

# 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.

November 2023  
Edition 429

## Thousands brave scorching hot day to revel in 169th Show



Temperatures soared on Show day but that didn't curb the enthusiasm of thousands of locals and visitors who flocked to Toodyay last month for one of the best country agricultural shows in WA. Bushfire brigade volunteers switched from knocking down traffic cones with high pressure hoses to spraying laughing kids running through the water, while gasping Show chickens cooled off with water on the chookhouse roof. Sideshow Alley (above) was a magnet for kids and the evening fireworks display was the best ever. More pictures Page 5.

## Voters call for change

Michael Sinclair-Jones

TOODYAY has two new civic leaders with Cr Mick McKeown as Shire President and new Cr Shelly Dival as his Deputy.

Cr Dival topped last month's shire poll with 663 first preference votes, or 42 per cent of the 1569 ballots cast.

Former shire president Rosemary Madacsi polled second with 290 primary votes (18.5 per cent), and former shire deputy president John Prater filled the third vacancy after a 10-year absence with 220 votes (14 per cent).

More than half of Toodyay's 3639 registered voters didn't vote, meaning nobody got more than 18 per cent of all votes in the electorate.

Former deputy president Beth Ruthven lost her re-election bid with 72 votes (4.6 per cent of all primary votes cast), as did former Cr Susan Pearce with 150 votes (9.6 per cent).

Both were beaten by newcomer Ray Mills who polled 174 votes (11.1 per cent) but it was not enough to win him a council seat.

Toodyay's new seven-member council met two days later to swear in the three newly elected councillors and conduct a secret ballot in the chamber to elect a presiding officer and deputy for the next two years.

Cr Dival, who campaigned on a platform of change, nominated Cr McKeown for shire president, and former president Madacsi announced her intent to re-contest the role.

There were no other candidates.

Cr McKeown won the secret ballot in what was understood to be a 4-3 vote.

Cr Prater then nominated fellow newcomer Cr Dival for deputy president, and sitting Cr Steve McCormick nominated Cr Madacsi.

Cr Madacsi declined the nomination, leaving Cr Dival to be elected unopposed as

new Shire Deputy President.

Shire President McKeown closed the meeting after lots were drawn for new seating positions around the council table.

*New council Page 3, Editorial Page 4.*

### Large Toodyay no-show for Voice Aboriginal referendum

MANY Toodyay voters appear to have ignored last month's compulsory Federal Referendum to give Aboriginal people a Voice in Australia's Constitution.

Of the 1286 votes cast in Toodyay, 75 per cent opposed the Voice, which was defeated in WA (64 per cent against) and nationally (60).

The local turn-out represents only a third of all electors listed in the Shire of Toodyay.

This excludes postal and absentee votes, which usually accounts for up to 15 per cent.

### Coming events

Toodyay Bush Poets  
Friday-Sunday, November 3-5

Toodyay Farmers Market  
Sunday November 19

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# COUNTRY REALTY

# The Toodyay Herald

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## THANK YOU

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

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## NEXT TOODYAY HERALD EDITION

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

**Noon Friday  
November 24**

STORY DEADLINE

**Noon Monday  
November 27**

DISTRIBUTED

**Thursday  
December 7**

## Thousands of teenagers on tenterhooks



Pressure time for thousands of WA exam students.

### Roger Simms

THE FOOTY season is over, the Melbourne Cup is on this month and Christmas is already in the shops.

The run to the end of the year is picking up its usual unforgiving pace.

It can be a busy, stressful time but spare a thought for some 26,000 young West Australians who have been under real pressure of late.

I'm talking about our Year 12 school leavers heading out for the wider world, many still wrung out from Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) exams, worried about their results and facing all sorts of choices that will shape adult life.

Tertiary study? What university? What course? Technical and Further Education (TAFE)? A job? A gap year? How will I pay for everything?

Anxiety among Australian high-school students has been on the rise in recent years, with Covid an obvious cause.

But even before the pandemic's disruption, a survey reported in the research-based media outlet *The Conversation* found that stress levels among Australian students were well above the international average.

And in WA last year, exam stress was seen as the reason for a drop of about 1000 in the number of students studying four ATAR subjects.

Perth clinical and counselling psychologist Robyn Bett says feelings of stress over ATAR are inevitable, with some students finding they are ready to meet the pressure and others experiencing a crushing burden.

"There are many factors involved, including a student's earlier experiences with stress," she says.

"One factor lurking in the background, she says, can be a student's fear of leaving the safety of childhood and school at the same time as ATAR pressure is building.

"Luckily, ATAR is not the only route to higher education.

"Other pathways can reassure capable but uncertain students that they can try the ATAR course but change tactics if that doesn't work out."

Exam blues aside, some high excitement awaits our school leavers – a rite of passage, as it's become popularly known since 1980 with the advent of Schoolies Week, the annual outpouring of student revelry in holiday places such as Rottnest and Dunsborough.

Toodyay seniors who can recall sitting for WA's former 'Leaving' final year school exams in WA's repressed student scene in the 1950s and 60s may regard this high-octane fun fest with wistful regret that their own post-exam days weren't a little more stimulating — or perhaps see it as a reckless

excess that they wouldn't touch with a barge pole.

Certainly, it can be a worrying time for parents, as a glance at Wikipedia's entry on Schoolies Week might suggest.

Under the heading Problems and Risks, it says the celebrations are considered a week-long alcoholic binge with the risk of drug taking, violent and sexual assaults, unprotected sex and the propagation of sexually transmitted infections.

Hmm ...

Organisers at Schoolies.com, however, tell a different story.

Their take is that the event is a celebration for Australian Year 12 leavers with parties, festivals and events run especially for Schoolies – a time to make lasting memories, meet people and enjoy a last burst of joyful stress-free freedom before heading off into the real world.

Safety is just as important as having the time of your life, they say.

The Schoolies environment is as safe as possible with a 24-hour helpline, official ID cards to restrict outsiders, a support team known as Red Frogs and local police help.

So good luck Schoolies – I guess the message is: Party hearty but take care.

Looking back in the light of today's competition for student places in Australian universities, it's hard to imagine a time when educators spent so much of their energies allaying community suspicions about the worth of a university education.

In the years before Perth's University of WA opened in a collection of wood and iron buildings in Irwin Street in 1913, Sir Edward Wittensoom told the WA Legislative Council: "To expect that people who have their living to earn will attend university is to expect the impossible."

How times change.

In my own case, I recall the Leaving examination of 1959 being just as big a mark of achievement as ATAR scores are today, with university plans and prestige riding on the outcome.

One big difference though is the way kids in those days learnt how they fared in the final exams.

No internet or website to check.

The first airing of exam results would be in *The West Australian* newspaper with huge crowds besieging the watchman's office at the old Newspaper House in St George's Terrace to get their hands on a copy of that night's first edition of the next day's paper.

Laughter, groans and grumbles would erupt as pages were opened and lists scanned.

No Schoolies celebrations for us.

Just the anxious ritual of ripping newspapers apart in the city on one night in early December.

And then laughter or tears.

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

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

### November- December 2023

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

# Toodyay dental surgeon hangs up his drill

Mark Roy

BROWSING the certificates that line the Toodyay Dental Clinic halls, one comes across a most unusual item: a Z Force Shield.

This rarely awarded accolade speaks volumes on the singular history of its recipient, Dr Michael Francis McGuinness AM.

Presented to the dentist by Z Force veterans in 2013, the Shield bears testament to his ongoing support for returned servicepeople.

"It is a pleasure to find an individual and professional service provider who is prepared to support this body of people who have given so much to our wonderful country," the citation reads. "The warmth, dignity and respect shown by you is most admirable."

A decade on from that award presentation and Dr McGuinness is reflecting on his upcoming retirement.

And while the Z Force Shield is just one in a string of awards and achievements he has accumulated over his long and illustrious career, it is clear this is a memento the doctor holds dear to his heart.

It was early in his career, in his formative years as a final-year undergrad at the UWA in 1977, that he volunteered to operate on Australian soldiers severely injured in Vietnam.

Later he helped provide free dental services to Vietnam vets through a Veterans Affairs program, maintaining his commitment to the returned soldiers even after scaling down his private practice to take on other roles.

Former Toodyay RSL Secretary-Treasurer Lou Kidd says Dr McGuinness has been a great supporter and friend of the local RSL.

"Not only with our scholarship program, but also with helping us find a home of our own here in Toodyay," Mr Kidd said.

"We started the Sandakan Scholarship for Children in 2008, with the first students going to Borneo in 2009. That was prior to Michael becoming Chair of the Bendigo Bank in Toodyay."

The bank has also been a great supporter of the scholarship, he says.

"But Michael supported the program for 10 years with his own money, sending two kids every year – right up until Covid."

The RSL scholarship memorialises and educates younger generations on the World War II Sandakan Death Marches in Borneo, which resulted in the deaths of 2434 Allied prisoners-of-war. Only six Australians survived, four of whom were from Toodyay.

Dr McGuinness established his dental practice in Toodyay in 2005, after he and his wife Alison bought a farm in Nunile in 2002.

He opened additional rooms in Goomalling in 2008, building a clientele of nearly 5000 patients from as far afield as Perth, Esperance, Albany, and Margaret River.

The 1870 building that houses his Toodyay clinic was the site of Toodyay's first school, run by the Sisters of Mercy from 1884 until 1902.

As it happens, Dr McGuinness is no stranger to founding and running schools himself.

He was instrumental in establishing the Oral Health Centre of Western Australia (OHCWA), a \$30 million partnership between UWA and the State Government.

Prior to the OHCWA being built, Dr McGuinness headed up the State Dental School from 1998-2000.

At the time, the dental school was a rabbit-warren of rooms in a red brick, inter-war building on Wellington Street.

One Friday afternoon Dr McGuinness was invited to see UWA Deputy Vice Chancellor Professor Alan Robson, who told him the existing school was to be closed down.

"Our graduates would have to go to the University of South Australia to finish their degrees," Dr McGuinness recalls. "It was important to me that we had our own dental school to train undergraduates for our state."

When he asked Prof. Robson what could be done, the answer came back: "You've got to raise \$30 million."



Dr Michael McGuinness with some of the many awards, certificates and medals that grace the halls of his Stirling Street dental practice in Toodyay.

Dr McGuinness says what followed was "one of the highlights of my life".

"I was lucky enough to be, at the time, a friend of Richard Court," he explains.

"It was just before an election that I went to him and said 'I need \$15 million dollars'.

"That was on a Friday afternoon, at his offices in Nedlands. On the Saturday morning he arrived at my house, where I was cutting roses, and said 'I've got something for you'."

Having secured the government funding, the university had to match it, and the deal was done: \$30 million to build a state-of-the-art centre for excellence in oral health.

After Deputy Vice Chancellor asked him to be the director of the project, Dr McGuinness oversaw its inception over the next two years.

Head heights for a someone who started out as a dental technician.

Many may not realise the tools of dentistry and prosthodontics are similar to those used in jewellery making, and the craftsmanship appealed to Dr McGuinness's artistic side.

"I'm lucky, I like art, do a lot of drawing myself, and can apply those skills and techniques to dentistry in terms of recreating peoples' aesthetic presentation," he reflects. "It ties together science and art."

After weaving his technical artistry as a dentist for 46 years, Toodyay's long-serving, one-and-only dentist will see his last patients next month before hanging up his drill.

"I will be staying in Toodyay, but not doing dentistry in general practice," he explains.

It's what he calls a "partial" retirement:

working two days a week at Yongah Hill Immigration Detention Centre in Northam as consultant dentist on a one-year contract.

"I'm 76, and by the time I finish there I will be 78, and that's old enough," he says.

So can we expect him to retire thereafter to the quiet vicissitudes of rural recumbence at Yandee Homestead?

"I was shearing sheep out there yesterday at six in the morning," he says with a hearty laugh.

The Toodyay couple are running sheep and bringing in hay (their neighbour also crops canola and wheat on the property) after the pair originally bought Yandee Homestead as a weekend.

"One of the dumbest things you could ever do," Dr McGuinness admits with a chuckle.

"We fell in love with it and we've been decorating and rebuilding it since 2002.

"We liked how close it was to Perth, we liked the broadacre farming, and the hilly area gives beautiful views.

"Since that time we have bought another two 100-acre adjacent lots ... so it will be a forever thing until I fall off the perch.

"We love Toodyay and we like the sort of people that it attracts."

With such a distinguished career it could be said Dr McGuinness is outstanding in his field.

And as of next year that may be where we will find him: out standing in his field.

Or perhaps treading the boards of his beloved shearing shed.

Either way, we wish Dr McGuinness all the best in his retirement – well, partial retirement.

## Meet Toodyay's new shire council



Toodyay's new council, (front table, from left): Crs Steve McCormick, John Prater, Danielle Wrench, Charmaine Duri and Rosemary Madacsi. Rear bench: new Shire President Mick McKeown (centre) and new Shire Deputy President Shelly Dival (right).

## Contractors blamed for late rates bills, no tip passes, wrong accounts

CONTRACTORS have been blamed for this year's late shire rates notices, incorrect account numbers and lack of tip passes.

Toodyay Shire CEO Suzie Haslehurst said some other shires, including the Shire of Harvey, had undergone similar difficulties.

Ms Haslehurst said Toodyay rates notices were lodged with the contractor for an Australia Post mail out on September 20 but the contractor was eight days' late.

This meant instalment dates for part payments had to be changed after the rates notices were sent out.

Ms Haslehurst said the contractor gave no explanation for the delay but apologised and provided a discount for the errors.

Tip passes were also missing from some envelopes, prompting the shire to require proof of local residence at the Toodyay recycling depot for free rubbish disposal.

A different contractor had misprinted shire payment notices, omitting the first three digits on some account numbers.

"It was no fault of the shire," Ms Haslehurst said.

"The solution is to insert '100' in front of any seven-digit numbers."



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# The Toodyay Herald

## Huge no-shows

IT SEEMS a lot of Toodyay voters may soon be copping \$20 fines – for not voting.

Results suggest that at least half of everyone in Toodyay who was entitled to vote in last month's compulsory Federal Referendum chose to ignore it.

Perhaps the question – giving Aboriginal people a Voice in Australia's Constitution – was too hard for people to take seriously.

Or maybe it was just apathy, given that more than half of everyone entitled to vote a week later in local shire elections chucked their postal ballots in the bin.

It needed only up to six boxes numbered and a reply-paid envelope dropped into a mailbox such as near the IGA store.

The result was the election of a lead candidate with the support of less than a fifth of everyone who was entitled to vote.

And the last of the three to win a seat did so with only six per cent support from everyone in the shire.

Next time we grumble about our council, remember that most people don't seem to care about who makes the decisions.

But back to the referendum.

Even taking into account early, postal and absentee ballots, it seems most Toodyay people didn't care enough to answer one of the biggest questions our nation has faced in more than 230 years.

Of the few that did, three-quarters voted 'No'.

This was hardly surprising, given the lack of detail about how a 'Yes' vote might work and the fact that country voters are generally more conservative in outlook than their city counterparts.

But that doesn't explain why only 1286 people bothered to vote at the Toodyay Memorial Hall despite 3639 electors being listed on the local electoral roll.

Early and absentee votes accounted for about 10 per cent of all local ballots counted in last year's Federal Election.

The Australian Electoral Commission says it is now checking the apparently overwhelming number of people who didn't bother to vote and now risk fines.

The result was devastating for Aboriginal people throughout Australia.

The huge 'No' vote was seen as a setback for reconciliation, prompting a period of mourning and sorrow, then reflection on "where to from here" (see Page 8).

The answer may be more "Truth Telling", and greater community awareness of Aboriginal culture and its place in our society.

Clearly, more people need to care.

Michael Sinclair-Jones  
Editor

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

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The way we were – This photo of a group of children at Wongamine School and husband and wife teachers Elizabeth and William Perrin is dated from around 1890 – 133 years ago. The children vary in age from 4-15 years and include the teachers' children. Mrs Perrin was also the sewing mistress. Historical information was provided by Adam O'Neill who is William Perrin's great, great grandson. A note written on the back of the photo states that the girl with a white lace collar standing next to Mr Perrin was a young Mary E. Perrin (later O'Neill). Photo: Newcastle Gaol Museum.

## LETTERS

### Welcome back Dr Akeem

I FEEL I must write to say 'thank you to all concerned' for getting our medical centre up and running again and a belated welcome to Dr Akeem and staff.

Having been to Dr Akeem in the past, when he was working in Toodyay for the Wheatbelt Health Network, I felt like I was meeting an old friend.

Dr Akeem has been so approachable and understanding during my appointments and he has been wonderful in guiding me through a complex situation.

I'm so grateful that we older locals no longer need to travel to Northam or elsewhere to see a doctor when needing only scripts.

Dr Akeem has now been joined by Dr Paul who now has a growing following in the community and the convenience of having Clinipath in the same building is a cherry on the top.

I trust our lovely caring community will continue to make welcome and support our growing medical team and ensure this vital service becomes a permanent feature in Toodyay.

Millie Heath  
Toodyay

### Positive outcomes

CONGRATULATIONS to Toodyay's two new Councillors and the returned elected member at last month's Shire elections.

I thank the Toodyay community for their support and votes at the election.

During the past four years, my role as a Councillor has been an incredible experience.

At times it has been all-consuming. I have valued the community connections and the many issues debated, solved and championed.

I have had the pleasure to work with a dedicated Council team and an amazing staff who have collaborated with the elected members to achieve positive outcomes for the community.

I have been pleased to be a part of significant, transparent and organisational reform, representing and delivering to the diverse Toodyay community.

I look forward to the promise of change by the new Councillors for the Toodyay community.

Susan Pearce  
(Former Toodyay Shire Councillor)  
Hoddys Well

### We made changes

IT HAS been a privilege to serve on the Toodyay Shire Council for the last four years.

Now seems like a good opportunity to share my reflections on that time.

When I was first on Council, I saw the administration providing agendas for meetings that had little or no input from councillors.

For example, annual budgets were initially provided to Council with no opportunity for members to provide strategic input.

With a change of Chief Executive Officer, Council became much more heavily involved

in providing strategic direction to the administration when it came to such things as preparing annual budgets.

Similar improvements happened when it came to the development and review of policies.

Staff and councillors alike contributed their skills, knowledge and expertise to support Shire decision-making processes.

Workshops involving both staff and councillors were an essential component in providing better service to the community.

Some people are able to process prodigious quantities of detail, while others take a big picture approach.

It was the combining of all these different attributes that produced a formidable team.

There is also the matter of having a "can do" attitude and listening closely to people's concerns.

It was for me always about finding ways to get answers and solutions for those people.

I felt it important that I kept people informed about what I was doing on their behalf.

I was always happy to answer anybody's questions about why I voted in the ways that I did in meetings of Council.

I saw openness, honesty, transparency and accountability as being essential aspects of my performance as a councillor.

Being a councillor meant always learning about new things from subject experts, and considering the impact of that learning on the strategic decisions that I was charged with making.

There was also membership of Council committees and also those of external organisations, in my case the Toodyay Roadwise Committee.

Attendance at events such as the launch of the Gnulla Karnany Waangkiny Project was also part of the job.

I encountered a wide range of people.

At one extreme were the hyper-aggressive, dim-witted, ill-informed sociopaths.

At the other extreme were those who expressed heart-warming gratitude for my efforts on their behalf.

It has been an interesting, frustrating and rewarding four years for me.

I wish the new Council and all its members the very best with the rewards and challenges that lie ahead.

Phil Hart  
Morangup

### New way forward

THE VOICE Federal Referendum result last month was swift and clear.

While there was a high 'No' result across much of the nation, voters in Teal (Independent) federal electorates and a high majority of Aboriginal rural and remote booths in northern Australia bucked the trend.

In WA, a State Government prosecution against a prominent local resident for an alleged heritage breach was seen as likely to cause a high 'No' vote but Toodyay's result of 75 per cent against was still surprising.

Local Aboriginal corporation members have worked tirelessly to build harmonious relationships while promoting awareness of our region's Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Our community has achieved a national

reputation for valuing its heritage – both European and Aboriginal.

The 2017 Uluru Statement from the Heart that prompted last month's referendum was a modest proposal.

A different result would have been a powerful step towards real healing.

Contrary to some of the more strident 'No' campaign messaging, our backyards and way of life were always going to be safe.

It provided a clear example of why new 'Truth in Politics and Media' laws proposed by Independent NSW Federal MP Zali Stegall are needed.

Australia now occupies a unique position globally.

It is the world's only colonial settler society that not only does not recognise in any way those dispossessed by colonialism, but whose citizens have actively rejected any such recognition.

This rejection will likely awaken a new generation of Aboriginal leaders.

The Federal Government has declared a "renewed commitment to closing the gap".

This is good, but many believe reconciliation may be a victim of the Voice rejection.

I hope reconciliation is not set back – maybe it just needs a new way forward.

Helen Shanks  
Toodyay

### Highs and lows

THANK you to all who have supported me during my last four years on council.

It was definitely a time of highs and lows.

Initial dysfunction in council was overcome and we created a largely harmonious working environment.

We also created an excellent cooperative working relationship with the administration, with council providing guidance to help staff to prepare documents for council.

I would sincerely like to thank the CEO and staff for their willing support.

Overall, I believe that as a council we are leaving the shire in a better financial situation than we found it.

It has been frustrating not being able to see Datascope to its satisfactory conclusion during our term and the resulting issue with audits.

However, we are progressing towards an unqualified audit.

I hope that the new council will continue this good work and commitment to the whole Toodyay community.

Beth Ruthven  
Coondle

### Cops return lost wallet

MY HEARTFELT thanks to the very kind and honest person, who handed my wallet into the police station last week.

Everything was fully intact, including all my ID cards, cash and cards.

A big thank you also to the two local police officers who dropped it off to my home.

We are so very fortunate to live in such a caring community.

Jenny Cornwall  
Julimar

Continued on Page 8

# All the fun of this year's Toodyay Agricultural Show



## Bottlemart

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 <p><b>\$49.99</b> EACH</p> <p>JACK DANIEL'S OLD NO. 7 TENNESSEE WHISKEY OR JAMESON IRISH WHISKEY 700ML</p>	 <p><b>10 PACK</b> <b>\$59.99</b> EACH</p> <p>WILD TURKEY 101 BOURBON &amp; COLA 10 X 375ML CANS</p>	 <p><b>24 PACK</b> <b>\$49.99</b> EACH</p> <p>GREAT NORTHERN SUPER CRISP 24 X 330ML BOTTLES</p>	 <p><b>30 PACK</b> <b>\$59.99</b> EACH</p> <p>EMU EXPORT 30 X 375ML CANS</p>	 <p><b>\$13.99</b> EACH</p> <p>KILARNI WINES OR SECRET STONE WINES (EXCL PINOT NOIR) 750ML</p>
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Choose to Drink Wise.

Bottlemart supports the responsible service of alcohol. Specials available from Wednesday 1st November until Thursday 30th November 2023 or while stocks last. Price includes GST. Images are for illustrative purposes only.

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# Two denied bail after local hardware store robbery

## Police Beat

With Sgt  
**Jamie Boryczewski**  
 Toodyay Police Station



SWIFT action by Toodyay police after a local hardware store robbery has led to two people being charged over a number of burglaries committed in regional WA.

A Perth man and a woman were caught on a local video security camera allegedly breaking into Toodyay Home Timber and Hardware in Stirling Terrace last month.

The store's front door was forced and \$14,000 worth of power tools stolen in the mid-week overnight burglary.

The two alleged offenders were seen driving off in a Nissan X-Trail wagon at about 3.40am.

The video security footage was used to identify two suspects and track them to Dunsborough, where they were arrested, charged and held in custody.

They were denied bail after appearing in a Perth court.

A police search of a Perth house resulted in some of the stolen items being recovered.

The case is ongoing as police make further inquiries about other burglaries in regional WA.

The arrests demonstrate the value of installing security cameras to deter crime.

Officers at the Toodyay Police Station can provide information if you have any queries about installing video security systems to protect your property.

That goes for business and residential properties as well as farms, which are often targeted by criminals on the lookout for unsecured guns, fuel, vehicles and tools.

### Farms hit twice

A SECOND farm in Morangup was hit by thieves last month after a shotgun was stolen from a local farmhouse the previous month (see *September Police Beat*).

In both cases, the houses were left unlocked while the owners were absent.

The latest robbery resulted in theft of a Toyota Landcruiser.

There were no video security cameras on the large property, and no witnesses.



Local police urge motorists to drive to conditions rather than maximum allowable speeds.

Another Toyota Landcruiser was stolen from a secured yard in the Beach Road area of Moondyne last month.

The 1988 ute was fitted with a bulk water container on the rear tray and left unlocked with the keys in the cab.

Police are investigating.

### Inmates clean up

I'D LIKE to express special thanks to the volunteer inmates from Wooroloo Prison Farm who helped clean up our front yard at the Toodyay Police Station last month.

They visit every six weeks or so and always do a fantastic job helping to keep us looking neat and tidy.

Well done everyone.



A chainsaw similar to equipment stolen in Toodyay last month.

### \$350 raised at Show

I'M ALSO pleased to report a very good turnout at our local police stall at last month's Toodyay Agricultural Show.

We saw up to 400 visitors on the day and handed out about 100 police showbags for children and another 100 with crime prevention tips for adults.

A highlight was the raising of about \$350 for WA Police Legacy, a charitable organisation that provides hardship assistance to the families of deceased officers.

### Drive to conditions

I'D LIKE to close this month with a reminder to motorists to please drive to the conditions rather than the speed limit.

For instance, there are sections of Goomalling Road in Nunile where you are allowed to do 110km/h but it would be a lot safer to drive a little slower on the tight bends and uneven road surface.

Similarly on gravel roads – please drive to the conditions, not the speed limit.

And if you see a kangaroo leap out in front of you, whatever you do, please don't swerve to avoid it.

Veering at speed onto the soft shoulder can cause you to lose control of steering and slam sideways into a tree or roll over.

Modern cars are built to absorb head-on collisions with solid objects but can crush easily in sideways impacts, risking serious injury to vehicle occupants.

Always brake in a straight line while maintaining firm control – better a dented radiator than a crushed passenger cabin.

And again, drive to the conditions.

If driving at dusk somewhere like Dewars Pool Road or Julimar Road when visibility is poor and roos may be about, please slow down to give yourself more time to react if needed.

Better to be safe than sorry.

## Scammers prey on older, lonely people

**Computer Safety**  
 Phil Hart

SCAMMERS make a specialty of targeting vulnerable people.

Such people are more likely to be taken in by their deception and lies.

Vulnerability can arise from social isolation, poor assessment of risk, and lack of understanding.

Underlying factors can include difficulty coping with new technology, brain injury, social trauma, dementia, impulsivity, credulousness, a desire to help, and financial stress.

There is no "one size fits all" solution to protecting people vulnerable people from scammers.

Each vulnerable person is unique, and

## School leavers risk taking leave of their senses

**Safer Toodyay**  
 Jess Daniels

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Leavers: [www.leaverswa.com.au](http://www.leaverswa.com.au);
  - Alcohol Think Again: [www.youngpeople.alcoholthinkagain.com.au](http://www.youngpeople.alcoholthinkagain.com.au);
  - Drug Aware: [www.drugaware.com.au](http://www.drugaware.com.au).
- Please contact Jess Daniels, Alcohol and Other Drugs Prevention Officer at Holyoake Wheatbelt Community Alcohol and Drug Service on 9621 1055 if you would like support or counselling for yourself, a family member or someone close to you.

# TOODYAY

MRB 2339

## Tyre Service

New 4X4, Truck,  
Motorbikes &  
Tractor

Repairs  
Exhausts  
Balancing  
Suspensions  
Wheel Alignment

Lot 20  
Stirling Tce

9574 4499

tyres1@iinet.net.au

**EMERGENCY SERVICES**

# Heart machines need monthly checks to ensure they are working properly

**St John Toodyay Sub Centre**  
 Monika Williams, Vice Chairperson

CONTRARY to popular belief, sudden cardiac arrest can strike any person regardless of age, gender or health status.

Approximately 33,000 Australians die every year from this condition.

The single key contributing factor to improving survival rates of sudden cardiac arrest is the time taken to administer early CPR and defibrillation.

Where CPR and defibrillation are administered within five minutes of an event, studies have shown dramatic improvements in survival rates.

You can locate community defibrillators in Toodyay by downloading the St John First Responder app.

For business owners of a registered community defibrillator please remember to complete monthly checks to ensure the pads and batteries are working and in date.

For a copy of our Defibrillator Inspection Checklist, please contact St John Toodyay by telephone on 9574 2390 or email toodyay.subcentre@stjohnwa.com.au

Preparations for St John Toodyay's 80th birthday in 2024 are underway.

Painting of the inside and outside of the administration building has begun, with more planning taking place under the direction of our Historical sub-committee.

It has been another busy month for our Toodyay volunteers.

Our ambulances have travelled a total of 1744 kilometres and completed 33 jobs.

The Toodyay Agricultural Show was attended by 3000 visitors this year.

A number of visitors presented to our First Aid Post affected by heat.

Thankfully our skilled volunteers and community paramedics were on hand to provide assistance.

Our promotional tent was busy holding snakebite management and CPR demonstrations, blood pressure checks, a raffle draw and entertainment for the kids.

As reported earlier, we welcomed eight new volunteers.

Three of those volunteers have progressed on to become emergency medical assistants.

Their scope of practice broadens so that they are able to conduct a range of medical duties including patient assessment, airway management, ambulance documentation and

communication, medication awareness and checks, disaster management and triage and introduction to trauma and spinal awareness.

Congratulations to our new emergency medical assistants.

We look forward to furthering their training to become emergency medical technicians.

Community Transport Service fees and structure have changed.

Due to the increased fuel and other associated costs, we unfortunately need to increase our rates as follows:

Toodyay – Perth	\$70
Toodyay – Midland	\$60
Toodyay – Northam	\$40
Toodyay – Toodyay	\$20

All fees are flat rate with one-way charges no longer applicable.

The Community Transport took 21 passengers to medical appointments during the month.

A minor correction to a previous article regarding the Ambulance Service Medal:

The Ambulance Service Medal award recognises distinguished service by men and women of Australia's ambulance organisations and is the highest decoration that they can receive.

Distinguished service is recognised by a demonstration of a high degree of resourcefulness and devotion to duty above and beyond normal work duties.

It is reserved for those occupations that are operationally based and primarily directed to providing services for the community, particularly in time of emergency, and hold occupations inherently more hazardous than most other occupations.



St John Ambulance Service Medal awarded for distinguished service.



Life member Max Heath (left) presents Mark Middleton with a well-deserved plaque marking his 15 years' service to the Coondle-Nunile Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade.

# Firefighter Mark hangs up his helmet to continue as volunteer wildlife carer

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

member Max Heath.

Mark continues to volunteer as a wildlife carer with the Marsupial Mammals and Pappas organisation.

We wish Mark all the best and have an open door at the fire shed for him any time he would like to come back.

Crews have been turning out to several fires in the Shire.

Fire season has well and truly arrived – so please, have you reviewed your bushfire plan?

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

Check out [dfes.vol.org.au](http://dfes.vol.org.au) for more information.

A THANK you presentation was given for one of our long time members recently.

Mark Middleton has decided to hang up his fire helmet after more than 15 years as Volunteer Firefighter with the Coondle-Nunile BFB.

Mark has held many roles within the brigade including Captain, Training Officer and First Lieutenant.

He has also mentored numerous new bush firefighters on the fire ground.

Mark was presented with plaque by life

# You can't outrun or outlast a bushfire – have the chat

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

THE PROHIBITED 'No Burning' season began on November 1, so firebreaks should now be in place with properties cleared in preparation for the coming summer.

If you require information on firebreaks visit the Shire website or drop in and see the rangers at the Toodyay Information Centre.

As we enter the summer months it is timely to remind everyone about the role of the Fire

Danger Rating system.

Fire Danger Ratings are important when deciding on your trigger to leave in your bushfire plan.

The system has four levels.

Each level tells you how dangerous a bushfire could be if one starts and comes with clear actions to take.

The higher the Fire Danger Rating, the more severe the bushfire could be.

Ratings are calculated using a combination of weather forecasting and information about vegetation that could fuel a fire.

They do not indicate the chance of a fire occurring, although this is a common misconception.

So stay prepared by checking your local Fire Danger Rating daily at [www.emergency.wa.gov.au](http://www.emergency.wa.gov.au).

So far during October we have had seven callouts to fires which we have been able to get on top of quickly due to the responsiveness of local Volunteer Bush Fire brigade members.

Given the way the summer is shaping, we strongly encourage all households to take the time to hold a family five-minute chat about what you would do and where you would go in the event of a bush fire.

You can't outrun it or outlast it.

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

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

So please, act now and take five minutes to discuss with your family or neighbour WHEN will you know to leave, WHERE will you go, WHICH way will you go, what you do if you are caught away from home.

Level	Action
Moderate	Plan and prepare.
High	Be ready to act.
Extreme	Take action now to protect life and property.
Catastrophic	For your survival, leave bush fire risk areas.

The Fire Rating System.

**St John**

## Upcoming first aid courses

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

Price: \$170.00

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

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

- Understand first aid**  
Learn about first aid theory and action plans
- CPR and defibrillation**  
Practise CPR skills and how to apply a defibrillator.
- Injury management**  
Treat and manage injuries in interactive training scenarios.

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

St John First Aid Training



Last month's Halloween disco night at Toodyay Memorial Hall.

## A scary time for ghosts, gremlins and ghouls

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

THE ANNUAL Halloween disco was in full swing at the Memorial Hall on Friday October 27.

Local children and young people carved up the dance floor, dressed in their scariest costumes and treated to a live DJ, face painting, a photo booth and prizes for best dressed, in a ghoulishly decorated venue.

Local parents and volunteers baked spooky treats for sale at the canteen and students served up a sausage sizzle.

Hosted in partnership by the Toodyay DHS P&C, Toodyay Community Resource Centre and Year 9 students and staff from Toodyay District High School, the Halloween disco is a community run event that raises funds for the school.

Special thanks to Avon Skip Bins, Dunnings Fuel, Mobile Concrete Services, Toodyay Tyre and Exhaust and Toodyay Real Estate

for their sponsorship towards the disco.

The support of local business and community groups makes a significant contribution to the school, as do the efforts of parents, staff and volunteers.

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

Please join us at the term 4 P&C meeting on Tuesday November 7 at 5.30 pm in the school staff room.

Everyone is welcome, including the kids who we affectionately refer to as 'the little P&C'.

Help the P&C to approve requests for funding to support school activities and make plans for 2024.

It'll be an exciting year as we work with the school to provide more opportunities in music and the performing arts.

If you'd like to know more about how you can support the P&C and the school, see *Where and When* page 28.

## Outstanding presentation wins inaugural Canberra visit

**Toodyay RSL Sub Branch**  
Max Howard, President

AT THE recent Ordinary General Meeting members decided, given the heat of our summers, the next three general meetings would be held at a different time and day.

The next meeting on Thursday December 7 will begin at 6pm, when hopefully it will be cooler with enjoyable socialising afterwards.

Clive Millett, a Year 10 student from Toodyay District High School, is the first recipient of the new Canberra Scholarship introduced this year to replace the Sandakan Scholarship.

Clive produced an outstanding presentation to the selection panel on his research into one of our war veterans from Toodyay who did not return.

As a result, Clive, along with his mother, spent several days taking in the sights of the nation's capital.

Well done, Clive. We hope to see more year 10 students from Toodyay getting involved in this project for many more years.

Saturday November 11 is Remembrance Day, and the Toodyay Sub-Branch welcomes the Toodyay community to join our service.

If interested in attending please be at the War Memorial in Anzac Avenue, by 10.45am.

As Christmas is not far off we celebrate the event with our widows' Christmas luncheon which again this year will be held at the Toodyay Club on December 3.

Tickets are \$35 for a three-course meal and are available through our Treasurer Paul on 9574 4630.

Any dietary requirements please contact Cheryl by email to cheryljean3@hotmail.com.

Drinks are available for purchase at the bar.

No tickets will be available for purchase on the day.

On Friday November 3 and Saturday the 4th we will hold our Poppy Day appeal outside the IGA store and near the Old Post Office.

Please support this worthy cause as monies raised go towards helping our veterans in need of welfare.

Finally, the Sub-Branch would like to thank the Avon Skip Bins for the tremendous job they did cleaning up the RSL site in Clinton Street.

It has gone from wasteland to a site we can be proud of.

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



## We will continue telling our stories through a truth-telling lens

**Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal Corporation**

WE WOULD like to say a huge 'thank you' to families, friends and non-Aboriginal allies in Toodyay who voted 'Yes' in last month's Voice Federal referendum.

Your generosity of heart shown in the lead up and on polling day was much appreciated by all of us.

At some stage down the track there will be a ceremony to say thank you.

While the 'Voice' was a heartfelt request from Aboriginal people and had zero risk to non-Aboriginal people, unfortunately it did not succeed.

We expected a 'No' vote, especially in WA, but were still surprised by the low Toodyay result of only 25 per cent support.

October 14 could have been a defining and unifying moment in Australian history.

While we believe the recent controversy over State Aboriginal heritage law was partly

responsible for a big 'No' vote across the Wheatbelt, we note that no Aboriginal person or group has initiated a prosecution under that law in our region since it was introduced 51 years ago.

Life isn't always about agreeing, it's often mostly about understanding.

Society may agree that many Aboriginal families suffer ongoing intergenerational trauma but it seems obvious that only a collective approach can create better outcomes for all of our children's children.

It takes a 'village' approach at a local level and we had hoped that more in our Toodyay village were willing to join us on this journey.

Aboriginal organisations across Australia, including ours, have now entered a period of reflection to develop a 'where to from here' strategy.

We feel that the referendum result was a setback for reconciliation and there is now much work to do to get it back on track if we as a nation are to move forward together.

Our approach has always been to take the wider community with us.

Many now ask 'what is it that we reconciling?'

In the meantime, we thank the Shire of Toodyay for its generous work to achieve a supportive and practical reconciliation plan that has been recognised statewide and nationally as an example for others to follow.

With the current nationwide reflection on where next with reconciliation, we will seek to revisit the commitment from local civic leaders as part of the way forward.

We also invite Toodyay agricultural producers to reflect on our shared history of the land.

Perhaps there is an opportunity for them to reach out to us in pro-active ways to achieve a more reconciled community.

We Noongar people, as the original custodians of the land, along with today's landowners could all benefit.

Please be assured that nobody has ever wanted to take away your private property.

How wonderful it would be if we could all work together to help preserve what little is left of our ancient cultural heritage by enabling Noongar people to visit and pay cultural respect to their ancestral lands.

Nobody is seeking to disrupt anyone.

Our strategy since forming this corporation several years ago has been to gently build relationships with others, peaceful advocacy, reconciliation with the past, responsible truth telling and sharing cultural knowledge.

We will continue working to create greater awareness of our rich Aboriginal heritage, preserving our priceless cultural assets and telling our stories through a truth-telling lens.

### PART TIME POSITION

## Editor

**The Toodyay Herald is seeking an Editor and to be considered the following will apply:**

- Previous experience in a similar role will be viewed favourably
- You will be responsible for checking the content of all editorial content published
- You will write and produce stories about important local events.
- You will be required to follow a style guide approved by the management committee.
- You will have photography skills to be able to add photos to stories where they will add interest
- You will work closely with your production team assisting with page layouts using InDesign
- You will be bound by the Journalists' Code of Ethics
- Remuneration shall be by agreement
- You will be engaged on a Fixed Term Contract with a guarantee of editorial independence.

Established 1902

# The Toodyay Herald

**Inquiries: Andrew St John, Secretary Toodyay Herald Inc.**  
secretary@toodyayherald.com.au

### LETTERS

*Continued from Page 4.*

#### Senior disservice

ONCE again I am thoroughly disappointed in the Shire of Toodyay.

For the third year running I have had to fight tooth and nail to have rates reduced due to a Seniors' card holder eligibility.

I am getting very tired of doing the Shire's work and having to complete the paperwork every year.

This eligibility should carry over from year to year but the left hand does not know what the right hand is doing.

What a waste of my time, and what are we paying for in our rates but incompetence?

Annelle Oldenburg-Morgan  
Toodyay

#### Absolute delight

EVERY year my wife and I take part in the Moondyne Festival, my part being an early convict; my wife wearing a period outfit of the era.

We recently visited Toodyay as a day out and we are never disappointed.

Toodyay is an absolute delight to visit.

We love every visit and are looking forward to the Moondyne Festival next year.

Frank Cherry  
Southlake



# Students' scarecrow scores Royal Show ribbon

**Bolgart News**  
Pam McGill

## School news

WELL done to the students, teachers, and Cassie Bonnett for all the hard work put in to create Tom and Tess Scarecrow.

He was the Bolgart Primary School's effort



Tom and Tess Scarecrow, showcasing 150 years of agriculture in the Bolgart area, with the ribbon won at the Perth Royal show.

to showcase the past 150 years of agriculture in the Bolgart area and was entered in the Perth Royal Show and won a ribbon.

Congratulations everyone on a fantastic effort.

The entire Bolgart Primary School recently spent the day taking samples of lake water at Boshack with Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Project Delivery Officer Dr Dimity Boggs.

Students learned about the impact of water quality on aquatic macro invertebrates in the special Waddington Spring complex of wetlands at Boshack.

Students competed in the Victoria Plains Small Schools Association inter school athletics carnival in Goomalling, with Bolgart coming fifth overall.

Goomalling came first, Sacred Heart second, Calingiri third, Cadoux fourth and Yerecoin sixth.

Awards: Aussie of the Month: Isola Croeser, Arvea Croeser.

Merit Certificates: Levi Smith, Ethan Uriarau, Nicholas French, Dignity Wannille.

Sportsmanship Award: Lara Tregenza.

Well done to Serena Syred and Shelly Dival for their fundraising efforts at the Toodyay Show serving Devonshire teas.

Serena and Shelly would like to thank everyone who donated scones and worked on the day, also a big thank you to CSBP for their support.

Thank you to the Toodyay Agricultural Society for donating \$1155 from their end of day auction.

\$1984 was raised from Devonshire teas, making the total raised \$3139.

From this, \$1500 will go to Breast Care WA and Pancare (Pancreatic Cancer Support).



Peter Mete with his grandchildren and great grandchildren at his 90th birthday celebration.

## Peter Mete's 90th birthday

PETER Mete celebrated his 90th Birthday on Sunday September 24 at the Bolgart Sports Club.

Approximately 85 people joined the celebrations, including five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren who travelled from Melbourne for the wonderful occasion.

Other guests came from Albany, Mandurah, and surrounding districts as well as many locals.

Unfortunately his son Beau was unable to

attend due to work commitments.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of Joan Meston who recently passed away. Joan was a highly respected, much-loved and valued community member of Bolgart.

## Golf news

Pickering Brook Open Day Ladies - Gross Winners: Joy Hamilton and Vivienne Camerer.

Combined age over 140: Pam Meston and Lynne Marcelli.

Best 10-18: Jenni Knowles and Waveney Jones.

# Veteran volunteer reflects on more than 25 years' service

**Toodyay Op Shop**  
Judy Morrissey

BEL ROWE joined the Op Shop as a volunteer in 1982 and has served in the position of Secretary on and off for more than 25 years.

Bel has decided to relinquish that role but will remain an active Op Shop volunteer.

Bel was reflecting on those years, the changes that she has seen and also her hopes for the Op Shop's future.

It is hard to imagine, but in the early days, the volunteers could work on value adding projects such as quilt making as they had time.

These were very popular and sold well.

Nowadays the pace of the shop has accelerated to such a degree that most days unpacking and sorting donations, serving customers leaves no time for working on such projects.

Discarded fabrics are now cut for rags.

Bel described the 30th birthday celebration in 2009 as a highlight in her years of service. It was a marvellous occasion with the late Trevor Kerslake creating a fabulous window display.

Another memorable contribution to the community was replacing the playground equipment in Newcastle Park, in approximately 2000, at a cost of \$12,000.

Bel's commitment to the community through the Op Shop has been and remains exemplary; as she has commented in the past: "the money we raise belongs to the community".

She has developed many long-standing friendships, as people do when involved in voluntary organisations.

Bel agrees her involvement is a perfect example of how "you get more out of it than you put in".

The Op Shop has always been aware of changing trends and customer expectations.

Bel has been an integral part of managing change while holding fast to our principles and the framework of our constitution.

It takes a specific skillset to read the signals of change and bring the committee along for the ride.

The following poem has been published before in *The Herald* but worthy to revisit.

Bel wrote this in 2022 following an article that was found in a magazine highlighting that any issues we face as Op Shop Volunteers are shared by all Op Shops across the country:



Volunteer Bel Rowe at Toodyay Op Shop.

*I think that I will never see,  
Shop donations as they ought to be,  
Fresh laundered, smelling sweet and nice,  
No lingering smells of cat and mice,  
Nicely folded, not squashed down,  
Will bring a smile not a frown.*

*Donations come in every day  
Some viewed with pleasure some dismay  
Although the goods are second hand, we  
must uphold a certain stand  
Donors should ask themselves in the end  
Would I give this to a reli or a friend?*

*The shop is small as you can see,  
So size your donations sensibly,  
Or the Volunteers are overrun, and find it  
isn't too much fun,  
The ideal solution, of course, would be,  
To limit donation of bags to three.*

*How fortunate we are to be,  
In such a great locality,  
Two lovely windows to display donated  
goods in great array,  
Thanks to the whole community here,  
We've had another very successful year.*

Thank you Bel for being an industrious Secretary and we are so pleased that we will still have you as a Volunteer and appreciate the support and advice you offer to the entire Op Shop committee.

# High heels, fascinators for Cup Day

**Bejording Community Group:**  
Information Bay (By Bee)

THIS month's Feast night was seafood and incredibly delicious.

After a quick meeting, nothing to report that's out of the ordinary, our Chefs Du Jour set out their wares.

There weren't many leftovers this time as most of us went back for further helpings.

A big thanks to our organisers and the

clean-up crew who washed up afterwards.

Up-coming events for our Community Group will be Melbourne Cup Day.

It's an opportunity to try your luck with the sweepstakes and to don the Sunday Best, hats, fascinators and high heels.

Watch out for the photos next month.

Happy Halloween for last month, if that's your thing, and take it easy out there.

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

ABN 62120839979

# AVON VALLEY WATER CARTAGE

For all water requirements



Jamie Ratcliffe 0418 904 525

jamie\_r@live.com.au



# All eyes to clear skies

Toodyay District High School  
Tonia Demeur

OUR ASTRONOMY night was a great success with over 250 people attending.

Clear skies meant we could see many features including Jupiter and Saturn.

Many thanks to our P&C who supported the event with drinks and refreshments.

Our Primary Science coordinator Mr Cameron Norrish should be congratulated on providing such a stimulating activity for the whole community.

I was impressed by the Swan Nebula which was clearly visible through the impressive telescopes.

## Country Week

THE FINAL week of Term 3 was the best ever.

Our school sported three teams at the annual District High School Country Week Carnival – a boys' basketball team, a mixed basketball team and, for the first time in many years, a netball team.

Having trained each week for more than a term, the students bonded as teams and participated with vigour and commitment.

Every player grew in ability, with skills and match strategy improving dramatically across the week.

Sporting character was in abundance, and coaches Doug McGhee, James Holmes and Sharon Anderson, together with support staff Martina Bredschneider and Kate Wakka could not have asked for more.

Staying at the Ambassador Hotel in Perth, students also enjoyed the city life experience, visited many sites of interest and engaged in other recreational activities not available in Toodyay.

It was a fabulous week and our students did us proud, demonstrating fair play, perseverance and teamwork.

## Work experience

WORK Experience started this week for our Year 10 cohort.

This program, which runs for one week, enables students to experience the world of work which assists them to make decisions about future careers.



Box construction bonding afternoon.

Our students have chosen many varied work places from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Tourism in South Fremantle and Pricewaterhouse Coopers in Adelaide Terrace, to schools, hardware stores, real estate agents, cabinet makers, banking corporations, retail businesses and more.

We are particularly grateful to local Toodyay businesses who support us each year.

In the past, some students have gained employment or even apprenticeships as a result of their work experience so it is a valuable program for many reasons.

We look forward to hearing from our students' tales when they return.

## Kindy constructions

KINDY class members combined with our Big Buddies from the Year 3-4 class for an afternoon of box construction bonding.

Thanks to the wonderful donations of boxes brought in by parents, the students had a huge selection of building material to foster their creativity.

What a lovely way to finish the term.

Watching both groups work together, share ideas, talk and have fun was a treat.

Well done to everyone on your fabulous creations.

What's Coming Up this Term? OLNa Year 9s, Career Taster Year 9s, a Colour Run and Cadets' Rottnest Camp.

# Slain local nurse's story leads scholarship winner to capital

Clive Millett

HOW many people have noticed the memorial statue outside the Toodyay medical centre and, like me, wondered about the woman to whom it is dedicated?

To find out, I set out on a research project to discover the life story of Alma May Beard, an Australian Army nurse from Toodyay who was killed by Japanese soldiers during World War 2.

The result was a video following Alma's personal and professional life until her tragic end on 16 February 1942.

Alma grew up in Culham near Toodyay at Pell Mell farm with her mother Katherine and father Edward Beard.

At the outbreak of war, she joined the Australian Army Nursing Service and the attached 113th Australian General Hospital Unit.

Along with 22 of her fellow nurses, she would never return home.

The video aims to raise awareness and preserve the memory of Alma's brave story of selfless service for future generations – and also record a precious part of our local history.

After entering the Toodyay RSL's Research Project Scholarship, which is open to all Toodyay school students, I was fortunate to have my video selected and rewarded with a trip to Canberra.

It was a great experience for me to see the Australian War Memorial in person with the help of some friendly staff who found Alma's name on the memorial and also some information about a member of my family who also served in World War 2.

I am most grateful to the Shire of Toodyay, the Toodyay and Districts Bendigo Community Bank and the local



Toodyay District High School student Clive Millett in Canberra last month.

RSL for selecting my project.

I look forward to seeing future research applications from other local students should this scholarship continue.



## Join the Chalice team

### Community Relations Advisor - based in the Wheatbelt region

An opportunity is available for an experienced and motivated **Community Relations Advisor** to play an integral role in implementing Chalice's stakeholder engagement strategy and advancing the Gonneville Project to become a low-carbon, green metals mine in the Shire of Toodyay.

This role will be a vital 'on the ground' representative providing information to the community through regular direct engagement.

Working alongside our existing Community Relations Advisor and supported by the Chalice team in Perth, this is an exciting opportunity to work in the Wheatbelt region, with shared time at Chalice's Perth office, just ~1hr drive away.

For more information and to apply, scan the QR code or visit [chalcemining.com/employment](http://chalcemining.com/employment)



# Our Show tells the world who we really are

**Toodyay Agricultural Society**  
Alison Wroth

ONE THING that every community in a country town needs, be it large or small, is an event that brings together individuals, families and businesses alike to participate, support and engage with each other.

That is what I believe the Toodyay Show represents for our town and visitors to it.

A place to return to that will always be there.

On a Show day when temperatures did hit 38C, especially when the heat was overwhelming during the afternoon for both families and livestock that returned home earlier than expected.

With trade exhibits to satisfy every interest, a variety of food operators, incredible live entertainment all day, sideshow alley and warm exhibition halls filled with School displays and general entries in competition, the historic 169th Toodyay Agricultural Show did not disappoint anybody on a day that wound up with magnificent fireworks display sponsored by our local community Toodyay and Districts Bendigo Community Bank.

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

With the positive comments received on the day and after, the committee members believe that we achieved this and more, especially with the entries being of such a good quality this year in the two exhibition pavilions, which provided a wonderful display of Floriculture, Cookery, Needlecraft, Home Produce, Quilting, Hobby Craft and Fruit and Vegetables.

All the stewards excelled at their work, and the Children's Section was wonderful.

Both Bolgart Primary School and Toodyay DHS student artwork displays continue to delight whilst covering the walls of the Lee Steere Pavilion adding colour and movement.

The Equestrian kept the action on the oval all day which was wonderful to watch when you had a chance.

Hopefully you all had time for a bid at the produce auction this year, as the funds raised went to the Cancer and Pancreatic Cancer (Pancare) Fundraising Devonshire Tea kitchen this year.

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

Without this sponsorship of the Show each year, the committee would not be able to attract the type of entertainment or even consider the fireworks that close the Show each year.

Many community groups assist prior to or on show day and we are very grateful for this.

Our major sponsors this year were CSBP, Chalice Mining, Creative Canary, Dunnings, Elders, Transwest WA, Shire of Toodyay, Vernice, Morgan Feed Supplies, Toodyay and Districts Bendigo Community Bank, Makit and the Toodyay Op Shop.

Thanking all community groups, Curtin University volunteer students and our wonderfully organised committee would take more words than I'm allowed, but we are all looking forward to the historic 170th Toodyay Agricultural Show in 2024 after a short break, with the Show Ball something extra to celebrate the amazing history of the second longest running agricultural Show in WA.

The president and committee hope you all enjoyed the show this year and please, if you are interested in getting on this Show Committee and feel that you have something to offer the Society come to the AGM, or call any committee member to discuss positions available.

We will welcome you with open arms. Come along and help organise the 170th Toodyay Agricultural Show.

# Time to set record straight on shared history



New 'Our Truth Telling' display at Toodyay Shire Museums. Photo: Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal Corporation.

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

'OUR SHARED Heritage; Culture and Continuum' was the theme of this year's State Heritage Conference held on October 23-24 in the State Theatre Centre in Northbridge.

These conferences, organised on behalf of the Heritage Council and the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, draw upon a wide range of contemporary interests and advancements in the field of history and historical research that underpin much of what we understand as heritage.

These occasions provide opportunities for catching up with friends and colleagues and importantly, sharing knowledge and enthusiasm for what we do.

Building on past conferences, a strong focus was the inclusion of First Nations people and their stories and experiences after colonisation.

For far too long colonial and contemporary history has been unbalanced and incomplete due to this lack of inclusion.

This has meant historians and others have lacked the means to provide fuller accounts of Aboriginal experience and contribution to WA's history.

These issues are being addressed.

One example is the Toodyay Museums' recent nationally recognised 'Truth Telling' project, that is now on permanent display.

An account of this was one of the presentations at the conference.

Lack of knowledge and understanding has also led to misinterpretation of our country and its landscapes.

York in WA was named after Yorkshire in England because it resembled an English gentleman's estate.



An early charcoal iron restored by Ian Stannard. Photo: Beth Frayne.

'The Voice' referendum, was extraordinary and powerful.

There were a number of First Nations participants and presenters, though sadly some were unable to attend.

Regardless of how and why people chose to vote at the Referendum, the experience of this conference highlighted the need to open our hearts and minds towards understanding and accepting the wisdom of an ancient culture that holds great relevance today.

At our last meeting we were treated to a lively talk by member Margie Eberle, the Shire's Museum Curator/Cultural Heritage Officer.

Margie talked about a happy childhood in Victoria before travels and work in England.

She moved to WA where she met and married Keith Eberle and started a family.

Work in local government heritage services led to a position in the museum at New Norcia, while gaining graduate and postgraduate qualifications.

In 2013 Margie took on the role of Toodyay Museums curator and quickly engaged with our society to learn as much as she could about our history and heritage.

Once again in Show and Tell Ian Stannard entertained us with another object from his amazing collection.

It had once been a very rusty and unloved charcoal iron that most people would not go to the bother of restoring.

Ian recognised the beauty beneath the layers of rust and grime, and with its new coat of paint and restored wooden handle, he was justifiably proud.

Our grandmothers must have had the strength of Wonder Woman when it came to ironing the family linens.

Our End of Year 43rd Anniversary Sundowner will be held on Saturday November 25 from 6pm at Donegan's Cottage in the Showgrounds.

BYO drinks and plate of food to share.

Monthly meetings held on third Wednesday at 7pm in St Stephen's Church Hall.

Contacts: See *Where and When*, page 28

This was an observation applied across Australia as the whole country had been managed and shaped over millennia.

Lessons regarding ecological balance and symbiotic relationships within Australia's natural environment, understood and maintained by First Nations people, have to be taken on board if we are to prevent further species loss and land degradation.

This year's conference, held a week after

## RESULTS OF ELECTION FOR Shire of Toodyay, Toodyay

**Local Government Act 1995, s.4.77** **LG19B**  
**Local Government (Elections) Regulations 1997, Reg.80, Form 19**  
**Date of election: 21 October 2023**

Quota: 393

Candidate	First-preference votes	Votes at last count
DIVAL, Shelly	663	393
PEARCE, Susan	150	0
RUTHVEN, Beth	72	0
PRATER, John	220	346
MILLS, Ray	174	292
MADACSI, Rosemary	290	395

Name of first candidate to backfill:

**MILLS, Ray**

Name of second candidate to backfill:

**PEARCE, Susan**

The following people are elected as councillors for the Toodyay district. Each councillor will hold office until the date set out next to the councillor's name. A document detailing the distribution of preference votes is available on the official website of the local government.

Name	Expiry of term
Michelle Louise DIVAL	16 October 2027
Rosemary June MADACSI	16 October 2027
John PRATER	16 October 2027

**Returning Officer**

Full name: Sandra Kathleen HARTLEY

Signature: *Sandra Hartley*

Date: 22/10/2023



**WESTERN AUSTRALIAN Electoral Commission**



# 16 Days in WA

25 November - 10 December

2023

Stopping Family and Domestic Violence:

Play your part.

[16days.wa.gov.au](http://16days.wa.gov.au)

# Full list of this year's Toodyay Show winners

## THE PRESIDENT'S TROPHY

Mr Bruce Shenn - Most points in Sheep, Wool, Cattle, Agriculture  
Winner: WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS

## TOODYAY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY INC AWARD

**Commercial Ground Space** – Best prepared and displayed, commercial exhibit ground space.  
Winner: AUSTRALIAN ARTIST BEN SHERAR & KIYA KALEM

## SHEEP

**The Patron's Trophy** – David Chitty  
Most Points in Section - Sheep  
Winner: ADAM DONEGAN  
**Bob Somers Memorial Prize**  
Best Lamb Exhibit  
Winner: BROOKWOOD GRAZING  
**Commercial Classes**  
**Toodyay Pharmacy Trophy**  
Best Commercial Exhibit  
Winner: TYRONE MURRAY  
**Fern Valley Trophy**  
Best Wether Exhibit  
Winner: WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS  
**RK Bowden Prize**  
Best Exhibit Class 1: Pen of 3 Wethers, under 18 months, suitable for export  
Winner: WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS

## Farmer Classes

**Allflex Coopers, Zoetis and Bayer Animal Health Prize Pack**  
Best Exhibit in Farmer Classes  
Winner: EDWARD LUDEMAN  
**British or any other Breed**  
Allevare the Label Prize  
Best Exhibit British or any other Breed Classes  
Winner: TYRONE MURRAY

## WOOL

**Elders Northam Trophy**  
Most Points in Section - Wool  
Winner: DANIEL DADD  
**Doug Wood Memorial Prize**  
Champion Fleece  
Winner: ALLAN CHITTY  
**Lacy Bros Prize**  
Champion Coloured Fleece  
Winner: DANIEL DADD  
**Melanian Fleece**  
**Melanian Breeders Society of Australia**  
Best Coloured Fleece Class 30 Fine  
Winner: DANIEL DADD  
Runner Up Best Coloured Fleece Class 30 Fine  
No Award  
Best Coloured Fleece Class 31 Medium  
Winner: DANIEL DADD  
Runner Up Best Coloured Fleece Class 31 Medium  
No Award  
Best Coloured Fleece Class 32 Strong  
Winner: DANIEL DADD  
Runner Up Best Coloured Fleece Class 32 Strong  
No Award

## CATTLE

**Heartlands Veterinary Hospital Toodyay**  
Best Exhibit Class 33 – Pen of 3 Females, 2022 Drop Commercial for Breeding  
Winner: BROOKWOOD GRAZING  
**Warragenny Rural Contractors Trophy**  
Best Exhibit Class 34 – Pen of 3 Baby Beef, 2023 Drop  
Winner: WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS  
**Elders Northam Trophy**  
Best Exhibit Class 35 – Single Baby Beef, 2023 Drop  
Winner: WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS  
**Vernice Pty Ltd Trophy**  
Best Exhibit Class 36 – Single Baby Beef, 2023 Drop, bred in the Toodyay Shire  
Winner: WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS  
**Nutrien Ag Alliance Northam Trophy**  
Best Exhibit Class 37 – Single Female, 2022 Drop for Breeding  
Winner: WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS  
**Toodyay Fun And Fitness Trophy**  
Best Exhibit Class 38 – Pen of 3 Yearling Steers, 2022 Drop  
Winner: WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS  
**Elders Northam Trophy**  
Best Exhibit Class 39 – Single Steer, 2022 Drop, Grain Fed or Grain Assisted  
Winner: WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS

## AGRICULTURE

**Lacy Bros Prize**  
Most Points in Section - Agriculture  
Winner: WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS  
**Jacquie Lacy Prize**  
Best Exhibit in Section – Agriculture  
Winner: WARRAGENNY HOLDINGS

## POULTRY

**Toodyay Fun and Fitness Prize**  
Most Points in Section - Poultry  
Winner: ALLEN LAWRENCE  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit in Section - Poultry  
Winner: ALLEN LAWRENCE  
**John Lucas Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Pair  
Winner: ALLEN LAWRENCE  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Large Fowl – Heavy Breed  
Winner: ALISAN WYATT  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Large Fowl – Light Breed  
Winner: D & C HUGHES  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Large Game Bird  
Winner: ALLEN LAWRENCE  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Game Bantam  
Winner: GLENN STONE  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Soft Feathered Bantam  
Winner: J & A O'BRIEN  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit - Water Bird  
Winner: J & A O'BRIEN  
**Shire of Toodyay Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Back Yard Chook  
Winner: LOIC ZIMMERMANN  
**Toodyay Hair Studio Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Turkey  
Winner: J & A O'BRIEN  
**Cascade Land Housing Development Prize**  
Best Exhibit in Junior Section  
Winner: CHARLIE HOBLEY

## HOME PRODUCE

**Ian Stannard Prize**  
Most Points in Section – Home Produce  
Winner: KERRY GREGORY  
**Toodyay Hair Studio Prize**  
Best Exhibit in Section - Home Produce  
Winner: HELEN BENNETT  
**Dr Richard Walkey Memorial Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Eggs  
Winner: SAMUEL, LEAH & HANNAH SYRED  
**Elsie Wroth Memorial Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Jams  
Winner: HELEN BENNETT  
**Dr Richard Walkey Memorial Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Pickles and Preserves  
Winner: ESLEMONT ESTATE  
**Sue and Garry Golding Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Homemade Cheese  
Winner: MIKE BUTLER

## FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

**Jacquie Lacy Prize**  
Most Points in Section – Fruit and Vegetables  
Winner: JOANNE FERNIHOUGH  
**Toodyay Garden & Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit in Section – Fruit & Vegetables  
Winner: D MATTHYS  
**Toodyay Garden & Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Vegetable – Varieties  
Winner: D MATTHYS  
**Toodyay Garden & Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Children 15 years and under  
No Award  
**Toodyay Garden & Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Fruit – Varieties  
Winner: JOANNE FERNIHOUGH  
**Toodyay Garden & Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Nuts and Dried Fruit  
Winner: VICTOR KIELBASA

## APICULTURE

**Toodyay Pharmacy Prize**  
Best Exhibit in Section – Apiculture  
Winner: LORRAINE ARCHIBALD  
**Bee Happy Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Honey  
Winner: LORRAINE ARCHIBALD  
**Bee Happy Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Beeswax  
Winner: DANIEL MATTHYS

## HAND SPINNING

**Megasys Prize**  
Most Points in Section – Hand Spinning  
Winner: MARGARET GRASSICK  
**Avon Valley Gifts Trophy**  
Best Exhibit in Section – Hand Spinning  
Winner: GALINA RENNER  
**Toodyay Spinners Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Fleece and Fibre  
Winner: MARGARET GRASSICK  
**Toodyay Fun and Fitness Prize**  
Best Exhibit – First Year Spinner  
Winner: SUE CAMERON

## Northam Wool Store Prize

Best Exhibit – Felting  
No Award  
**Krys Poliniak Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Weaving  
Winner: GALINA RENNER

## PATCHWORK AND QUILTING

**Patricia Chitty Memorial Prize**  
Most Points in Section - Patchwork and Quilting  
Winner: GABRIELLE JOHNSON  
**Ian Stannard Prize**  
Best Exhibit in Section – Patchwork and Quilting  
Winner: GABRIELLE JOHNSON  
**Toodyay Pharmacy Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Quilting and Patchwork  
Winner: GABRIELLE JOHNSON  
**Toodyay Pharmacy Prize**  
Best Exhibit Quilting Commercial  
Winner: GABRIELLE JOHNSON  
**Sue Golding Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Hand Spinning  
Winner: GABRIELLE JOHNSON  
**Sue Golding Prize**  
Best Exhibit Applique  
Winner: GABRIELLE JOHNSON  
**Toodyay Locals Care Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Machine Quilting  
Winner: LISA SINGH  
**Toodyay Locals Care Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Patchwork and Quilting, Children 16 years and under  
No Award

## FLORICULTURE

**Dr Richard Walkey Memorial Trophy**  
Most Points in Section – Floriculture  
Winner: BAYDEN SMITH  
**Shane Love, MLA Prize**  
Best Exhibit in Section – Floriculture  
Winner: BRUCE GUTHRIE  
**Steve Jones Memorial Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Specimen Classes – Roses  
Winner: LYNLEE CHITTY  
**Toodyay Hair Studio Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Specimen Classes – Variety  
Winner: IAN STANNARD

## Toodyay Garden and Outdoor Centre Trophy

Best Exhibit – Vases  
Winner: IAN STANNARD  
**Toodyay Garden and Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Bowl  
Winner: MOYA HAMMILL  
**Avon Valley Gifts Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Decorative Art  
Winner: BRUCE FEHLAUER  
**Toodyay Garden and Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Pot Plants  
Winner: BRUCE GUTHERIE  
**Toodyay Garden and Outdoor Centre Trophy**  
Best Exhibit – Herbs, to be Named  
Winner: BRUCE GUTHRIE  
**Toodyay Hair Studio Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Young Adult Classes 16-18 Years  
No Award  
**Toodyay Fun and Fitness Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Hanging Baskets  
Winner: BRUCE GUTHRIE

## HOBBY CRAFTS

**Mrs Lynn Cook Prize**  
Most Points in Section – Hobby Crafts  
Winners: KERRY GREGORY  
GABRIELLE JOHNSON  
NATALIE KIELBASA  
**Shane Love, MLA Prize**  
Best Exhibit in Section – Hobby Crafts  
Winner: KERRY GREGORY  
**Toodyay CWA Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Adult Hobbies  
Winner: R SELLECK  
**Toodyay Locals Care Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Recycled Creations  
Winner: GABRIELLE JOHNSON  
**Christmas 360 Prize**  
Best Exhibit – Christmas  
Winner: KERRY GREGORY

## ART

**Country Realty Prize**  
Most Points in Section – Art  
Winners: LAUREN COTTER  
JEN THEWLIS  
**Sommerville Gallery Prize**  
Best Exhibit in Section – Art  
Winner: ROBERTA SELLECK

**TOODYAY CHRISTMAS STREET PARTY 2023**

FRIDAY DECEMBER 8, 6PM - 9PM  
STIRLING TERRACE TOODYAY

**FREE FESTIVE FUN**

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THIS FESTIVE SEASON WITH FREE RIDES, MARKET STALLS, STAGE PERFORMANCES, ROVING ENTERTAINMENT, A WINTER WONDERLAND, AND SO MUCH MORE!

Community Resource Centre, Toodyay, Chalice, TOODYAY MANOR, and other sponsors are listed at the bottom.

## More Show winners

Continued from Page 13

*Shane Love, MLA Prize*  
Best Exhibit by and Artist Under 18 Years  
Winner: SEBASTIAN WENSING

### NEEDLEWORK

*Fletcher Family Prize*  
Most Points in Section - Needlework  
Winner: BETH RUTHVEN  
*Mrs Bel Rowe Trophy*  
Best Exhibit in Section - Needlework  
Winner: MOYA HAMMILL

*Cale Family Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Knitting  
Winner: SANDRA DEERE  
*Dynamic Health and Body Trophy*  
Best Exhibit - Crochet  
Winner: ANNETTE MILLAR

*Kay Chitty Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Hand Embroidery  
Winner: MOYA HAMMILL  
*Kay Chitty Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Machine Sewing  
Winner: SARINA MCKAY

*T & C Frank Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Teddies, Dolls and Toys  
Winner: MARIE FREEMAN  
*Susan King Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Miscellaneous  
Winner: ROBYN WARRENER

*Kay Chitty Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Over 70 Years  
Winner: JENNIFER AUSTINE  
*Country Realty Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Novice  
Winner: SANDY CHITTY

### COOKERY

*Geoff and Megan Ebdon Prize*  
Most Points in Section - Cookery  
Winner: JOANNE FERNIHOUGH  
*Mrs S Patten Prize*  
Best Exhibit in Section - Cookery  
Winner: GILLIAN REYNOLDS

*Toodyay CWA Trophy*  
Best Exhibit - Scones  
Winner: LLOYD MARTIN  
*Toodyay Bakery Trophy*  
Best Exhibit - Bread - Made and Cooked in a Bread Maker  
Winner: JOANNE FERNIHOUGH

*Hutchings Family Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Bread Had Made  
Winner: BETHAN LLOYD  
*Toodyay Bakery Trophy*  
Best Exhibit - Cakes and Biscuits  
Winner: GILLIAN REYNOLDS  
*Nancy Collins Memorial Trophy*  
Most Points in Cakes and Biscuits  
Winner: JOANNE FERNIHOUGH  
*M & E O'Sullivan Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Decorated Cakes  
Winner: Aurelie Zimmerman

### SPECIALTY CAKES

*Mrs Phyl Wood Memorial Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Schedule Cake  
Winner: JENNY PERKINS  
*Mrs Phyl Wood Memorial Prize*  
Runner Up - Best Exhibit - Schedule Cake  
Winner: KAREN LAKEMAN  
*Mr Bruce Shenn Prize*  
Best Exhibit - President's Favourite Recipe  
No Award  
*Mike Knowles Memorial Trophy*  
Best Exhibit - Man Cake  
Winner: PETER SIDES

### PHOTOGRAPHY

*Shire of Toodyay Prize*  
Most Points in Section - Photography  
Winner: ROSS McDOUGALL  
*Shire of Toodyay Prize*  
Best Exhibit in Section - Photography  
Winner: R CRAWFORD

*Country Realty Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Black & White or Sepia - (Film, Slide or Digital) All Ages  
Winner: T STONE  
*Shane Love, MLA Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Toodyay in /focus - Black, White and Colour - All Ages  
Winner: R McDOUGALL

*Country Realty Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Mobile Phone Prints - Black, White and Colour - Over 18 Years  
Winner: SARAH-JANE SIMONETTI  
*Cascade Land Housing Development Prize*  
Best Exhibit Digital Camera Prints - Colour only - Over 18 Years  
Winner: R CRAWFORD

*Mrs Lynn Cook Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Children 6-9 Years, Colour or Black and White Prints - No Award

*Sue and Gary Golding Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Children 13-18 Years, Colour or Black and White Prints  
Winner: T STONE

### WOODCRAFT

*Toodyay Fun and Fitness Prize*  
Most Points in Section - Woodcraft  
Winner: MAX HEATH  
*Shire of Toodyay Prize*  
Best Exhibit in Section - Woodcraft  
Winner: MAX HEATH

*Avon Woodturners Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Woodturning  
Winner: MAX HEATH  
*Mrs S Patten Prize*  
Best Exhibit - General Woodcraft  
Winner: MAX HEATH  
*Toodyay Fun and Fitness Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Novice  
Winner: TODD GAVLICK

### CHILDREN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER

*Beth Somers Memorial Prize*  
Best Exhibit in Section - Children 16 Years of Age and Under  
Winner: ANYA MALONE  
*Christmas 360 Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Floriculture - No Award

*Toodyay CWA Trophy*  
Best Exhibit - Cooking  
No Award  
*Toodyay Fun Fitness Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Craft  
Winner: TODD GAVLIK

*Shane Love, MLA Prize*  
Best Exhibit - 2D Artwork  
Winner: ANYA MALONE  
*Toodyay Locals Care Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Recycled Creation - No Award

### CHILDREN 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER

*John Lucas prize*  
Best Exhibit in Section - Children 13 Years of Age and Under  
Winner: AVA CANDELORO  
*Toodyay Garden Club Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Floriculture  
Winner: Parker Byfield

*Christmas 360 Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Cooking  
Winner: AVA CANDLORO

*Mary Donegan-Guthrie Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Craft  
Winner: ADDISON CAREY  
*Geoff and Megan Ebdon Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Recycled Creation - No Award

### CHILDREN 10 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER

*Beth Somers Memorial Prize*  
Best Exhibit in Section - Children 10 Years of Age and Under  
Winner: LEAH SYRED  
*Christmas 360 Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Floriculture  
Winner: LEAH SYRED

*Christmas 360 Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Cooking  
Winner: AMY-GRACE CRAWFORD  
*Christmas 360 Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Craft  
Winner: ZAHARA JAKOVICH

*Country Realty Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Artwork  
Winner: EVIE SHARPLES

### CHILDREN 7 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER

*Christmas 360 Prize*  
Best Exhibit in Section - Children 7 Years of Age and Under  
Winner: ASHER WENSING  
*Toodyay Garden Club Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Floriculture  
Winner: BRAXTON FERNIHOUGH

*Country Realty Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Cooking  
Winner: VIOLET SHARPLES  
*Kerry Gregory Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Craft  
Winner: ASHER WENSING

*Mary Donegan-Guthrie Prize*  
Best Exhibit - Artwork  
Winner: ARCHER LEE-STEERE


### CHILDREN SCHOOL YEARS KINDERGARTEN TO PRE-PRIMARY

*Country Realty Prize*  
Most Points in Section - Children School Years Kindergarten to Pre-Primary  
Winner: HALLE JAKOVICH  
*Fletcher Family Prize*  
Best Exhibit in Section - Children School Years Kindergarten to Pre-Primary  
Winner: HAGAN KOCH

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## ENVIRONMENT

# Past protections fall by the wayside

## Safe and Scenic Toodyay Roads

Andrew St John

THE RECENT revelation former WA Premier Mark McGowan interfered in the affairs of the State Environmental Protection Agency undoubtedly shocked many.

But political interference in environmental affairs should come as no surprise in a state where mining is so prominent that environmental protection will always come second to the mining-based mantra of 'jobs, jobs, jobs'.

The former premier's recently announced employment choices confirm where his inclinations lie and provide further evidence that the current government is a poor steward of our natural landscape.

It is not only the resources sector that holds such adverse sway over our precious environment.

Current native vegetation clearing regulations allow a range of bodies to clear land with little concern for the impact on flora and fauna or its aesthetic and scenic value.

Main Roads WA, for example, clears vegetation to build new roads and upgrade existing ones such as Toodyay Road.

But many people believe that regulations administered by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation allow Main Roads to clear far more land than is needed, let alone desirable.

This allows road engineers to change road alignments rather than re-using existing carriageways, clearing individual trees and improving safety in other ways.

The WA Wildflower Society has long sought less damaging strategies to protect roadside vegetation.

Sometimes it succeeds but it is often ignored. Similarly, we objected to the environmental agency about the extent of Main Road clearing sought for Toodyay Road but were also brushed aside.

The agency's credibility as a guardian of our environment was further diminished by its support for natural vegetation offsets to compensate for clearing, a concept now widely discredited, as outlined in the August *Herald*.

Objectors can appeal against clearing permits in a "merit review" process.



Valuable wildflower vegetation at risk of excessive roadworks clearing.

The Wildflower Society provided evidence of insufficient checks and balances, including inadequate compliance with clearing permit conditions.

It also showed the environmental agency's failure to provide accurate audits of Main Roads native vegetation clearing and the extent of any remedial works.

All of these flaws collectively lead to more land clearing than is justified, with obvious damage to local flora and fauna.

A merit review process that normally takes 3-6 months took nearly three years due to government agency stonewalling.

The bureaucrat who approved the Statewide Purpose Permit that Main Roads uses for all its projects was the same bureaucrat on the supposedly independent merit review panel that reviews appeals, indicating a blatant conflict of interest.

Only after one of the appellants requested the Premier's intervention was there any finalisation, resulting in the WA Environment Minister making some positive changes to the Main Roads Statewide Purpose Permit.

These changes may at least make it harder for road builders to justify clearing.

It was not always such a bleak picture.

In 2005, the former Roadside Conservation

Committee – together with Main Roads and the former Department of Conservation and Land Management – published a pamphlet called *Wide Roadsides Flora Drives*.

It championed the need to retain natural roadside reserves to preserve wildflowers in highly cleared areas such as the Wheatbelt.

The pamphlet now reads like a utopian vision and the Roadside Conservation Committee has since been abandoned.

Groups large and small across WA are fighting to save a precious corner of their environment, whether it is from Main Roads' excesses or plans to dig up the latest new mineral no matter where it is discovered.

For development to proceed in a sustainable way, a balance has to be found between competing needs.

It would be better to divert some of the vast profits that come from mining into greater efforts to preserve our diverse and, in some cases, unique native vegetation.

But at the moment, the contest has a referee who seems firmly in favour of development at any cost.

This is not a road to a sustainable future.

## Wily woodturner elicits wicked little chuckle

### Avon Woodturners

Hamish Dobie

THE Toodyay Agricultural Show has come and gone with one particular woodturner pleased by the results of the Woodcraft section.

Max Heath swept the board, taking first prize in almost all categories.

This wily woodturner used several different types of wood in his entries, with his prize-winning Best Exhibit on Show made of Canary Island pine.

Being familiar with this particularly soft wood, I had a wicked little chuckle at his expense as it gave him some frustrating moments while trying to create a good finish.

Congratulations also to Todd Gavlik, who won the major prize in the Beginners category.

This keen young woodturner has the potential to become a champion woodcraftsman in the not-so-distant future.

Congratulations and thanks to the other woodturners who submitted entries in the woodcraft section.

You may not have taken home a prize, but your entries made for a great display.

For those who didn't put forward entries because they may have thought they weren't good enough, please reconsider next time.

Because you've put time and effort into your work, you are most likely to be over-critical of the finished product, seeing marks and blemishes where others wouldn't.

We had a demonstration of woodturning at the show and, when transporting a lathe to and from the showground, we found that none of us are nearly as tough and strong as we used to be. However, it's all over now for another year, all the equipment is safely back in place in the woodturners shed, and our attention is now on producing traditional wood decorations for Christmas.

Anyone interested in learning a new skill while having a laugh and a chinwag, just come along.

For details see *Where and When* (page 28 this issue).

## Smash the stigma to beat loneliness

### Mr Perfect

Sean Hefferon - Coordinator

"BUT nothing makes a room feel emptier than wanting someone in it." – author Calla Quinn, *All the Time*

This year's State of the Nation Report on social connection in Australia found:

- almost 1 in 3 Australians feel lonely;
- there are more lonely Australians living in rural areas than metropolitan areas;
- young people aged 18–24 report the highest level of loneliness;
- Australians who feel lonely are more likely to have chronic disease, depression, social anxiety and poorer wellbeing; and
- loneliness is linked to social media addiction, the latter more common among young people.

Despite how common loneliness is, nearly one in two Australians are too embarrassed to talk about it.

But it's important to smash the stigma and start having conversations when we're feeling lonely and make connections within our communities to get the support we need.

Reducing loneliness is a goal we can all tackle together.

It's okay to be lonely – it doesn't mean there is something wrong with you.

However, it is also our cue to connect.

Wanting connection is part of being human.

We are social beings who thrive when we feel heard, seen and understood.

The Toodyay area has a raft of opportunities when it comes to engaging in the local community, thereby minimising or avoiding loneliness.

Did you know that 20 per cent of people in the Toodyay area volunteer?

This is a higher rate of voluntary participation than Perth's 15 per cent.

Engaging with the community is one way to minimise or avoid loneliness.

The Shire of Toodyay website publishes a list of local community groups, which are also shown on Page 28 of this month's *Herald*.

Connecting with others through a shared cause is one way to invest in and develop relationships.

Having a strong sense of belonging can also help reduce feelings of loneliness and enhance mental health.

The Act Belong Commit campaign, directed by Mentally Healthy WA, encourages people to take action to improve and protect their mental health and wellbeing.

One positive action is to connect with your neighbours.

Studies show that where strong social bonds are formed with neighbours people feel a sense of belonging and also that someone "has their back".

A recent initiative from Relationships Australia is Neighbour Day (March 26) which reminds us that we can all play a part in building connection and reducing loneliness (for further information see [neighbourseveryday.org](http://neighbourseveryday.org)).

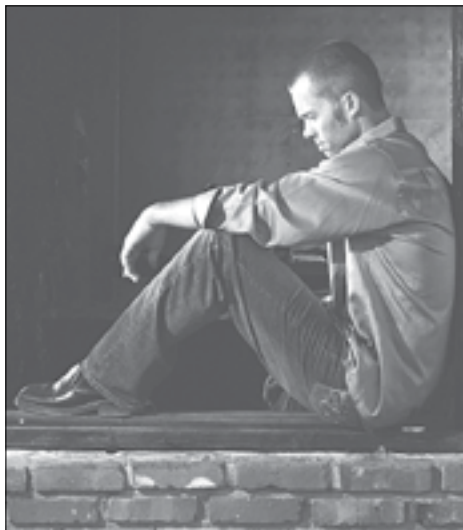
Setting realistic expectations when it comes to relationships is important, so don't be discouraged if it takes a while to find like-minded people to connect with.

We can't like and connect with everyone we meet.

It will take time.

The Toodyay Mr Perfect BBQ is all about community, connection, and a good feed.

More details in *Where and When*, Page 28.



Connection to community vital to healthy life.



## ELECTRICIAN – NORTHAM

### We are seeking skilled and safety-focused Electricians to join our dedicated operations team

**What you'll be doing:**

- Preventative and corrective maintenance on fixed and portable machinery including diagnosing and fault-finding PLC-controlled equipment, which includes but is not limited to elevators and conveyors, trippers, and dust systems.
- Completing basic administrative tasks to manage the maintenance function within SAP.

**Do you have?**

- A current WA Electrical Workers License
- An unrestricted Drivers Licence
- Experience in fixed plant maintenance, diagnostics and problem-solving.

**CBH Offers:**

- Standard Shifts of Monday to Friday (some weekend or additional hours may be required over harvest)
- Competitive rates and benefits
- Health insurance for you and your immediate family
- Relocation costs
- 13-weeks paid parental leave (regardless of gender)
- Corporate Employee discounts including travel, health insurance funds and financial services.
- Ongoing training and professional development
- Employee assistance program
- Salary sacrificing options.

**To start your CBH Journey, visit our career website at:**  
[careers.cbh.com.au](http://careers.cbh.com.au)  
 and submit your application for one of the above roles.

**To speak to a member of our People and Culture team, please contact (08) 9237 9670**

# Teddy guards the hall as Netti keeps an eye on crocodile

**Country Women's Association**  
Vivien Street

BY THE time the November 2023 edition of the *The Herald* is published we hope to have a new roof on the CWA Hall.

CWA Teddy is currently guarding our hall with a 'Men at Work' sign.

But with work delayed at the time of writing this should read 'Men Not at Work'.

Let's hope for everyone's sake the job can be completed before the hot weather overtakes us.

Last month was a busy one with the Toodyay Show display to be organised, Time for Tea at the Royal Show and the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren event at our hall.

Three members travelled down to the Claremont Showgrounds on the last Friday of the show to serve at the CWA Time for Tea stand for the whole day.

They had an exhausting, busy but enjoyable day serving beverages and biscuits amidst lots of laughter.

Thank you for flying Toodyay CWA's flag to the wider public.

Our Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Day was advertised widely in *The Herald*, at the Toodyay Show and in the community, so we were disappointed with a meagre turn out.

However it was a valuable help to those who did attend as our two guest speakers were able to offer practical advice as well as give out hugs to those who needed them.

Both of them are grandmothers who know the emotional and financial struggle of caring full time for grandchildren but they were full of optimism and joy.

We all enjoyed the morning, sharing morning tea and stories.

We are pleased that CWA statewide are supporters of this group and we hope to do our part here in Toodyay to offer help where we can.

Our gardener was away for a couple of weeks in October so a group of us organised some pruning and whippersnipping in the grounds before our Grandparents event.

Thanks to all the helpers.

The CWA display at the Toodyay Show was in a different spot this year and Netti was honoured to be in the main pavilion in a prime position.

This year our country of study was Malaysia so Netti dressed accordingly and kept a wary eye on the crocodile creeping up on her from the Borneo region of Malaysia.

We hope you enjoyed the display.

A group of us attended the Chaplaincy morning tea at the school last month.

We have supported the Chaplaincy for a number of years, most especially in sponsoring their Wilderness programme which has benefitted so many adolescents from our high school.

The morning tea was enjoyed by all.

Early warning that we will once again have our stall at the Christmas street party on December 8.

We should have plenty on offer in jams, pickles, chutneys, marmalade and baked goodies, all at very reasonable prices.

Any queries about the hall or future bookings please ring Margot on 9574 2823 or 0405 067 591.



Participants at the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG) day. From left, Cheryl and Dianne from GRG with CWA members Gina, Kathy and Julie-Anne.



Netti in her Malaysian costume overseeing the Country Women's Association display at the Toodyay Show.

## Royalty and Aristocracy to reign over this month's repertoire

**Toodyay Music Club**  
Jenny Edgecombe

OUR OCTOBER meeting began with the usual enthusiastic group singing of old favourites.

This month we included *Oh Boy* and *It Don't Matter Any More*.

The items this month were as varied as usual, from thought-provoking to comical, in a variety of styles.

Brian presented a swinging *Dear Hearts and Gentle People* as part of his selection.

Phil chose *Sunday Morning Comin' Down*, a gritty song of despair, offering a faint hope of something better, as the singer passed a Sunday School and 'listened to the song that they were singing'.

A beautiful version of *That's My Home* was presented by Eileen, with those evocative

phrases, such as 'galleries of pink galahs'.

Maurice gave a delightful rendition of (Blame it on) the *Pony Express*, thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.

It is always a delight to hear Spencer singing a capella.

This month was no exception, with the dramatic *I Want to Live*.

Collette's gentle version of the 1784 song, *Plaisir d'Amour*, was simply beautiful.

Joe's choice, the stirring *Grey Funnel Line*, was the last song of the day, with everyone joining in the chorus.

It was a lovely way to end our happy afternoon.

The next meeting will be a theme day, with songs relating to Royalty and Aristocracy.

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

## Free rec centre lunch for seniors

**Butterly Cottages**  
Judith Dow

BUTTERLY Cottages Association has joined forces with Holyoake and the Shire of Toodyay to hold free morning tea and lunch for seniors at the Recreation Centre on Monday 11 December.

At a recent meeting of Safer Toodyay, Holyoake provided information about Older Adults Social Prescribing Events facilitated by Holyoake using Government funding.

Holyoake is a non-government group that provides a range of support services, both in the city and regional areas.

Social Prescribing is simply a name given to an approach recognising that people's health and wellbeing is determined mostly by a range of social, economic, and environmental factors.

Social Prescribing seeks to address people's needs in a holistic and personalised way.

It aims to support individuals to take greater control of their own health, and lessen the impact of loneliness, isolation, and mental ill-health.

Social prescribing offers an innovative solution to many of our complex problems in an ever-changing world.

The free morning tea and lunch for seniors will be held at the Recreation Centre (behind the school) on December 11 from 10am to 2pm.

We hope as many seniors as possible will come for the relaxing morning tea and lunch catered for by Toodyay Locals Care.

Just remember it is free, as funding has been provided by Holyoake.

In recognition of the importance of social interaction in our senior community the Shire

has offered the use of the recreation centre free of charge.

The main aim of this event is for locals to catch up with friends and acquaintances and hopefully get to know others in our senior community and above all else have a fun time.

There will be door prizes and fun prizes galore.

Posters and flyers will be in different places around town so hopefully we can reach most Toodyay people.

There will be presentations on the following:

- Healthy Ageing, importance of mental wellbeing and connections;
- Alcohol and prescription medication; and
- Amity Health.

All attendees will receive a Social Prescribing Booklet to take home as a sustainable resource.

As numbers are limited please RSVP to Jenn Nock on 0417 174 712 or Judy Dow on 0488 742 342.

If you have any further questions about the day, please call Judy.

**FREE**

Please join us for a...

# Ageing Gracefully

Seniors Morning Tea & Luncheon in Toodyay

**Monday, 11th December 2023**

**10.00am - 2.00pm**

**Toodyay Recreation Centre**

**Morning tea & lunch provided - Gluten Free options available**

Fun & Games  
Interactive Activities  
Presentations by Holyoake's Prevention Team & Amity Health

**Limited places available**  
Please RSVP to Judy Dow on 0488 742342  
or Jenn Nock on 0417 174 712

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