yes vote - this is really the last straw.

Nobody with any compassion or sense of fair play would deny first nations people a say in what affects them or challenge the fact that their individual entitlement should be equal to any other Australian.

There should be no 'gap' - politicians already have all the power they need to ensure there isn't.

However, this doesn't require any knee-jerk amendment to the Australian Constitution - just listening and action by the various governments that have been in power for the past, say, 50 years.

As I see it, the Yes vote's stance is that we should grant this government and all future governments an enormous increase in power by the appointment of people, not necessarily representing any particular First Nations group, but vulnerable, as they would be reliant on the government of the day for their continued access to the golden trough without explaining how that power would be used.

Just 'trust us'.

I'm suspicious of anyone asking me to take things on trust, especially governments that have consistently failed to put the interests of the electorate before their own political ends.

I am disinclined to hand them more power until they learn not to abuse the power they already have.

It's all far too much unicorns and rainbows for me.

Until I am given sufficient information to allow me to vote Yes, I'll be voting No.

I urge anyone who is even slightly uneasy about the situation to vote No.

I urge anyone who, like me, has actually lived under Apartheid elsewhere and seen the divisive and dehumanising results of this disgusting, race-based system, to vote No.

I urge anyone who is uncomfortable about further division in Australia on racial lines, to vote No.

I urge anyone who is even vaguely uncomfortable at handing more unchecked power to government, present and future (ie: we get to vote them out only once every three years) to vote No.

And lastly (thank you Page 17, September

edition), I urge anyone who is indifferent, incurious or has no strong opinion to vote No.

Because history is calling and voting No won't take away anything from First Nations people, just, perhaps, force governments to listen and act (as they should have been doing for the last 50 years without changing the Constitution).

As a letter from Helen Shanks says in last month's *Herald*, "Know what you are voting for" and "please make it an informed one".

Marion Pathey-Johns
Toodyay

Toodyay Needs Change!

VOTE 1

Shelly Dival



During this campaign some of the things my fellow Toodyay-ites have told me is that they:

- Want to be heard and respected**
- Are very concerned about rate increases**
- Are very concerned about financial management**
- Feel general building maintenance and upkeep of the town is not up to standard**
- Road maintenance is a huge concern**
- Love the Rec Centre but are very concerned about management costs & that their money from fees and purchases leave the Shire**
- Want more support for businesses through actioning the tourism plan**

There is so much to love about Toodyay but we can be better

Together we can be better!

I ♥ 2J

Shelly Dival

I'LL REPRESENT YOU WITH PRACTICAL, INDEPENDENT THINKING

Authorised by Shelly Dival 303 Harders Chitty Rd, West Toodyay



Noongar among world's first astronomers

Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal Corporation

RECENT vandalism of an Aboriginal cultural display at Redbank Pool near Extracts Weir has delayed the planned launch of Toodyay's new 10km Noongar Trail.

We are now raising funds to repair the damage shown in last month's *Herald* and plan to have all Noongar displays ready at 11 different sites for the 2024 visitors' season.

The Noongar Trail is a voluntary project that we offer as a gift to the Toodyay community to share our joint heritage and ongoing cultural history.

We envisage that it may also bring economic benefits to local businesses by attracting more visitors to Toodyay.

This month's column covers one of the four signs that will be placed on the Noongar Trail at Pelham Reserve in coming weeks.

Ancient astronomy

ABORIGINAL people were among the world's first astronomers.

For thousands of years, the night sky has been used to navigate and map seasons.

Noongar call it worl waangkini – traditional sky stories.

Noongar families relied on the positions of stars, constellations and other celestial objects to guide them across their country and stay connected.

One prominent constellation in Noongar astronomy is the Emu in the Sky, which in western culture is called the Milky Way – the bright band of stars we see overhead at night.

The Milky Way galaxy contains our Sun and Earth, and up to 400 billion other stars.

The emu is represented by dark, cloud-like patterns seen within the galaxy.

They form an emu with its head, neck, body and legs stretched across the night sky.

Its appearance changes with the seasons and serves as a celestial marker for the mating season, laying season and when the male emu (weitj) guards its eggs.

The future in your hands

AUSTRALIANS will vote in the Voice Referendum on Saturday October 14.

The Voice is not revolutionary or threatening, and its advice is not binding.

It proposes a group of elected Aboriginal voices that can be consulted when Australia makes laws about Aboriginal people.

That's all it is.

Listening to Aboriginal people will help ensure that spending goes where it's needed, not to bureaucrats as so often has been the case previously with disastrous results.

It aims to create better outcomes in Aboriginal health, education, jobs, housing and everyone's lives generally.

We all have so much to gain – the future is in your hands.

All hands needed on deck for open day turn-out

Avon Woodturners Hamish Dobie

We want to thank everyone for supporting our recent raffle to raise funds for the club.

We will soon need 'all hands on deck' for

a planned open day when people can enjoy a barbecue while finding out what we do.

You will also be able to find us at the Toodyay Show on Saturday October 7.

For contact details, see *Where and When* on Page 28.

Clive flies to Canberra in RSL scholarship win

Toodyay District High School Kim Anderson, Principal

I HAVE been asked by the Regional Wheatbelt Education Director to continue at our school for term four.

My focus will be on student attendance, especially unexplained absences.

The other major focus will be on the Milestone for Year 6 and the Graduation for Year 10 students.

We congratulate student Clive Millet for his Toodyay RSL Scholarship win which will see himself and his family fly to Canberra to visit the Australian War Memorial and other exciting venues.

Discomfort zone

SELECTED student leaders from our Years 6, 8, 9 and 10 leadership team attended the Zero2Hero 'In Your Head' forum at the Perth Convention Centre last month.

The 'In Your Head' forum provides young people, parents, and teachers with a greater understanding of mental health and wellbeing.

It is one of the biggest annual school excursions in WA, bringing together hundreds of students and teachers from across the state.

Keynote speakers including Zero2Hero CEO Ashlee Harrison, actor and humanitarian Joel Jackson, AFLW and Perth Fever sports stars Emma O'Driscoll and Nikayla Smith were among many inspirational speakers empowering our young leaders to become mental health heroes.

Staff took away the key message 'discomfort is an invitation to grow': when we are uncomfortable, it means we are learning.

Minds stretched

THE Tournament of the Minds competition is a challenge offered to secondary students to extend their thinking skills, problem-solving and teamwork.

This is the first time our Toodyay DHS students have been involved in this event, which took place at Edith Cowan University's Joondalup campus.

Well done to all students and thank you to Ms Allen and Mr Raymond who made this possible.

Scorchers bowl up

The Perth Scorchers' cricket van rolled up last month before school to run through a few drills with some eager young cricket fans.

It gave students and parents the opportunity to ask questions about cricket and receive instruction on how to bat, bowl and field.

If your child would like to join a local team, Cricket Blast Programs are held on Friday afternoons in Toodyay for children aged from 5 to 10.

Junior cricket for Under 12s and Under 15s is on Saturday mornings with teams taking on Northam, York, Mortlock and Bakers Hill.

Contact Bree Byfield on 0402 622 384 for more information.

Awesome help

THANK YOU Toodyay Op shop for donating \$2000 and the School P&C for donating \$2500 toward the early childhood cubby house.

A massive thank you to Laura Ross for volunteering to pick the cubby up from Port Kennedy and deliver it to our school.

It was assembled in August by the awesome Moondyne Men.

We also thank Bob from Toodyay Home Traders who donated seven stirrups, and Damien from Makit Hardware who donated cement for the cubby house foundations.

The students were very excited to see and use the cubby.

Dalwallinu contest

OUR students fielded a great team of athletes at last month's Interschool Athletics Carnival at Dalwallinu.

Jay D. Thomas was runner-up Champion Boy for his age group.

Congratulations to all those students who participated and tried their best.

Thank you to Mr Holmes, staff members and parents who helped on the day.

Milo music

KABOOM Percussion visited our school in Week 9.

Students from Pre-Primary to Year 6 participated in the hour-long show presented by Joshua and Carissa.

In case you have not heard of them, Kaboom Percussion is a group of dynamic percussionists who turn everyday objects into musical instruments.

They use items such as Milo tins, baked bean cans, buckets, cups, pieces of timber and lemonade bottles to create extraordinary music.

None of this would have been possible without the support of our fantastic P&C.

Thank you for sponsoring this very inspiring event.

SHIRE OF TOODYAY



IT'S UP TO YOU



TO KEEP YOUR DOGS EFFECTIVELY CONFINED

IN A RURAL SETTING LIKE TOODYAY, YOUR PERIMETER FENCING – IN MOST CASES – DOES NOT MAKE THE GRADE. A CONFINEMENT AREA ON THE INSIDE OF THE PERIMETER IS BEST PRACTICE.

YOU MUST ENSURE THE FENCE USED TO CONFINE YOUR DOG, AND EVERY GATE OR DOOR IN THE FENCE, IS OF **TYPE, HEIGHT AND CONSTRUCTION** SUITABLE FOR THE DOG'S **BREED, AGE, SIZE AND PHYSICAL CONDITION**.

THIS AREA MUST BE CAPABLE OF PREVENTING THE DOG FROM PASSING OVER, UNDER OR THROUGH IT AT ALL TIMES.

AS A RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNER, IT IS UP TO YOU TO KNOW WHERE YOUR DOG IS AT ALL TIMES.

FAILING THESE REQUIREMENTS LEADS TO WANDERING DOGS AND DOG ATTACKS.

IF YOU SEE A WANDERING DOG, CONTACT THE RANGERS WHO CAN INFORM AND DIRECT DOG OWNERS.

IF YOUR DOG/DOGS ARE INVOLVED IN A DOG ATTACK, EVERY PERSON LIABLE FOR THE CONTROL OF THE DOG COMMITS AN OFFENCE UNDER THE DOG ACT 1976.

PLEASE CONSIDER YOUR FELLOW COMMUNITY MEMBERS, AND CONTACT THE TOODYAY RANGERS FOR ASSISTANCE ON 9574 9370.



REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

RENEWAL OF EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY – CLAY LOT 1 MORANGUP ROAD, MORANGUP

The Shire of Toodyay has received an application from Land Insights on behalf of Austral Bricks for the renewal of an extractive industry approval and licence at Lot 1 Morangup Road, Morangup.

The total area of excavation being applied for is 69.7 hectares. This includes the existing operating area of 44.7 hectares, and future staging consisting of 25 additional hectares.

The application seeks to renew the Extractive Industry Licence for 21 years.

The ultimate depth of the pit areas is expected to be approximately 15 metres. Approximately 160,000 tonnes of clay will be removed from the site annually (depending on demand) equating to 4,250 truckloads per year. Cartage will take place over two separate carting campaigns per year, lasting between 3-4 weeks each (this duration can be broken down based on the estimated number of days that carting will take place).

No processing (crushing, screening etc) will occur on site. No blasting will be required to facilitate excavation.

Your views on this proposed extractive industry are encouraged and welcomed. The proposal is available for inspection at the Shire of Toodyay Administration Centre, Old Court House, 15 Fiennes Street, Toodyay, during office hours, and on the Shire of Toodyay website: www.toodyay.wa.gov.au.

Submissions on the proposed development must be addressed in writing and lodged with the Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Toodyay, PO Box 96 Toodyay 6566, or via records@toodyay.wa.gov.au, by **4.00pm, Friday 3 November 2023**.

Further information on the above proposal is available by contacting the Shire's Development Services on 9574 9340.

Suzie Haslehurst
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Heritage laws saved Syred's Cottage from wrecking ball

Toodyay Historical Society Inc
 Robyn Taylor, Vice President

FORTY years ago, on 26 September 1983, Australia did the unthinkable by winning the America's Cup at Newport, Rhode Island.

America had never lost a race in its 132 year history defending the Cup.

It was shaken to its core, while Australians went ballistic with absolute joy in celebration.

During 1986-87 it was Australia's turn to host the Cup off Gage Roads in Fremantle.

Few people in America or the wider world had likely ever heard of the place.

However, this momentous event and its media coverage brought the port city of Fremantle into world focus, attracting many overseas tourists.

Fremantle offered a city that had retained much of its original colonial and early 20th century building stock while reflecting its cultural diversity.

It breathed history and old-world charm with its cosmopolitan population offering great food, coffee and local colour.

Fremantle was a desirable place to visit, day or night, while central Perth was largely deserted after sundown.

St Georges Terrace had become corporate culture land, barely distinguishable from any



Side view of Syred's Cottage showing the rear kitchen addition and entry to central breezeway. Photo: Robyn Taylor.

other modern city, and no longer enjoyed its reputation for having one of Australia's most attractive thoroughfares.

Where were our Jack Mundey's?

During the 1970s Jack, with the support of the Builder Labourers Federation, was the voice for the preservation of The Rocks area in Sydney.

This was part of an international movement that was gaining traction in Australia.

It's no coincidence that during the 1980s groups of people in Perth began to protest the continuing loss of its building history.

The gracious Esplanade Hotel had gone.

The Barracks Arch at the top of St George's Terrace was a sad reminder of what had once been a major city feature.

When the Palace Hotel came under threat, the watering hole of journalists from Newspaper

House across the road, the Palace Guards successfully helped to lobby for its retention.

The Castle Keepers campaigned for Perth Technical College, the foundation of a number of post-secondary teaching institutions.

Sadly, the magnificent 1930s CML building was demolished during this time.

The Heritage Protection Group, while campaigning for the preservation of buildings, lobbied for the passing of the Heritage Act.

This finally happened in December 1990 under a state Labor government.

The Heritage Act was crucial.

Many significant buildings throughout the state were classified by the National Trust or entered on the Register of the National Estate or both.

Neither listing could stop demolition, although the Trust could place a protective caveat over a property's title.

Such was the case with Syred's Cottage and its outbuildings in Bejoording.

Syred's was classified in 1977, and under the Heritage Act given permanent entry on the State's Register of Heritage Places in 2004.

The statement of its cultural significance indicates "the place is rare as a remnant of the only known example in Western Australia of a nineteenth century agricultural workers' village (Bejoording) designed around a central square or common following the English model ...".

For many years our Society held an annual spring clean and picnic at the vacant Syred's Cottage.

It was subsequently donated by Peter Syred to the Shire of Toodyay.

Our yearly excursion last month was a pleasant occasion, all picnic and no work, at the invitation of its new owner Bob, a Society member and Syred descendant.

We wish Bob many happy years in this remarkable place.

He is a more than willing caretaker of our state's precious heritage.

Our October event is the Toodyay Agricultural Show on October 7.

Please spend an hour or two assisting at the Donegan's Cottage displays.

There is no end of month event.

For contact information see *Where and When*, page 28.

'I was going to give up but pushed those thoughts aside'

Toodyay DHS Chaplaincy (Youthcare)

Doug McGhee, Chaplain

AS CHAPLAIN at Toodyay District High School I have the privilege of leading our Wilderness Adventure Program and seeing our young hikers grow.

Our school is so proud of our young people, as I'm sure their parents are too.

Earlier in the year, 12 Toodyay DHS students and three staff members hiked 65km to Dwellingup on the Wilderness Adventure Program Hike.

Big congratulations to Taimana, Kira, Miley, Aliyah, Abigail, Savana, Will, Peter, Tane, Jaxon, Ariki and Noah for completing the trek.

These amazing young people led the expedition, did all their own cooking and camping, and everything necessary for survival.

Our young hikers cared for each other during the struggles and had lots of laughs each day and plenty to reflect on around the campfire at night.

One young hiker said: "I was telling myself I couldn't do it and I was going to give up but I didn't, even though all those negative thoughts were telling me I could never do it ... I pushed them to the side and I carried on."

On the hike, we often say "just keep putting one foot in front of the other, keep going and you will get there".

Congratulations also to James Holmes and



Out in the wild – Toodyay students test their limits on a Dwellingup wilderness hike.

Cherie Harrington for completing the hike.

You formed a great staff team to keep our kids safe through all the ups, downs, and chilly mornings.

We have seen so many positive changes in the personal character of our young hikers that we have made the hike an annual event.

We believe the hike is training our future school leaders, which is encouraging.

Thank you so much to our sponsors the Toodyay and Districts Bendigo Community Bank and Toodyay Op Shop.

We couldn't do it without you.

Thank you also to the Toodyay community, as you trust us to lead these hikes and other personal growth programs at Toodyay DHS.

Pasta feast night tickles taste buds in paradise



Bejoording Community Group members enjoying the cuisine at our pasta feast night.

Bejoording Community Group:
 Information Bay (By Bee)

IT'S SOMETIMES difficult to recall what's been going on in our own households let alone remembering events that took place beyond, but thankfully I have a calendar to refer to.

This month's Feast night, organised by Colin and Wendy, was a pasta theme.

The variety and quality of dishes was superb.

I can never go past Linda's seafood lasagne, but a mac'n'cheese received a round of applause too, with enough leftovers to take home for later.

Also on this month's calendar was our annual Pub Run, organised by Mark and attended by around 20 or so of us locals.

The venue this year was the Gingin Hotel, a past favourite, and as usual the food was delicious.

We set off from the fire shed mid-morning and drove in convoy while taking in the last of the beautiful green countryside, wildflowers, wheat crops and changing canola fields.

By this time of year most of us have completed the winter-spring pruning, with piles large enough again for one last burn before the end of the season.

This time of the year is so enjoyable.

I often sit on the front porch and marvel at the cycle of nature and the many blessings we have living in our wee slice of paradise.

For our contact information see *Where and When*, page 28.

Celebrating the 77th

Gidge

SHOW

Saturday
28th
October

AUSTRALIAN
RUSTIC FARM ART
AWARDS 2023

OPEN 9am to 7pm

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

ENTRY Pre-school children FREE

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

School children 17 & under \$5, Adults \$15

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Members FREE

city of sw

Gidgegannup Agricultural Society Inc.

Affiliated with the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY Inc

Showgrounds, Toodyay Road Gidgegannup



**SAFE
WORK
MONTH 2023**

Our way forward: **Prioritising healthy and safe workplaces**

October is Safe Work Month, a time to come together, share information and exchange ideas to build healthy and safe workplaces for everyone.

Be part of October's Safe Work Month by:

- registering to attend our free events and hear from health and safety professionals, leaders and inspectors
- gathering your team and host a SafeTea event at your workplace
- using the campaign kit to promote health and safety at work.



WorkSafe Safe Work Month



#safeworkmonth



Can we find you at night when you need us fast?

LIVING as we do in a rural area, it is sometimes difficult for emergency services to locate addresses, especially at night.

If you are in the townsite, you can usually be found easily, but around the Shire sometimes it can be difficult to find a certain street number.

Sometimes street numbers are lot numbers and don't run consecutively.

Sometimes, trees or bushes have overgrown your street number sign.

Emergency services can be delayed in getting to you if we can't find you.

Where possible, have your entry clearly signed with the street or lot number – make sure it's clearly visible, especially at night.

Another problem emergency services have is that sometimes gates are locked and access can't be gained without delay.

If possible, when you call for help have someone look out for the emergency vehicle, or at least ensure the entrance is open.

Give detailed directions to the 000 operator if your location is hard to find, so that these can be passed on to the service you need.

The easier you are to find, the quicker we can provide help.

Are you keen enough to spend a weekday in Gaol?

Volunteers of Toodyay Museums Barry Keens

WE HAVE had a busy three months since I last wrote.

Thanks must go to Phil, Dylan, Wendy, Michael and Barry – our front-of-house team – for keeping the doors open during this time.

If you are keen, we could do with at least one more volunteer to cover a weekday.

Congratulations to our Curator Margie Eberle on winning the Indigenous Project Award at Museums and Galleries Australia Association Awards in July.

The Gnulla Karnany Waangkiny (Our Truth Telling) display can be seen at The Old Gaol Museum.

Beth, Nina, Barry and our newest volunteer, Carolyn, are busy working behind the scenes on various projects.

These include accessioning the archaeological collection, transcribing a prison register, reviewing our map storage and proofreading transcriptions from Newgain Farm diaries transcriptions, to name just a few.

With the help of her daughter Eleanor, Nina has also been busy tidying and removing weeds from the Old Gaol Museum gardens, which now look great.



Koorda Primary School Year 3 students inspect the exercise yard well at Toodyay's Old Gaol Museum.

We have hosted three school visits, including Koorda Primary School to year 3 students, and expect more before the end of the current school year.

We would like to thank Christmas 360, Toodyay Visitors Centre, and Toodyay Farmers Market – all major supporters of our Shingles Project – as well as the craft groups that buy regularly.

Funds from the project were recently used to provide soap and shampoo/conditioner to Toodyay Locals Care for their new shower installation.

We are proud to support this initiative. For our contact details and opening times see *Where and When*, page 28. Both Museums are open seven days a week and admission is free to Toodyay residents.

Sexagenarian Cheryl takes the cake

Bolgart News Pam McGill

60th birthday

ON SATURDAY September 9, friends and family of Cheryl Richardson (nee Martin), daughter of Doris and the late Ray Martin of Bolgart, gathered at the Bolgart Hotel to celebrate Cheryl's 60th birthday.

A lovely meal was enjoyed by all those attending.

After lunch guests moved on to the home of Vicki Martin of Bolgart, where Cheryl cut the birthday cake made by Megan Bazley, beautifully designed and made in the form of the figure 60.

Golf news

WINNER of the St Gertrude's Cup 2023 sponsored by the New Norcia Benedictines is Pam Meston.

Runner-Up: Pam McGill on count-back from Merle Manuel; gross winner: Joy Hamilton.

Well done. Congratulations to the winners and to everyone who played.

Winner of the Edmonds Cup 2023 sponsored by the Edmonds Family was Merle Manuel of Bolgart.

Runner-up: Joy Hamilton, Bolgart; gross winner: Kerry Fewster, Gingin; best veteran: Pam McGill, Bolgart, best unplaced local: Pam Meston.

It was a very warm day for golf. Thanks to the men for preparing the course.

Congratulations to the girls who went to Countryweek and came home winners.

Pam Meston: Bronze 36 holes net winner Sandgreens;

Serena Syred: Bronze 36 holes net runner-up Sandgreens;

Vivienne Camerer: Bronze 36 holes gross winner Sandgreens;

Joy Hamilton: Silver 36 holes gross runner-up Sandgreens.

Congratulations to the winners of The Women's Scramble golf tournament held at Lakelands Golf Club recently: Serena Syred, Vivienne Camerer, Joy Hamilton from Bolgart and Robyn Woods from Chequers.

It was a great achievement and the best of luck to you when you play in the State finals in October.

The winners from this event will go on to play in Queensland.



Ladies closing day of golf. From left, Barbie Theme Lynne Marcelli, Pam McGill, Pam Meston, Luanne Martin, Vivienne Camerer, Nolene Kaszanski, Joy Hamilton, Merle Manuel, Jenni Knowles and Serena Syred.

Winner of the Syred Cup sponsored by the Syred Family and CSBP/Callen Syred 2023 is Vivienne Camerer; gross winner: Joy Hamilton.

AM Round winner: Pam McGill; PM Round winner: Serena Syred.

Closing Day for Ladies Golf was a "Barbie Theme" with the ladies dressing in their best pinks.

The ladies played 9 holes in the format of a Russian Stableford pairs with two 'barleez'.

Winners: Vivienne Camerer and Pam McGill; runners-up: Joy Hamilton and Serena Syred.

Lots of fun was had.

Our seasonal trophies were presented with the following winners:

Nearest to the pin No 9: Merle Manuel, sponsored by Bernice Clarke;

Best second No 14: Therese Chitty, sponsored by Kathy Tree.

Long Drive No 11: Renae Syme, sponsored by Merle Manuel;

Ferret competition: Vivienne Camerer, sponsored by Pam Meston;

Putting competition: Jenni Knowles, sponsored by Dianne Edmonds;

Consistency award: Vivienne Camerer, sponsored by Lynne Marcelli; and

Eclectic award: Vivienne Camerer.

Bolgart Progress Association

A SOCIAL Supper Dance will be held on Saturday October 28 from 7.30-11.30pm with music by DJ David Dew, a square-dancing demonstration, raffle and door prize.

A light supper is provided. BYO drinks.

Tickets: Adults \$20; concession \$17; children \$10; Under 10 free. For contact information see *Where and When*, page 28.

Phil gets a fright when the oldies arrive

Come Out Camping Older Adults (COCOA) Michael Cox

RECENTLY I took a trip around Toodyay along with other members of COCOA, travelling by train and car.

COCOA stands for (Come Out Camping Older Adults) for the over 55s.

We met up at Toodyay station before visiting the Cola Cafe for morning tea.

From there our trip organiser, Rosey, took us on a trip around town, first to the Visitors Centre, where, in Rosey's words, "we met a very nice lady and of course there were many objects of interest and items for sale".

Our trail then took us past Conner's Mill, crossing over the railway line to the Memorial Park and on to Newcastle Goal Museum.

It gave Phil a fright to see so many oldies arrive.

We spent some time looking through the cells and court rooms then on to the police stables and shearing shed.

The walk passed a number of old buildings and over the foot bridge arriving at the Christmas Shop.

The Victoria Hotel was the next stop, for a hearty lunch and a good chat.

The members then had a final look around Toodyay before making their way back to the train station for the trip home after a very enjoyable day out.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2005

LOCAL PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION Shire of Toodyay Local Planning Scheme No. 4 – Scheme Amendment No. 12

Notice is hereby given that the Shire of Toodyay has prepared the abovementioned local planning scheme amendment for the purpose of:

1. Inserting additional use No. 12 in Schedule 2 – Additional Uses, as follows:

No.	Description of Land	Additional Use	Conditions
12	Lot 4 (447) Morangup Road Morangup	Brewery, Cidery or Distillery (D) Restaurant/Café (I) Tourist Development (I)	a) Development shall be in accordance with site plans approved by local government, and will require the issue of development approval. b) Each additional use requires development approval of Local Government. c) Car parking and service access and loading requirements will be determined by local government as a condition of development approval, considering the number of spaces estimated to be necessary. d) Commercial vehicles would not enter or leave the premises earlier than 9am or later than 5:00pm Monday to Saturday. No freight access would occur on Sundays.

2. Amending the Scheme Map to designate the Additional Use by including an 'A12' notation over Lot 4 (447) Morangup Road, Morangup. Plans and documents setting out and explaining the planning scheme amendment are available for inspection at the Western Australian Planning Commission, 140 William Street Perth; and at the Shire of Toodyay Administration Office, 15 Fiennes Street, Toodyay, between the hours of 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

Your views on the proposal are encouraged and welcomed. Submissions on the proposed planning scheme amendment must be addressed in writing and lodged with the Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Toodyay, PO Box 96, Toodyay 6566, or via email to records@toodyay.wa.gov.au, by 4:00pm, 5 December 2023.

Suzie Haslehurst
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Cheryl Richardson cutting cake for her 60th.



ACT BELONG COMMIT

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Out with the muffs and in with the bunnies

The Crooked Needle
Jean Melhuish-Hill

LAST month the Ragbags Quilting Group invited us to attend their Friendship Day – their first in three years after it was suspended during the pandemic.

Craft supplies were available for purchase, and during the continuous morning and afternoon tea we met ladies from Ellenbrook, Parkerville, and of course our hosts.

The show-and-tell session allowed us to see some beautiful works and take a sneak peak at a couple of Toodyay Agricultural Show entries.

All went home with a handmade craft item prize from the raffle.

We would like to thank the Ragbags group for their invite which was much appreciated. On Friday September 29 we had the pleasure of the company of some residents from The Residency in Northam accompanied by therapist Jacqueline Grant.

Some of the more crafty ladies took the bus to join us for morning tea and to have a look at the fiddle muffs and lap fiddles our team have been working on.

There were quite a number of both, and we asked Jacquie to select her favourite from each category.

Fiddle muffs and lap fiddles are designed from yarn and fabric of various textures and can have various adornments.

The muffs are worn on the arm and the laps of residents who find it therapeutic to be able



Visitors from The Residency, Northam (from left) Helen and Jacquie, winner of the Challenge Phyllis McDonnell and your columnist Jean Melhuish-Hill.

to fiddle with something safely.

Congratulations to our challenge winners Annette Millar and Phyllis McDonnell and we hope that our efforts are enjoyed by the residents over the coming months.

Our next challenge is creating cuddle bunnies which can either be for our own families or donated to the Perth Children's Hospital.

I was also very fortunate to receive a beautiful quilt crafted by the quilting ladies of the group.

Over the time I have been with the group a number of quilts have been made each year and presented to our members.

I would like to thank the ladies who worked on my beautiful quilt which will be much used and cherished.

Our entries for the Toodyay Agricultural Show are now all in.

We look forward to some friendly rivalry between individuals within our group and our friends from The Ragbags Quilting Group.

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 please see *Where and When*, page 28.

Joining in a wonderfully silly chorus

Toodyay Music Club
Jenny Edgecombe

OUR SEPTEMBER gathering started with the formal business of the Annual General Meeting hosted by Brian and Collette.

This was a welcome change for our Perth-based members, who were pleased to have a shorter trip for once.

Business was despatched quickly.

The only change to the executive was the election of Collette as Secretary following Peter's retirement from the position.

Joe, as President, thanked Peter for his diligent work over many years.

Peter and Moya will now be reducing their attendance at meetings, after years of travelling a considerable distance to take part.

Once the formalities were over we moved on to our usual eclectic mix of singing performances.

Peter and Moya opted for nostalgia, including *The Water is Wide* in their selection.

This song was popular at the Folk Club, which preceded the Music Club, many years ago when a number of us were new members.

While talking of nostalgia, Anne's choice of *Fields of Athenry* has been another deservedly popular item over the years.

Jenny took her choices even further back to her high school choir days in NSW where she learnt *My Lord, What a Morning*.

As always, it was a joy to listen to Spencer. His singing of *Why Not Now* was lovely.

Brian stepped up with a swinging rendition of *I've Got the Sun in the Morning and the Moon at Night*, which really had feet tapping.

Witch Doctor was one of Joe's contributions, and the audience happily joined him in the wonderfully silly chorus (*Ooo eee, Ooo ah ah, ting tang Walla walla bing bang...*).

Collette included a stunning *Blue Bayou* in her set.

It is a difficult song, with its range from very high to very low, but she delivered it perfectly.

Maurice added lovely low harmonies to Eileen's beautiful *Durham Town*, and his ukulele picking for his own song, *Durham Town*, was superb.

This is just a small sample of the songs presented during a most enjoyable afternoon.

Please note due to work being carried out on the CWA Hall there has been a meeting time change.

For details, see *Where and When*, page 28. Next meeting October 21, 1pm

Christmas Island fashion flavours Malay cuisine

Country Women's Association
Vivien Street

THE CWA hall will be closed on October 13 so work can go ahead to replace its roof.

Barring unforeseen circumstances we should be open for bookings at the beginning of November.

Please be aware that alternative arrangements need to be made if you have a regular booking for the hall during this time.

We will be holding a celebration of the event in the New Year and will invite all those in the community who have in any way contributed to the success of our goal.

All past CWA members will also be invited as without their support over the years Toodyay CWA would not have been able to reach its 97th year in the same building.

CWA of WA celebrates its centenary next year so this will be our contribution to that wider celebration.

Last month we hosted an International Day at our branch and a full day was enjoyed by the seven branches who attended.

Our country of study this year is Malaysia, one of the most diverse countries in South East Asia and home to many ethnicities and cultures.

As well as raffles, a trade table, quizzes and a guest speaker, we supplied a Malaysian lunch after a welcoming morning tea.

Julie-Anne spoke of her experience living in a Malay Muslim community on Christmas Island, how she felt fortunate to be part of that community and how much she respected and appreciated the culture and discipline of the Muslim people.

On leaving the island she was presented with a dress worn on special celebrations, handmade on Christmas Island.

Julie-Anne wore this beautiful and striking garment for our International Day.

We raised a good amount on the day and hope to donate the proceeds to Grandparents Raising Grandchildren.

On October 12 we have invited the Group Vice President Dianne Franklyn to talk about the experiences she has had in this role and the help that is available to grandparents facing such a crisis.

You may have seen the flyer in last month's *Herald* or around town.

Please encourage grandparent carers, male or female, to come along for a welcoming morning tea at 10am and some support.

Everyone is welcome.

This will be the last event held under the old roof.

The restoration work begins the following day, so it is quite a historic occasion.

Have you heard of the Associated Country Women of the World, the ACWW?

Their 30th World Conference was held in Kuala Lumpur in May.

A happy coincidence when our country of study is Malaysia.

CWA of WA is a member and sent a delegation who had a memorable visit.

ACWW lobbies the United Nations to ensure women's voices are heard and their rights upheld.

The association is about empowering women, working as needed with those struggling in many parts of the world.

All our CWA branches support this work and make valuable contacts during the conferences.

The conference highlight was a dinner hosted by Queen Azizah at the Royal Palace.

And while Jenacubbine's 90th birthday celebration was a far cry from the palace in Kuala Lumpur, it was no less a gracious occasion.

Two of our members attended this happy reception, meeting old friends and sharing memories.

Four members visited Caversham branch the same week.

We always enjoy these outings and the chance to exchange ideas and support one another.

October will also feature our Toodyay Agricultural Show display, with Netti currently busily occupied choosing her Malaysian outfit.

Look out for the new roof and we will keep all regular users informed.

More details: *Where and When*, page 28.

To re-elect a candidate with honesty and integrity

VOTE 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

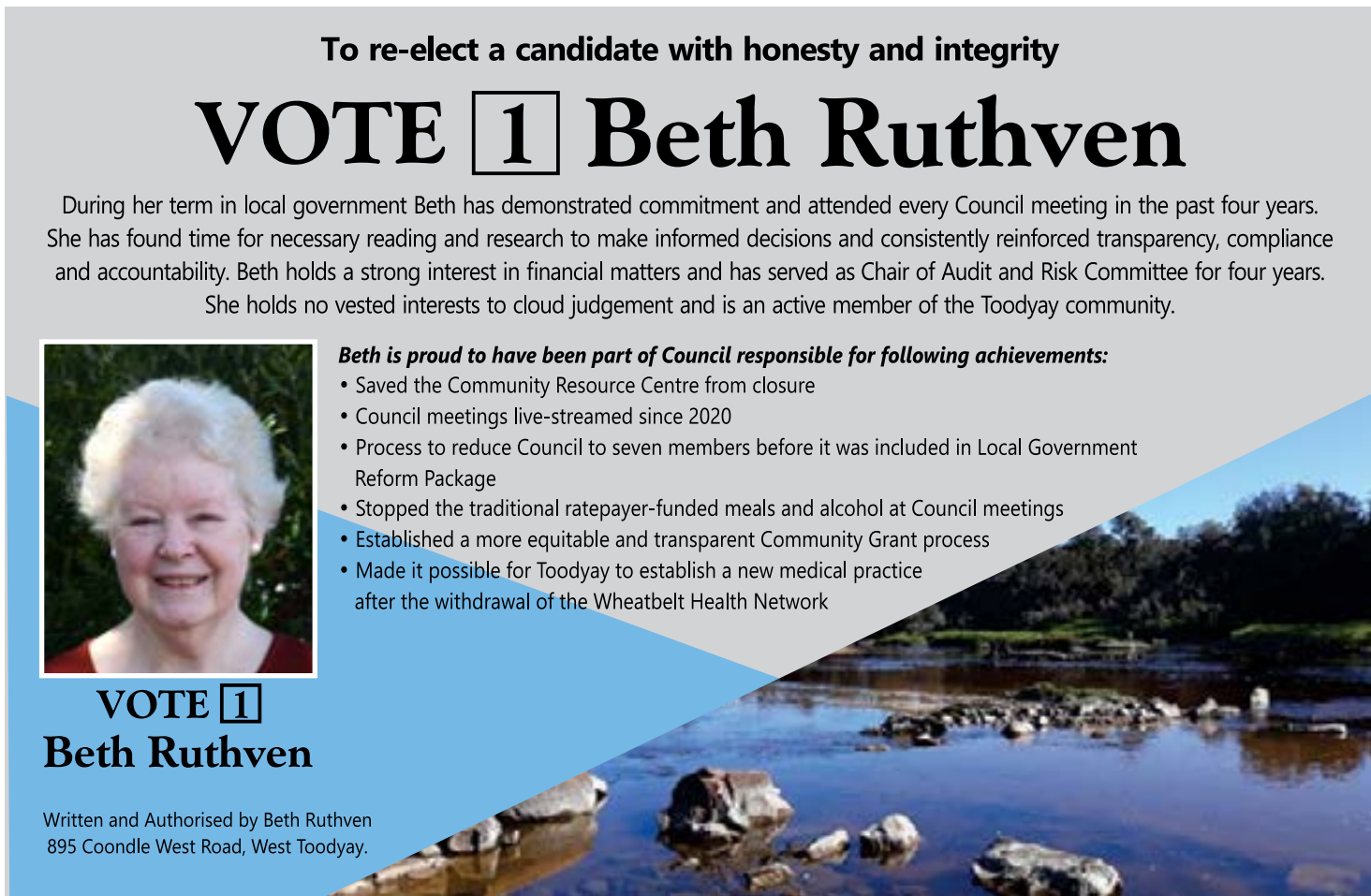


VOTE
Beth Ruthven

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



Julie-Anne in the special-occasion dress presented to her when she left Christmas Island.





Run-off from roadworks on Toodyay Road near Coorinja Winery pollutes Harper Brook which flows into the Avon River near Extracts Weir.

Coorinja roadworks demonstrate bad engineering

Safe and Scenic Toodyay Roads
Andrew St John

THE NEWLY completed section of upgraded Toodyay Road, close to the Coorinja winery, has recently become a spectacle of the good and the bad features of road engineering by Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA).

The upgraded section has been engineered to what MRWA calls the Regional Standard with a wider carriageway and sealed edges with rumble strips.

An additional feature is a one-metre centre strip to provide greater separation between traffic streams.

All of the above features are obviously an improvement over the narrower traffic lanes and broken edges which characterise many kilometres along the current Wheatbelt section of Toodyay Road.

And such improvements clearly represent good engineering.

In contrast the bad engineering associated with these improvements was on show after heavy September rain washed large amounts of soil off the newly constructed embankments or batters into Harper Brook, a significant tributary of the Avon River.

Inspection by a representative of Toodyay Council indicated that material was being deposited into the brook at more than one point, with some culverts completely

blocked with sand and mud.

The inspection showed this was likely due to a faulty design of the batters – an integral part of the new alignment of the road at Coorinja – and will occur again unless remedial work is undertaken.

This is not the first time our valuable waterways have been treated poorly.

When the section of the road just west of the town was being improved, contractors' negligence in disposing of large volumes of water resulted in damage to the banks of the Avon River.

Since the start of this project, Safe and Scenic Toodyay Roads (SASTR) has held ongoing concerns that waterways along Toodyay Road are not adequately surveyed or considered when designing road upgrades.

SASTR believes the original designs for the realigned road to cross Jimperding Brook – to be completed in a later stage of the project – would have it merely redirected into a culvert, ignoring the fact that the brook runs adjacent to the road virtually all year.

When this deficiency was pointed out to MRWA there was subsequent confirmation that a new bridge would be constructed across the creek.

Another topic of conversation in the community about the recently completed Coorinja section is what did we actually get after all the traffic disruption and extended time to complete the project?

To be fair to the engineers, a large amount of rock had to be blasted to improve the road alignment.

But I am sure many would have preferred the bend to be removed completely and the straightened road linked up with the previously improved section east of Harper Brook – and completed three years ago.

Perhaps such work was beyond the budget, and improvements to the new section of road have been achieved in the most cost-effective way.

But cost effectiveness must also be based on leaving our precious and valuable waterways in pristine condition.

Come and see us at the Toodyay Show where the SASTR stall will have more on the good and the bad of road engineering along Toodyay Road.

Grassic knocks out another classic

Toodyay Spinners

Gail Williams, Secretary

MARGARET Grassic has done it again.

Her skill and knowledge is evident in the lovely jumper (pictured).

By firstly spinning the fibre and then knitting the yarn, Margaret has made this jumper into a treasure anyone would be proud to wear.

Toodyay Spinners would like to extend an invitation to anyone who wishes to learn a new skill as we have members experienced in the craft of knitting, crochet, spinning and weaving and our members are only too willing to teach you.

Why not come along and join our group. You only need yourself.

For contact details see Toodyay Spinners *Where and When*, page 28.



Margaret Grassic's beautiful garment made from home-spun, knitted fibres.

Mix and match from the fabric stash

Ragbags Quilting Group

Kerry Gregory

SITTING at the computer, I'm enjoyably perusing a photo bank of beautiful quilts thinking, 'I'll have a go at them one day'.

The image is a snap I took at events to remind me of the colour ways and patterns that inspired me at the time.

I'll probably have to live to be 140 to get

to all the ones I really love and maybe learn a few new techniques along the way.

Most likely I need to improve the ones I already have, but at least I'll be making good use of my stash of beautiful fabrics.

Recently I was astonished by just how many groups or sets of fabrics I have that were purchased specifically to produce co-ordinated quilts.

For a long time I've been engaged with quilting projects that use different colours and shadings, differing value size designs and utilising a lot of fat quarters and fabric scraps.

Now I'm excited to be getting into the panels and sets that I've accumulated.

I tell myself I might be able to complete projects more quickly if I use the panels and sets, as I have all that I need and won't be hunting for pieces to match.

Famous last words?

Anyway, after the Toodyay Agricultural Show is over and my rushed binding spree finished, I'll have to decide which fabulous fabrics will become my next project.

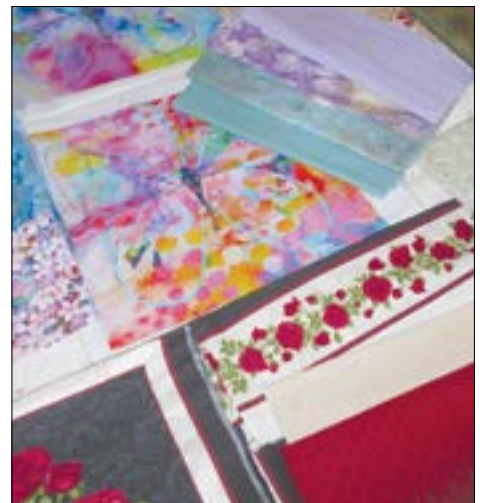
Good luck to all those crafts people entering projects in the Toodyay Show.

It has been lovely to see new members join us, with all made welcome at our regular gatherings of the Ragbags group.

A cuppa, a chat and a laugh are assured.

Bring along some handwork, your machine if you wish, and a project or any craft work being undertaken; we love to see your creativity.

For details of Ragbags meetings see *Where and When*, page 28.



Fabulous fabric project sets are coming to hand.

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	32.3				274.6
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

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