

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.

June 2024
Edition 435



The temperance movement was out and about during the festival, still the local pubs were kept busy on what was a sunny day.

40th Moondyne Festival a huge success

Sean Hefferon

LAST month the Shire of Toodyay Council was to consider the approval of the reconstruction of bridge 4085, otherwise known as Slaughterhouse Bridge which is located on Toodyay West Road.

The timber bridge which was built in 1937 and spans Toodyay Brook is a single lane only 4.2 metres in width.

Unlike the Clackline Bridge also timber and built in 1935, the local bridge is not listed on the Heritage Council of Western Australia's Register of Heritage Places.

The prospect of Bridge 4085 being rebuilt has been live since a 2021 report by Main Roads WA found "significant deterioration in

the timber elements of the support structure of the bridge".

In 2023 Main Roads advised the Shire of possible options to limit bridge loading and that design work had commenced to replace the bridge.

Emergency repairs to the bridge structure were then completed in late 2023 including placing several acrow props under the bridge and galvanised steel bands around the timber pylons.

After these repairs a nine-tonne load restriction was imposed and heavy vehicles above that weight are currently diverted to Julimar Road.

Feedback from a local farmer suggests that this diversion has had little effect on

agriculture, however, he said a "few trucks for water or building supplies could present a problem".

This diversion is in place for a temporary period and according to the Shire planning for a replacement bridge had progressed with Main Roads and in April 2024 bridge alignment options were discussed with councillors.

Minutes from the May council meeting state that "Option 3 from the alignment study was proposed by Shire officers as the preferred alignment based on the minimising of land take required from adjacent private properties and a design speed limit of 70 kph".

In addition, "two types of construction (for bridge replacement) were assessed – the precast concrete plank deck structure and the Unibridge steel structure".

The minutes show the precast option is preferred due to lower maintenance costs.

A further design consideration discussed at the April meeting was the inclusion of a footpath to enable riders to cross the bridge safely, which would be expected to form part of the overall bridge replacement cost.

When the shire and Main Roads had commenced planning for the replacement of the bridge it was understood that the works would be funded entirely from the Australian Government's Bridge Renewal program.

From 1 July 2024, the funding guidelines

will change with the rollout of the Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program.

This new program requirement for bridge replacement on a local government road is that 80 percent of funding will be made by the Federal Government with the remaining 20 per cent being funded by the local authority.

Continued on Page 5.

No money to fix patched up bridge

Bumper festival attracts 12,000

Sean Hefferon

A LARGE crowd of over 12,000 people attended the 40th anniversary of the Moondyne Festival.

Joseph Bolitho Johns, better known as Moondyne Joe, was Western Australia's best known bushranger.

Every year the legend of Moondyne Joe, the Avon Valley's legendary bushranger, transforms Toodyay into a lively all day festival, and the 2024 event was no exception.

The stalls along Stirling Terrace were kept

busy throughout the festival with many shop staff wearing period costume in keeping with WA's best colonial party.

Highlights of the day included reenactments of Moondyne Joe's many shenanigans, his arrests and mock trials.

The general court banter as Joe was hauled onto the mock trial stage outside the Victoria Hotel, ensured the crowd, that also became the public jury, were kept entertained.

For more about the 2024 Moondyne Festival see Page 9.

Coming events

Farmers Market
Sunday 16 June
9am - 1pm

this month

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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), Richard Grant, Judy Morrissey, Jean Witcombe, Laraine Brindle, Allan Gregory and Michael Sinclair-Jones.

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June 21**

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June 24**

DISTRIBUTED

**Thursday
July 4**

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Articles and stories: news@toodyayherald.com.au

Cats, dogs, and don't tango with breakdancers

Dr Christian Mauri

LAST month's article was a rather serious attempt to share three "dos" for life and now I'd like to share with you a couple of silly "do nots" I've developed.

While I share these in my work helping professionals to get along with each other, they're helpful to anyone - just don't take them too seriously.

Don't Mistake Cats for Dogs

One afternoon not long ago, a priest and I were discussing ways to attract younger folk to take an interest in our church and at that moment two young women walked in.

Before they made it five feet past the threshold, the priest began his welcome.

"Come in, come in! Where are you from? What are your interests? Sit, share, be welcome!"

Since his arrival last year, I'm often awed by the priest's infectious charm as he has a talent for making whomever he speaks with feel important; it's a marvellous gift.

But that wasn't what these two young women were after and fixed by our attention, they locked up and shrunk into their oversized jackets.

Offering polite excuses of being late for lunch (at 3pm) they left a moment later.

I think I know what went wrong as the priest, for all his best intentions, mistook cats for dogs.

Think about it: if you want the typical cat to like you, what do you do?

Do you approach it immediately, or give it space?

Do you make the excited first move, or coolly wait for it to come to you?

Now consider the same questions for the typical dog.

How would you help it feel at ease in your company?

I bet you'd be a lot more direct - more animated - than with the cat.

While there is of course variety among all the creatures on the earth, there is something to learn here about people.

Some people, like cats, are best given time and space before joining conversation.

Others, like dogs, appreciate being made to feel loved and welcomed straight away.

If this is a broad brush to paint with, it is only to cover more of life's canvas - keep it in mind the next time you meet with a stranger.

See if they are lingering along the side of the room, getting used to the space, or if they are hovering around a group, keen to be included lest they feel ignored.

What other clues might a person give?

Look and see: don't mistake cats for dogs.

Don't Tango with Breakdancers

Last month I met my friend's dad, who had just driven up from Margaret River.

"Do you know your wines?" he asked.

"Not at all," I admitted.

From there, he launched an extensive review of wineries that flew straight over my head.

A lot of dialogues and conversations are better described as monologues.

Jack has his turn talking, while Jill tries not to forget what she intends to say next and then the two swap roles.

Now it's Jill's turn to talk (perhaps starting with "that's so funny, because I ..."), and Jack's turn to quietly not forget where he left off.

This is perfectly normal.

People don't spend good money on active listening courses for no reason.

While an important function of speaking is to process one's own ideas and feelings, it feels odd to sit at the foot of the bed and talk at length to yourself or the cat.

And so, we're left to process at other people and call it conversation yet for those on the receiving end seeking to genuinely converse, this can be frustrating.

It might feel like you've been mistaken for a bedpost or a captive audience.

Likewise, anyone who has realised mid-sentence that they are being a bore knows how it takes the wind out of your sails.

The solution I've come up with is about managing expectations.

First, recognise that all of this is natural and, within reason, OK.

Processing is permissible.

Second, recognise your dances.

Consider ballroom dancing - the tango.

Dancers take the floor at the same time.

Hand in hand they respond to each other.

They briefly depart for a flourish, then embrace to move again in the same directions.

They are in conversation and in dialogue, it takes two to tango.

Now imagine the breakdancer (not the breakdance crew, but the breakdancer).

The individual takes the floor by indicating with their arms for everyone to clear a space - everyone else is to watch from the side with occasional sounds of encouragement.

So far as the breakdancer does respond to others it's to outdo those who came before, however, this is still conversation in a sense: but it's far more the monologue than the tango.

If you try to tango with a breakdancer you'll disrupt their flow - better to let them do their thing and wait.

It helps to view conversations like this.

Recognise if someone is genuinely asking to tango, or if they are really expecting you to step aside and watch - or rather, to listen.

Both are OK, so long as you know what's what and it's also okay to ask for clarity or make your own preferences known.

I often ask people "Do you want my input, or would you just like me to listen?"

Most people seem to appreciate that, and the clarity puts my own mind at ease.

So why not give it a go?

Spot the dance and respond accordingly.

I hear that a good wine helps.

FEEDBACK

Brickbats or Bouquets we value your opinion

Suggestions and comments are welcome
 please forward to: feedback@toodyayherald.com.au
 or post to: PO Box 100, Toodyay WA 6566



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JUNE - JULY 2024

The office will not be open until June 18, 2024

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

Clocking up the miles with Bruce Cleasby

Bruce William Cleasby (10.08.1935 – 01.05.2024) was a well-known Toodyay identity, a local legend it would be fair to say. The large crowd that attended his recent service at the Toodyay Memorial Hall to pay their respects is testament to the high regard in which he was held. To commemorate Bruce, The Herald is reprinting his profile first published in September 2015.

Ieva Tomsons

THE TAILGATE of a ute on a sunny winter's afternoon is as good a place as any to hear some of Bruce Cleasby's trucking yarns.

Some readers may not know Bruce by name but they will certainly recognise his truck – the light blue 1970 Leyland that regularly tonkers up and down Toodyay Road and beyond.

Bruce who hits the 80-year mile post this August, is a true-blue Toodyay local. The oldest son of William Cleasby and Lilith Elfeda, he was born in the Newcastle Hospital in 1935 and attended the local government school.

Formal education wasn't for Bruce and he pulled the pin at 14, starting a life-long journey on the road.

His first rig was a horse-drawn steel-wheel cart which he drove throughout the district trapping rabbits for local farmers.

After a stint of stacking timber at a local sawmill, Bruce started in trucking by hauling bagged grain to the railway on a 1949 Austin five-tonner. He was 18 at the time.

In 1952 Plaimar/Plaiستowe Industrial Extracts factory started up and during seven years with the company Bruce had a variety of jobs including, feeding logs into the 'hogger'.

"It was like a big pencil sharpener in reverse," said Bruce, "and it produced really coarse sawdust which was fed into an autoclave to distil a thick tannin that looked like blackboy gum".

The vegetable tannin, produced solely from Wandoo (white gum), was mainly exported to America where it was used to manufacture water-resistant adhesives.

During his career with Plaimar/Plaiستowe he spent three years with the 'bush gang' driving tractors, heavy-duty off-road trucks and ex-army NR Macks that had a top speed of 27mph (43.45kph).

The time that he spent in the Avon back blocks would come in handy down the track when he started sneaking wool and superphosphate from outside district boundaries to avoid freight inspectors, but more on that later.

When the former Toodyay Roads Board ordered the company to maintain the gravel tracks, Bruce was put to work on the tip trucks – tip trucks that didn't tip.

At the gravel pit, off Old Plains Road, Bruce and his workmates Les Stott and Les Bingham had to loosen the gravel with crowbars and 'shovel-up' for three hours to fill an eight-yard (6.12 cubic meter) capacity tip body which was 14 feet (4.27 meters) long. In anyone's language, that's a bloody lot of gravel to shift by hand.

In the early 1950s the company didn't have graders so each pothole or wheel-rut had to be filled by 'shovelling-down' from the truck and smoothed out by shovel on the ground.

When Industrial Extracts temporarily suspended operations in 1958 Bruce and many other workers were seconded to the Guildford-based trucking company, Bell Brothers.

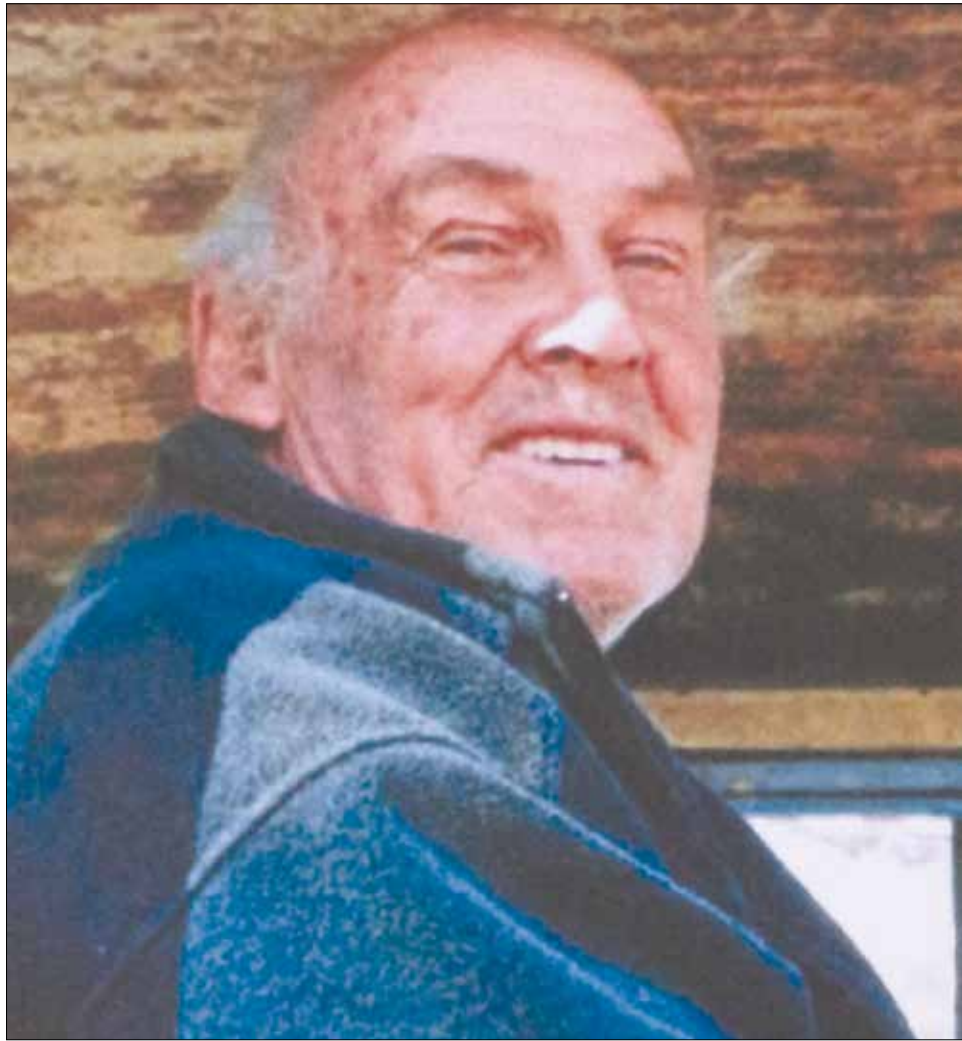
During the few years that Bruce drove for Bells he saw a lot of the state. In Learmonth, "where the sun rises on the left-hand side", he drove water trucks during the construction phase of the RAAF air base.

In Perth he was engaged to deliver materials and blue-metal for several Perth drive-in movie theatres and was dispatched to Cardup for white clay and back up Red Hill for gravel.

Bruce returned to Toodyay in 1960 and briefly worked for his father before striking out on his own the following year.

His first truck was a five-tonne 1949 Morris Commercial and it was bright red. "It was as red as the colour of my Mum's face when I was born," laughs Bruce.

Bruce carted wool, grain, super and other freight but he also did a bit of moonlighting



The late Bruce Cleasby in his familiar blue Leyland truck.

as a 'wool smuggler'.

It was law in the early 1960s that all freight outside of a radius of 40 miles (64.3km) from Perth's GPO had to be transported by rail and the local cut-off point was Blinkbonny Cottage on Toodyay Road. (In the case of fertiliser, the radius was 40 miles from the point of origin to the railway siding.)

Private woolbuyers in those days were keen to avoid the rail costs and Bruce would oblige by stacking illegal-range bales under legal bales for the trip to the Fremantle woolstores.

On one occasion he got wind that the freight inspectors were lying in wait for him at Bailup Road in Gidgegannup.

"So I took off down the bush tracks to hibernate," he said.

Two light planes were dispatched to try to flush him out but to no avail. The bush telegraph was on Bruce's side and local saw-millers warned him that inspectors were also waiting for him on the Julimar Road exit route.

After two days of 'hibernating' in the

forest, Bruce had enough and made a run for it late at night.

In the mid-'60s the woolstores had their own in-house code-of-practice and it was commonplace for drivers to get the inside running on freight inspector movements and be told where they could park safely to avoid detection.

Bruce rolled into Fremantle in the early hours and even after his two-day 'hibernation' he was ready for a good kip.

The woolstores were up and running when

Bruce woke and the freight inspector was knocking on his door with a \$250 fine. That was big money in those days.

To say that Bruce is at home in his truck would be somewhat of an understatement. In the late '70s and early '80s he estimated that he had only spent nine days at home.

During his 62-year trucking career he has clocked-up 50 years almost consecutively (with one year off) and the three 'holidays' during this time have been for three hernia operations.

When Toodyay farmer Tyrone Murray set out to get Bruce included in National Road Transport Hall of Fame in Alice Springs, Bruce thought that Barry Bywaters from Goomalling would be a worthier recipient and wasn't keen on being nominated.

As a fourth-generation farmer Tyrone recognised the enormous service that Bruce continues to provide to the farming community and successfully nominated Bruce for the truckers' Hall of Fame in 2013. Barry was inducted a year later and both their stories can be accessed on www.roadtransporthall.com.

In 1995 Bruce and his brother Des also received a WA Farmers Federation certificate of appreciation for their family's contribution to primary production.

Toodyay is now a very different kettle of fish for Bruce. "It's like a metropolitan suburb," he said, "and I don't recognise too many people on the main street these days."

Yet, as we chatted away, his Duke Street community seemed like a slice of old Toodyay with old-fashioned neighbourhood values and friendships.

As the sun started to set on the tailgate of Bruce's ute, it was time to go. He still had to ready his truck for the next day's job and I was left to consider how this man's life had benefitted others far more than himself.

So, to the million-dollar question about Bruce Cleasby. Why has he painted both his truck and house blue?

"Mum said that I was the biggest blue that she ever made in her whole life," he said.

To that, Toodyay farmers and townies would have to respond: "If only Mrs Cleasby had made more blues, then at least we'd have spares for Bruce."

Toodyay court cases adjourned

Sean Hefferon

THE COURT case alleging a breach of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act by Tony Maddox was to have been completed last month.

The Herald understands that the case was adjourned to June 24 when a decision on

closing submissions is expected to be given in the Perth Magistrates Court.

Similar alleged breaches of the Act by the Shire of Toodyay and two contractors it engaged were also due to be heard at the Northam Magistrates Court last month.

These were adjourned to June 17 and relate to shire works on local water crossings.

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The Toodyay Herald

Above inflation rate increase

IT'S THAT time of the year when local governments seek public feedback concerning planned rate charges.

The Shire of Toodyay is proposing an above inflation rate increase of 5 percent for 2024 – 2025.

This planned increase is an average, so some local ratepayers will be hit with a higher figure, some with a lower figure.

For many Toodyay locals any rate increase may be like the proverbial piece of straw being placed on the camel's back.

A burden that may push some over the edge, as many residents will be on fixed incomes having retired to Toodyay in their autumn years.

Yet local government, including ours, has a conundrum as many ratepayers do want it to go beyond collecting rubbish, fixing roads and keeping rates down.

Often even that trifecta can be out of reach for a local authority particularly when rate revenue is limited and competition for grants is high.

The wheels of government however require money, your money, to keep turning and community expectations keep growing for people-focused services, such as recreation centres.

It is largely these expectations that have seen councils focus on more than the "three Rs" of roads, rates and rubbish.

In the process occasionally suffering the news headline, in another newspaper at least, "Stick to collecting rubbish – not spreading it."

A harsh indictment perhaps, yet one with which many in the Avon Valley may agree.

Still perhaps we should be grateful, as back in 2014 Toodyay locals faced a 9 percent increase, triple the inflation rate at the time.

The planned rate increase for the year ahead is higher than some councils and lower than others.

Victoria Park council has put an 8 percent increase on the table, a meal that will be hard to digest at a time when cost of living is the highest in years.

This isn't to say that the Toodyay rates will be anymore palatable, as like any community we are not immune from price hikes as the weekly shopping bill will confirm.

Rain dance worked

IT WAS great to see some decent rainfall throughout the Toodyay area.

The rain will have been good for local farmers with many just finishing seeding.

Great for local gardens as well, not to mention wildlife and bushland.

Let's hope that more rain is on the way.
*Sean Hefferon
Editor*

Wheatbelt Clinical Psychology

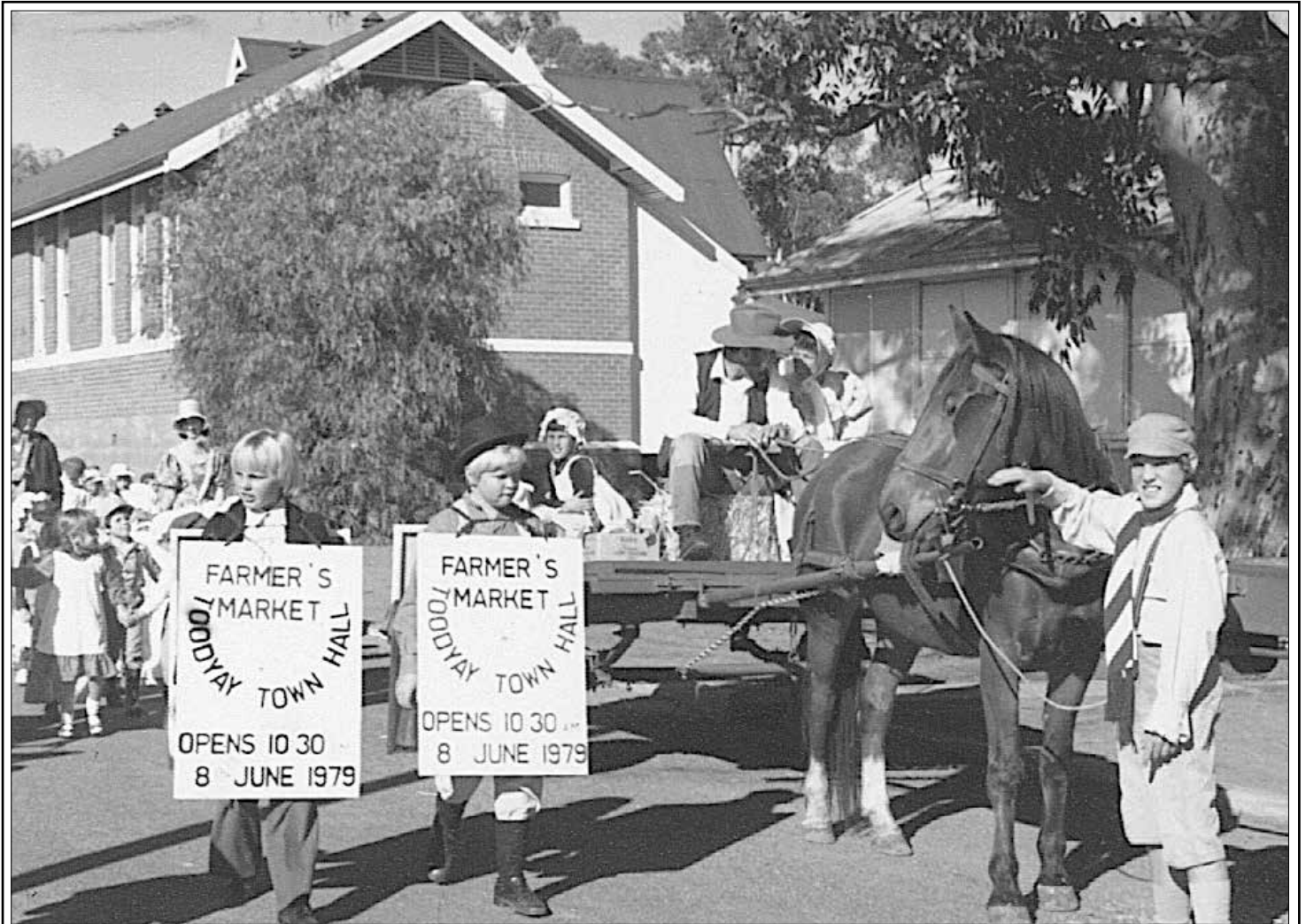
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A 'Back to Toodyay' week was held in June 1979 as Toodyay's contribution to the State's 150th anniversary year. It included celebrations for what we now call WA Day. A 'Back to Toodyay Schools' day (picture above) included a historical pageant and school historical displays. Photo: Newcastle Goal Museum.

LETTERS

Stop the abuse

FOR THE last month the news has been awash with outcry over Australia's domestic abuse epidemic.

Women have been targeted by the one who is supposed to love and protect them since the beginning of time.

What feels different now is that women who have suffered an oppressive marriage are finally standing up and walking away.

Lines are being drawn and many men cannot handle the pressure.

Toodyay is no different from any other rural community where mental health and domestic violence issues take up much police time.

Is it fair that police must attend to such matters?

They have become more like social workers, but who else is up for the task?

I believe peaceful and thoughtful leadership in the family should be determined by the man of the house in a traditional family setting.

Of course, there are many other successful variations to this model.

Unfortunately, the man of the house too often creates a model of control and abuse to be unknowingly replicated by the children in their intimate relationships.

And on goes the cycle so for God's sake men, seek help.

You don't have to be right all the time and can admit you may have made a mistake and reach out.

You can say you are struggling and need help.

Please, I beg of you to look for alternatives other than blaming it all on the woman that has stood by your side through thick and thin and that loves you regardless.

And women, please be kind to your men who are being vulnerable and open with you.

It is not an easy task to open yourself up to ridicule when you are used to being in control.

From a strong, thoughtful, and intelligent abused woman.

Name withheld

Wonderful people all round

A VERY big thank you to all the emergency crews, volunteers and professionals along with a local family who attended Kalib's accident on Friday night May 17.

We cannot speak highly enough of the efficiency, care and empathy demonstrated.

Thank you so much Constable Jim for watching out for and distracting Kalib's

sisters during a very frightening and stressful time.

Constable Jim and Senior Constable Jodie are an asset to the Toodyay Community: thank you.

The paramedics and local ambos Kim and Graeme – efficient and caring, Fire and Rescue – wonderful, thank you.

Amanda and Adam Stokoe and Galaxy, how do we thank you for being so very quick getting to Kalib's aid, contacting his Mum, comforting him and us and being helpful where needed: thank you.

Wonderful people all round – thank you to everyone.

*Christy Munro, Kalib and family
Morangup*

Hands off our heritage

TOODYAY'S graceful Freemasons Hotel in the heart of our historic town's heritage precinct was first licensed in 1861 as the 'Newcastle Hotel' before switching soon after to the 'Freemasons Hotel', by which name it has been known for at least the past 120 years.

This beautiful Federal-style building with its classic arches, imposing two-storey verandah and the ornately decorative parapet is classified by the National Trust and listed on both the Register of the National Estate and the Australian Heritage Database as 'the Freemasons Hotel'.

Generations of thirsty Toodyay patrons and visitors have enjoyed cold drinks, hot meals and at times boisterous entertainment in our beloved Freemasons Hotel and its airy outdoor beer garden.

Many brave Toodyay men and women who fought in two world wars – some never to return – would have perhaps downed their last farewell beers at 'the Freemasons' before departing to distant battlefields.

But now, new Perth owners have taken over and – apparently without consulting anyone – have renamed our town's most prominent historic landmark as merely the 'Toodyay Hotel'.

Shame on you.

The West Leederville company's new corporate public relations spiel describes our town's cherished watering hole online as a 'lovingly preserved monument to the past' with a 'rich tapestry of stories dating back to the early days of Australian settlement'.

Really?

If that is the case, then please put your money where your mouth is and return our beautiful hotel to its proper, historic name.

The last thing we need is flash-in-the-pan newcomers from out of town trampling

uninvited all over our precious heritage.

Scrap the trendy new corporate T-shirts and let those who work behind the bar and in the kitchen wear the name of our town's true history with pride.

*Michael Sinclair-Jones
Nunile*

Shire falls down

LAST month Allan Henshaw's letter to the editor resonated with me.

Our new council – open, transparent, accountable and a "Change of Culture"?

He referred to not hearing about the outcome of his application for the role of independent community member on the CEO Recruitment and Selection Committee.

Last year I joined the Audit and Risk Committee and attended an induction and two meetings.

All committee positions then became vacant after the 2023 council election and new expressions of interest had to be submitted for committees.

I reapplied, two months passed, and I heard nothing.

Eventually, I read the minutes of the preceding Council meetings and realised I was not accepted back onto the committee.

Another female, who is an accountant got the position – I am comfortable with that.

The lack of communication with applicants who have not been successful is where this council and shire fall down.

Councils often call for community members to join committees.

With this lack of process, I doubt I'll be putting my hand up again.

*Stephanie Clarke
Bolgart*

Toodyay is great

I WOULD like to thank all the people who came to my assistance when I fell outside the IGA.

It shows what a great town we live in.

*Ann Sinclair
Toodyay*

Continued on Page 6.

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

Will mining leave worst kind of legacy for Toodyay?

Doug Blandford
Environmental Earth Scientist

Part two – continues from May edition

This then raises some very basic questions regarding the attitude of the State Government towards the Julimar State Forest.

The effective management of resident fauna populations as well as wet and dryland vegetation zones should protect the complex biodiversity, both above and below ground level.

There appears to be a burning program occurring, but has the basis for such a program been made public?

Has it been assessed in conjunction with stakeholders?

When a helicopter flies over an area dropping incendiaries, there is no control over what species, plant or animal, dies.

If this is the case, it suggests a breathtaking level of incompetence in our environmental protection agencies.

I very much doubt that this is the case, so perhaps this is all part of a more sinister plan, one aimed at degrading the forest to the point where any future mining operations will get virtually automatic approval.

In addition to the potential for acid mine drainage, mineral fibres such as asbestos may also be present in parts of the Gonnevillie ore body.

If confirmed, this raises issues for both air and water pollution, as the management of mineral fibres, in a mining context, requires engineering design and environmental management protocols be of the highest order.

Fugitive dust has the potential to transport asbestos fibres beyond the boundaries of the mine site as airborne particulates.

Problem ores are those materials that contain asbestiform fibrous hydrated silicates, and several of these can occur naturally in ore bodies such as Gonnevillie.

The issue of particulate airborne contaminants passing beyond the lease boundary, and thus becoming a pollution episode, is made more complex as a potential mine at Gonnevillie lies only 15km from the

Darling Scarp and approximately 58km due east from the coastline.

Average wind data for Toodyay from the past five years indicates that winds from the northeast around to the southeast will be dominant at 34 per cent of total wind.

The theoretical spread for such winds has an area of approximately 2500sq/km and extends from about Scarborough to north of Lancelin.

It was stated in a recent Chalice Mining presentation at the “Futures Facing Commodities Conference” (March 2024) that the exploration project is centred on a >30km long geological belt referred to as the Julimar Complex.

The presentation also went on to say that “Gonnevillie is positioned to become a strategic asset for Australia.....” and further, “The Australian Government has committed A\$6 billion to accelerate strategically significant projects and strengthen internal critical mineral security and supply chains”.

The potential presence of mineral fibres, including asbestos, the potential for acid mine drainage in the long term, together with a climate change-induced diminishing regional rainfall, hence a reduction of water supply locally, raises major issues for environmental management and ecosystem management specifically, particularly in and around the Julimar State Forest.

What this means is that environmental management protocols must raise the benchmark and set a new standard for excellence for the Gonnevillie project.

Accordingly, environmental impact assessment should attract the most robust and rigorous investigations to define and scientifically demonstrate that the risk level associated with project operations and mine closure is fully understood by the government, the proponent, stakeholders, and local and regional communities.

Only then should project documents be put forward for public review to ensure that mining at Gonnevillie does not create the worst kind of environmental legacy.



Underside of Slaughterhouse Bridge showing the temporary props and metal straps around the weathered timber pylons.

Shire says bridge must be replaced

Continued from Page 1.

This change to funding arrangements had been foreshadowed by Main Roads in recent correspondence to the shire.

Given an estimated bridge replacement cost of between six and eight million dollars, these new arrangements will require the shire to fund between 1.2 to 1.6 million dollars of the costs.

Funding capacity is limited and the May council minutes state: “The Shire of Toodyay will not have the capacity to fund 20 per cent of the bridge reconstruction cost and hence will need to seek funding from other sources” and further, “the financial risk to the shire is significant as the bridge must be replaced”.

To put the above costs into perspective, the local government’s 2023/24 budget shows a rate revenue of 7.6 million dollars and a total budget of 10.25 million dollars.

Due to the change in funding requirements, the Toodyay Council voted to defer a decision on the replacement of Slaughterhouse Bridge pending further clarification regarding funding options.

It is unclear when the matter will be brought back to the council for consideration and in the interim Toodyay locals will be left with a bridge that “must be replaced” – at some point.

According to Tabitha Bateman, Acting CEO for the Shire of Toodyay, the replacement of Slaughterhouse Bridge is more than 12 months away.



Chalice Mining’s worksite at Keating Road, Julimar, where the Gonnevillie Project is planned to be a critical minerals mine approximately 70km north-east of Perth.

Fibrous materials are “routinely managed”

Sean Hefferon

A SPOKESPERSON from Chalice Mining said that fibrous materials are a common feature of many mining operations in WA and are routinely managed.

“Initial testing has detected the presence of fibrous materials at Gonnevillie which appear to be in line with a typical WA nickel mining operation, however, more testing is required to fully assess the type and amount of material across the resource,” he said.

As part of Government regulatory processes, Chalice will undertake “assessments, including health risk assessments and dust modelling, and implement appropriate management plans and controls to manage the risk of airborne hazards”.

Chalice says it has yet to determine whether the mine will be open cut or underground.

On April 22 the Environmental Protection Authority announced it would assess the Gonnevillie Project at Public Environmental Review level.

The decision said the planned mine may have potential significant effects including on “air quality from emissions during construction and operation, greenhouse gas emissions, flora and fauna from land clearing and ongoing operations, soil quality from disturbance of soil structure, acid sulfate soils; inland waters from changes to hydrological processes”.

The mine also has the potential to disturb Aboriginal cultural heritage places and values, as well as affecting amenity and recreational use.

Chalice says the assessment and approvals process are estimated to take around three years.

The Gonnevillie Project is 100 per cent owned by Chalice which says it is the largest palladium - nickel - copper development in the Western World.

Chalice said on April 23 it would work towards a selective mining campaign at Gonnevillie to reduce risk as mined material is stockpiled for future processing.



Slaughterhouse Bridge showing some of the traffic control measures currently in place.

'Significant facial injuries' in domestic violence charge

Police Beat

With Sgt
Jamie Boryczewski
Toodyay Police Station



A LOCAL man has been arrested and charged with aggravated grievous bodily harm following Toodyay police attending a domestic violence complaint.

This charge follows an investigation where the victim disclosed a number of offences including significant facial injuries.

The matter is to be heard at the Northam Magistrates Court on July 17.

Family domestic violence is not tolerated and should be reported to local police when it arises.

Life choices and leadership are the focus of a positive behaviour workshop to be run in early June in a partnership between the local police team and the Toodyay District High School.

The workshop is aimed at Year 10 students and is part of an ongoing community police approach.

The team is looking forward to presenting to the students and having meaningful discussions around leadership and choices.

This is to be followed by Toodyay police participation in Sock Week which runs from June 24 to June 30.

Save Our Country Kids

SOCK stands for "Save Our Country Kids" and has an important focus on road safety and is timely given recent traffic accidents involving young people.

SOCK week is being coordinated locally by the Community Resource Centre.

The police team plans to have tables and a gazebo out the front of the station where locals can drop-by for a chat and "Coffee with a Cop".

A police car will be parked up as well so we will go through basic vehicle safety checks as well as practical demonstrations including changing a tyre.

With wet weather upon us, now is the time to make sure that your motor vehicle is fit for conditions, including having effective wiper blades.

From a traffic perspective there has been a higher than usual number of native animals crossing the roads so please be mindful and watch out for them.

Crimewise there have been a few burglaries reported and it seems in some instances houses have been left unlocked and sheds left open.

Prevention is a key means in minimising



Senior Constable Mark Chamings.

theft, which means a personal focus on home and building security.

If you see anything that seems suspicious contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

New cops on the beat

LAST, but not least we would like to introduce two new officers recently posted to the Toodyay Police station.

Senior Constable Mark Chamings has been a police officer for 36 years with some 20-25 years country experience.

He comes to Toodyay after a 2-year period in Wyndham.

First Class Constable Justin Foster started with the Toodyay team last week after a 3 year posting in Narrogin and has been a police officer for 6 years.



First Class Constable Justin Foster.

Outrageous outfit prize

Safer Toodyay
Desrae Clarke

SOCK Week is from June 24 to June 30. SOCK stands for 'Save Our Country Kids' with an emphasis on Road Safety.

It is a week-long campaign of education on road safety and the impact poor decision-making can have within a small community.

There will be posters around the Shire and it is hoped local businesses will be involved to make it a successful week.

There will be a driving safety course for young people and a \$50 prize for the most outrageous outfit, so watch for the posters with the details.

The WA community is asked to report to Crime Stoppers any unlawful dumping.

Crime Stoppers WA – 1800 333 000.
Toodyay Police – 9574 9555 or 131 444.
Goodbye Graffiti – 1800 44 22 55.

Scammers are cunning

Computer Safety
Phil Hart

SCAMMERS try all sorts of tricks to get their hands on your superannuation.

Moneysmart has the details of one such scam at bit.ly/3WAnzDq.

Scammers also set up fake websites claiming to be superannuation fund managers (bit.ly/3R3EV8r).

Many scammers will offer early access to your superannuation money.

If somebody calls themselves a financial adviser, check the list of registered financial advisers at bit.ly/4dBbAQ.

If you want to transfer superannuation from an overseas account, using a search engine to look for a suitable fund, the search results could include scammers' websites.

When you have found a superannuation fund that you think deserves a second look, there is the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) with their guidance notes and links on registered superannuation funds at bit.ly/44HUVcN.

If you use a search engine to find a particular superannuation fund, double check the address bar in your web browser to confirm you have found the fund you are looking for, and not some scammer's look-alike website.
GESB.com.au is not the same as GE5B.com.au.



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LETTERS

Continued from Page 4

Folewood Road deathtrap

FOLEWOOD Road, along the uphill side, for at least one kilometre and opposite and along house number 96 is a deathtrap.

Walking, one has to step into a deep bouldered gully and with oncoming traffic, a lot of drivers think they are on the autobahn.

One is told to face the traffic when walking on a road, however on this road you have to slide and skid into the gully.

This is even more dangerous when wet and may lead to losing a foothold resulting in breaking limbs or more.

We have urged the Toodyay Shire for two years to repair this condition and we are not the only ones who criticise this situation.

The answers always were that these are not pedestrian walkways.

Right, because they are death traps, part of the Shire area, therefore is legally to be maintained as a safe pedestrian walkway for people living there and using this road.

After again writing to the Shire last month, we were told that Rosedale Road and its cul-de-sac are in fine condition.

That road has never been questioned, and the only issue is Folewood Road.

Correcting the Shire's diversion tactic, we were told "it has been mistakenly presumed that the (Folewood) road shoulder is a designated walk path, which it is not and therefore is not maintained as such".

That is exactly the case, Toodyay Shire: it has not been maintained and that is the reason we asked the Shire to fix it.

A safe path is needed as the current situation is an accident waiting to happen.

We sent a map of that part of Folewood

Road to the Shire and as an answer, whoa – we received a larger map of the same area.

Frustrated, we sent the entire correspondence to every Shire councillor.

There were two answers, one kind of acceptable, the other missing the issue, and then silence since May 14.

Apart from these responses, even by the end of May, the Shire offices decided to maintain total silence on this issue.

Yet silence does not create a safe walkway: action is needed.

*Monika Zechetmayr and Peter Edwards
Toodyay*

Pool needs heating

WHAT a wonderful asset to the town of Toodyay the swimming pool is.

The facilities are top notch and are in a beautiful hilly setting.

The only thing missing is pool heating and so it can't operate at full potential.

I'm sure I'm not the only one who would love to use the pool all year around and would benefit health-wise from it.

Like many locals, I'm in that age bracket when water exercise is best for my body.

I'd love to hear if others feel the same.

*Kerry McNeill
Toodyay*

A thank you

I'D LIKE to give a big thanks to the people who put in the footpaths on Jubilee Street.

They made certain that the large step at my lady's place was not a problem.

They went back when they spread the gravel and made sure we had access for her little Mazda. Much appreciated people.

*Mal Johnson
Toodyay*



EMERGENCY SERVICES

Local MP Darren West visited the St John Toodyay team last month to express his appreciation for the community service they provide.

Ambos training to rescue in confined spaces

St John Toodyay Sub Centre
Monika Williams

LAST month during National Volunteer Week, local ambulance and fire and rescue volunteers joined forces in a training exercise about rescuing people from confined spaces.

This simulated training exercise shows the spirit of camaraderie and mutual support that defines emergency services.

A collaborative approach maximises efficiency in these situations and enhances the quality of emergency responses.

By pooling resources and skills, ambulance and fire and rescue crews provide comprehensive assistance to individuals in an emergency.

In addition to frontline duties, these volunteers have ongoing training to improve their capabilities and preparedness.

Their commitment to excellence and unwavering dedication to serving their

community serve as a shining example of selflessness and sacrifice.

Local State MP Darren West visited our



Rescuing from a confined space.

subcentre recently and expressed his gratitude for this community service.

His visit was warmly received by our ambulance volunteers, community transport service volunteers, volunteer support officers, clinical paramedics and our St John administration officer.

Darren said, "I had the pleasure of meeting with some of the incredible team members at St John Toodyay."

"What an amazing group of men and women who selflessly serve the community as volunteer ambulance officers."

"Some of the members have been volunteering with St John Toodyay for more than 20 years. "We thank you for your service."

Last month our amazing ambulance officers completed 31 jobs, travelling 1772kms and our CTS drivers transported 17 passengers to their medical appointments in Perth Metro, Midland and Northam.

It doesn't take much for burn-off to get out of control

Coondle-Nunile Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Chris McDonald

DESPITE now being in the unrestricted burning season crews have turned out to several escaped burns over the last couple of weeks, with the dry conditions causing issues for landowners.

We are all still waiting for some decent rain to fall so please be careful when conducting your burns.

As most of you would know it doesn't take much for a burn-off to get out of control.

If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to call 000.

Members attended with other crews from the Central brigade for a controlled burn at the Toodyay Racecourse on the weekend of May 18.

New members are always welcome and it only takes a couple of weekends to do the basic training for you to become a trained bushfire fighter.

If you wish to increase your skills after this, there are lots of different courses.

We do monthly refresher training as well.

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

Check out <https://dfes.vol.org.au/> for more information.

Also, see the Toodyay Shire fire information page to help you get ready for the bush fire season <https://www.toodyay.wa.gov.au/resident-services/fire-information>.



Hosing down the remnants of a fire at Dumbarton.

Winter training and maintenance essential for summer preparedness

Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Peter Brennan

THE TOODYAY Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade held its Annual General Meeting on the evening of May 14.

There was a good turnout of members for the election of the Committee and Brigade positions.

Several awards were also presented on the night but more of that later.

Also present for the meeting were Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Craig Stewart and Toodyay Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM), Rob Koch.

Craig Stewart took the chair to oversee the election of office bearers for the new year.

John Morrissey was once again elected to the Chairman position, with Judy Morrissey as Secretary and Bronwyn King as Treasurer.

Will Hort was elected Captain of the Brigade following the end of Peter Brennan's three-year tenure at the helm, with Mick McKeown, Brian Clarkson, Kevin Sullivan and Ebony Francis elected Lieutenants.

Further appointments included Ebony Francis as Training Officer, Brad Gardner as Maintenance Officer with assistance from Kevin Sullivan and John Morrissey agreed to continue with rations.

Heather Brennan will continue with both Social Secretary and Social Media roles and will assist Peter with publicity.

Finally, Peter Brennan was nominated to take on a Fire Control Officer role.

Following all the formalities, Max Howard

was presented with the Volunteer of the Year Award.

Our congratulations go to Max who has been a steadfast member since joining over 10 years ago.

Well done Max.

The leadership team also acknowledged the outstanding efforts of Brad Gardner, Lorraine Hort and Steve Weston with Certificates of Appreciation.

As a final duty, Peter Brennan was honoured to advise the award of a life membership to Mick McKeown for 18 years' of outstanding service, of which eight were served as Captain.

He also thanked Mick for being a great mentor to members of the team over the years.

This year we have farewelled Tim Blanc and Nicole Coleman from the brigade and we wish them well for the future.

Conversely, during the season, we welcomed into our ranks Clive Millett (drone pilot), Dave White, Dianne Harper, Lance Stringer, Matt Sofoulis, Michael Black, Dave Minchinton and Steve Warner.

As we end the season, I can report that we are in a good position with 32 active Fire Fighters and another four in the throes of training.

Our new members are not only volunteering their valuable time to our terrific team at Toodyay Central, but they also become part of a much broader and highly dedicated community of firefighters across the six brigades in the Toodyay Shire.

During the winter period, we look for a quieter period so we can catch up on things around the station and on the vehicles as well as training courses that will enhance both knowledge and skills in bush firefighting.

So please if you are planning to burn around your property, do so responsibly.

Members are reminded that the next monthly general meeting will be on Tuesday August 13 at 7pm at the station.

A truck wash and detail, along with a station clean-up and BBQ are planned for Sunday morning June 23, commencing at 9.30am, so please set that date and time aside.



Chief Bush Fire Control Officer Craig Stewart with Volunteer of the Year Max Howard.



Upcoming first aid courses

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

Price: \$170.00
When: Thursday 9 May - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Saturday 15 June - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Thursday 15 August - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Saturday 26 October - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Saturday 30 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



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St John Ambulance (Western Australia) Ltd. RTO Code: 0392

Fancy a long run through the Avon Valley?

Sean Hefferon

THE TOODYAY area attracts a range of events throughout the year.

There is the Moodyne Festival, Avon Descent and the Toodyay Agricultural Show for starters.

Not to forget the Toodyay Cup soon to return to its origins in September this year.

If, however, you fancy something a bit more active, a run through the Avon Valley as part of the Transcend Ultra 2024 may be what you are after.

The Transcend kicks off on June 22 and taps into the thriving sport of trail running, which has seen massive growth of 2400 per cent in the last 20 years.

The event also serves to introduce people to the natural environment the Toodyay area is known for.

Race Director Shane Johnstone said that 556 people are signed up for this year's event and that this may go over 600.

The signature race is the 65km Ultra that

starts from Whadjuk country in Walyunga National Park, over Mt Mambup, down into Bells Rapids and up Bells Falls, continuing through Paruna Wildlife Sanctuary and the Avon National Park and finishing in Ballardong country at Cobbler Pool near Toodyay.

An ultra is defined as any run longer than a standard marathon (26.2 miles).

Other course options include a 40km event, a 6km course and a one kilometre kid's dash through a local alpaca farm.

All races finish at Cobbler Pool which will have a festival feel with 18 stalls as part of the HikeWest Expo, food vans, live music, quality beverages and local animal care group, Marsupial Mammals and Pappas.

The Transcend is in its fourth year and growing in popularity.

This is the first time the event is to be held on a Saturday, in a deliberate move to increase participation and bring additional benefits to Toodyay.



A competitor tackles the Transcend Ultra in 2023. Photo: JASP Photography.



Taylor on the move during last month's Women's State Game at Perth's Optus Stadium.

Taylor hits the footy big time

TALENTED football player Taylor Ferguson hit another milestone in her promising WAFL Women's career when she was selected to play for Western Australia last month.

Now in its sixth season, Western Australia met South Australia at the Optus Stadium on Saturday May 4 when our Women's State Team took on the SANFL Women in a landmark Women's State Game.

In what was a historic first State Game, the SANFL took out the honours by 16 points in a tightly contested game that will become an annual event.

Taylor is the daughter of Liz and Stephen Ferguson and was reared on footy, watching her dad play each week for the Toodyay Lions FC and her brothers Sammy and Thomas play throughout their juniors' competitions.

Motivated by the male members of the family, Taylor developed a passion for the game which resulted in her playing for her high school starting in Year 11.

At school she also excelled in netball,

tennis, long distance running and swimming.

After playing for Swan Districts from 2015-2020, Taylor took time off to travel with her partner Pete and on her return, she joined West Perth Football Club where in 2023 she won 'Fairest and Best'.

It was a calling that came with a lot of hard work and many sacrifices but Taylor says she would not have changed a thing.

When asked what advice she would give to young girls wanting to play football she said, "Don't listen to anyone that says you can't play football, you can".

Taylor mentioned that the women's game is growing with night games and is being streamed free online.

County Football WA has also put a call out for women footballers in the Wheatbelt to play in this month's exhibition match in Northam, she said.

Taylor remains at West Perth, with the 2024 season looking promising for the club which was second on last month's leaderboard.

Toodyay apprentice vies for national baking awards

Sean Hefferon

TOODYAY Bakery is well known for its famous jalapeno pie and a huge range of other tasty treats.

The local artisan bakery also has a reputation as a place of training excellence.

Jonathan Yates, the third-year apprentice, was the latest team member to receive an award when he won the Baking Excellence Awards WA for bread.

This puts him in the running for a national award when he goes up against other state winners at the National Excellence in Baking Awards.

The awards are to be judged at the Baking Industry Trade Show held in Melbourne on June 18-20.

The event is hosted at the Moonee Valley Racecourse and will see a who's who of Australia's baking industry in attendance.

Jason Marion, Jono's boss at the Toodyay Bakery, said, "Jono is a country boy and local.

"With the award he'll have a great opportunity to network when he is in Melbourne for the national awards".

There's a pretty good recipe at the Toodyay Bakery when it comes to training recognition – and that jalapeno pie.



Jono prepping what will soon be delicious sourdough bread.

National Volunteer Week
20-26 MAY 2024
Something for Everyone

Thank you

Toodyay Sub Centre Volunteers 2024

Mark Austin, Wendy Austin, Jayne Beresford, Elizabeth Boston, Anne Bouveng, Sharon Boxall, Kerrie-Ann Carter, Sandra Cousins, Nuala Ennis, Beth Findlay, Dave Flaherty, Robert Gavlik, Nathan Gill, Robert Guthrie, Timothy Hale, Glyn Harrington, Paul Harrington, Ross Harvey, Maxwell Heath, Kyle Higgins, Machaela Higgins, Michelle Higgins, Graham Hill, Lawrence James, Daphne Lee, Sara Loader, Sigrid Matthews, Heather McDonald-Appleby, Isabel McHutchinson, Candice Minchinton, Michael Morgan, John Morrissey, Corri Murcott, George Murray, Nicole Newman, Robert Pearce, Susan Pearce, Loretta Rima, Adam Scott, Rod Sheridan, Sandra Smith, Lynette Somers, Lee-Anne Street, Pamela Tennant, Deborah Tunncliffe, Tessa Vincent, Christine Wacura, Brian Warrener, Derek West, Maxwell Wilkinson, Monika Williams and Ronald Witt.

To our current and past serving regional St John WA Volunteers,
 as well as their friends, families and employers who support them,
 we just wanted to say.....

Thank you for the strength you give to the communities across WA.
 Thank you for your resilient, courageous actions.
 Thank you for always helping those in need.
 Thank you for the vital role you play in building a stronger WA.

St John

Wheatbelt Regional Office Team

St John volunteers are living legends
 are we're looking for more. Join Us.

12,000 people attend fabulous 40th Moondyne Festival

Moondyne Festival
Jean Melhuish-Hill

WE ARE not sure we could have asked for a better day to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Toodyay's highly popular Moondyne Festival.

It's estimated that over 12,000 people attended on the day.

It was a very big crowd, and apart from many locals enjoying the day, we had people come from the surrounding Wheatbelt as well as many travelling from Perth, Rockingham, Mandurah and other towns.

The large crowd arrived by train, car and bus to enjoy the festival and what Toodyay has to offer.

Family and friends of Toodyay residents came up for the weekend and the Silver Possum Caravan Club and many other tour groups made Toodyay their destination for the event.

We were also reported on the international news in Germany, Romania and Scotland.

There was a variety of entertainment from Duidgee Park through to Newcastle Park as well as stalls, sideshows, demonstrations and our Walk Trail Competition.

Our local traders had a very busy day as well as the various community groups throughout Toodyay.

It was great to see the shop staff dressing for the occasion as well as many of our stall holders.

When some of the newer stallholders discovered our costume loan facility, we had a last-minute rush on costumes at about 6.30 am on the day of the festival.

We also had a 30 per cent increase in costumes available this year with many having been donated by other local groups or found by volunteers in some of the most unusual places and others that were specifically made to add to our collection.

Community support is an integral part of making this event a success.

Our sponsors are another important support in providing the funding and a range of giveaways that we were able to distribute.

A new one this year was our herb and vegetable seed grow station with the seeds and soil being provided by Healthway.

It was great to see both the young and not-so-young checking out what we had, how to plant and grow and heading home to set up their seed-raising station.

Hopefully, there will be many carrot, tomato, broccoli, kale, or basil plants raising their heads in the not-too-distant future.

We would like to thank our sponsors,



The judge being pampered by floozies.

Tourism WA, Healthway, the Bendigo Bank Toodyay and Northam, TRE Real Estate, the State Government, Toodyay Op-Shop, Makit Hardware and Chalice who provided the funding for the event.

The other very important people are the organizing committee and the volunteers who help in the lead-up to and on the day of the event.

Whilst the committee works diligently

throughout the year ensuring we have a variety of entertainers, stalls and facilities, it is the week prior that residents start to see things coming together.

We have several regular participating volunteers in Toodyay Locals Care, Moondyne Men and Toodyay SES.

We also have several not only residents but Perth-based volunteers.

One of our newest volunteers who came up the hill to give us a hand was surprised by the amount of organization that was required to meet, greet and assist the stall holders, in getting them into place in the main street before the event could start.

We hope we haven't scared him off.

One of our two competitions this year was the Walking Trail which was sponsored by Fuel to Go & Play and Healthway donating a Fit Bit for the winner.

This took you on a tour around Toodyay finding the answers to five healthy eating questions.

Congratulations to Shane Wynn, Samara McClelland and Jodi Kelt who won the prizes.

Our annual Floozie Competition was well supported and great laughs for all.

Well done ladies.

If you would like to get involved in organizing the 2025 festival or in joining our volunteer team, please email moodynecommittee@gmail.com.



Notorious Toodyay bushranger Moondyne Joe back again in court to face charges for brazen theft.



Troopers finally catch Joe.



Stirling Terrace crowd on festival day.



Jugglers thrill the crowd.

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Extra good vibe added with feast night fires

Bejoording Community Group
Allana Armstead

THE COMMUNITY Group has had a good couple of months.

In April there was a good turnout for the Annual General Meeting with the Community Group looking ready to continue into the next year and the office bearers were all returned.

The meeting was followed by a feast of pizza and garlic bread which went down a treat.

Our regular Wednesday night catch-ups at the shed have also been well attended.

Everyone is enjoying these weekly get-togethers, with a lot of chatter and laughter filling the air.

Even the dogs have been adding to the general noise.

With no power due to upgrades in the area, we missed out on holding our May feast, but our members still had a great night.

With the weather getting a bit cooler in the evenings, everyone is looking forward to when we can have a fire going to keep us warm.

It does seem to add an extra good vibe to the night.

Thank you to those members who help collect and store the wood in preparation for when we can have a fire to keep us warm.

A big welcome to our new members and we do hope that you enjoy being part of a wonderful community.

Lastly, we have to say goodbye to a couple of our members who are starting an exciting new chapter in their lives.

We all wish them well and to keep in contact so we can hear about all their adventures.

So, until next month, enjoy every day.

Reconciliation needed more than ever



Helen Shanks

NATIONAL Reconciliation Week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories.

It's an opportunity to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in this country.

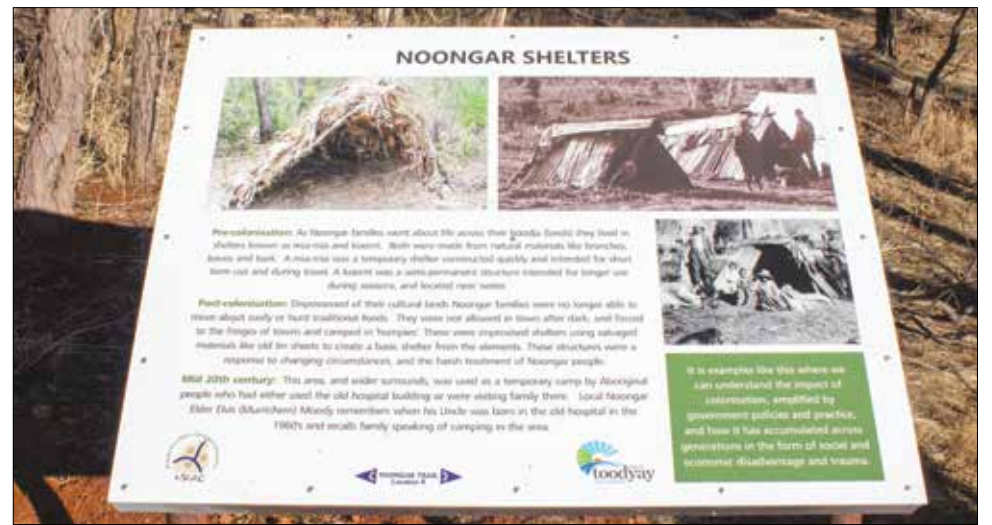
This year's theme, 'Now More Than Ever', is a reminder that no matter what, the pursuit of reconciliation must continue.

There have been many moments in Australia's reconciliation journey that make us want to turn away.

Yet, the worst thing we can do is disengage when things are divisive.

We need to tackle this unfinished business of reconciliation; now more than ever.

The journey places a significant burden on Aboriginal people who face the challenge of addressing a colonial legacy of historical injustices – that have led to intergenerational trauma while navigating a society that often overlooks the issues.



One of the signs located along Toodyay's Noongar walk trail.

Therefore, reconciliation should be a shared responsibility with non-Aboriginal people playing an active role.

We are proud to say here in Toodyay, the Shire is leading a local reconciliation process through its Reconciliation Action Plan.

The first plan was launched in 2020, with the second and current plan during reconciliation week in 2023.

This plan, a 'living' document, continues to be implemented, often in a quiet way behind the

scenes, by those committed to positive change and progress.

You can view the Reconciliation Action Plan on the Shire's website.

Now more than ever, we all have a role to play when it comes to reconciliation. Corporation Chairman Robert Miles has thanked the Shire for their 'generosity of spirit' and unwavering support for a plan that is not just words, but more of action and commitment.

They had plenty of celebrations in Bolgart

Bolgart Community News
Pam McGill

STUDENTS participated in a school Anzac ceremony on Tuesday April 23.

Student leaders did a great job of presenting the service, laying the wreath and raising the flags.

Students also represented the school at the Shire of Victoria Plains Anzac Ceremony held in Calingiri at the War Memorial on Thursday April 25.

They wore their uniforms and sang along to the "Spirit of the Anzac's" by Lee Kernaghan along with other shire community members.

Awards for Aussies of the Month went

to Lara Tregenza, Sasha Minchinton, Loic Zimmermann and Moses Reader-Arensten.

Merit certificates went to William Glennie, Jerome Matthys, Shelby Platt, Rocket O'Sullivan, Lilly Stewart, Ericka Stewart and Tyne Judson.

All students from pre-primary to Year 6 are participating in AFL coaching sessions this term thanks to a funding grant from Sporting Schools.

Year 3-6 students will have an opportunity

to show off their skills during the Eagles Cup matches being held on June 7 and 14 at the Calingiri sports ground.

The students would like to thank all the wonderful parents who support the school through the P and C.

This support includes purchasing new bikes, help raise money for our school camp as well as planning for future Edumarking playground upgrades.

Joan Martin celebrated her 90th Birthday recently in Dongara with her family and at her daughter Kerry Brandy's home.

Joan lived and farmed with late husband Les and family in Bolgart, then moved to Mandurah, and is now in Dongara.

Joan was always a very keen bowler and active community member when she lived in Bolgart.

Congratulations Joan from everyone in the community on this wonderful milestone.

Bridget Ralph celebrated her 40th birthday recently with family and friends in a beautiful setting at Meston's Lake in Bolgart.

Lovely food, a warm fire and great atmosphere was enjoyed by everyone attending.

A beautiful cake provided by Tina Meston was cut later in the evening.

In the ladies Jubilee Foursomes golf, the winners were Joy Hamilton and Therese Chitty while the runners up were Pam Meston and Nolene Kaszanski.

In the ladies Golf WA 4BBB Challenge the winners were Joy Hamilton and Vivienne Camerer and the runners up were Jenni Knowles and Pam McGill.

Bolgart Hotel Trophy: Winner - Pam Meston, Runner up: Joy Hamilton



Bridget Ralph cutting her cake at Meston's Lake in Bolgart.

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FLUORO FRIDAY SOCK WEEK 2024

SOCK (Save Our Country Kids) Week is a road safety initiative and weeklong campaign highlighting the impact poor decision-making behind the wheel can have in small communities.

Getting involved is easy – on Friday June 28, join in on Fluoro Friday by wearing your brightest clothing and accessories (including socks, of course) to promote SOCK and remind people to drive safely.

The two people with the best and brightest outfits, will win a \$50 voucher each! Submit a photo of you in your outfit to crc@toodyay.wa.gov.au or comment on our Fluoro Friday Facebook post on the day.

Community Resource Centre
toodyay
Save Our Country Kids
ROAD SAFETY COMMISSION
An initiative by the Community Resource Centre

SHIRE OF TOODYAY NOTICE

Expression of Interest – Lease of Property s.3.58 of the Local Government Act 1995

The Shire of Toodyay is seeking Expressions of Interest for the lease of the following premise:

- Old Tennis Club premises – Part of Reserve R21797, 14 Fiennes Street, Toodyay WA 6566 (located in the Central Toodyay Heritage Area and subject to a Management Order).

Expressions of Interest are to be made in writing by email to records@toodyay.wa.gov.au or delivered to the Shire by **9.00am on Wednesday 26 June 2024**, detailing your intended use of the property.

An expression of interest is not binding on you or the Shire but will assist Council in determining the most appropriate use of the property.

Before Council can decide to lease the above property, the Shire is required to either carry out a public tender process or advertise to call for public submissions for Council consideration pursuant to the provisions of s.3.58 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

If you require further information please contact the Shire.

Tabitha Bateman
Acting CEO





The P&C Association Mother's Day stall.

Heartwarming display raises nearly \$900 for Mother's Day event

Toodyay District High School Parents and Citizens Association
Natasha Hof

IN A HEARTWARMING display of community spirit and support, the Toodyay District High School Parents and Citizens Association recently orchestrated a remarkable Mother's Day fundraiser on May 10.

The event showcased a delightful assortment of donated gifts from parents, carers, and the High School Enterprise class, alongside contributions from generous community members.

Excitement filled the air as students eagerly perused the array of offerings, selecting heartfelt gifts for their cherished mothers or mother figures.

The event served not only as a fundraising opportunity but also as a meaningful way for students to express their appreciation and love.

The efforts of the Parents & Citizens Association did not go unnoticed, with the event raising an impressive total of \$877.

Of this sum, \$170 was earmarked to support the Enterprise class, recognising their dedication to crafting their creations, including candles, coasters, and trinket boxes.

Building on the success of the Mother's Day fundraiser, the P&C convened for their quarterly meeting on 14 May.

During the meeting, plans for future fundraisers were discussed, alongside the allocation of funds to directly benefit students and enhance their educational experiences.

Among the discussions was the significant impact of previously allocated funds, which saved parents an average of \$53 for this year's literacy and numeracy program.

This tangible support underscores the P&C's commitment to alleviating financial burdens and ensuring access to quality education for all students.

Amidst these discussions, the P&C extends an invitation to the community for individuals interested in taking up the role of President.

This important position entails attending a meeting each term and serving as a prominent figure at significant school events.

The role is complemented by a dedicated team of parents and carers committed to

supporting the school community.

Reflecting on the achievements of the Mother's Day fundraiser and looking ahead to future endeavours, the P&C remains steadfast in its mission to foster a culture of generosity and camaraderie within the school community.

It is a testament to the power of collective action and the profound impact it can have on shaping the educational journey of students.

"Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much." – Helen Keller.

Moodyne done and dusted, now it's time for the Show

Toodyay Singers
Anne Millar

THAT'S another month gone, and another community event done till next year.

Congratulations to the Moodyne Committee for another enjoyable event.

The next event for the singers is the

Agricultural Show in October.

Rehearsals are underway with some new songs along with some well-known songs.

If you are new to the community and like singing and being part of community events, please join us on a Thursday evening between 5pm and 7pm at the CWA Hall on Stirling Terrace.



Toodyay Singers at the Moodyne Festival 2024.

SHIRE OF TOODYAY NOTICE

Notice of Intention to Impose Differential Rates

s.6.33 and 6.35 Local Government Act 1995

The Shire of Toodyay hereby gives notice of its intention to impose differential rates and minimum rates on all rateable gross rental valued (GRV) and unimproved-valued (UV) properties within its boundaries during the 2024/25 financial year. The differential rates are imposed on the basis of predominant land use as detailed below:

Land Use Category	Proposed Rate in \$	Proposed Minimum UV Rate
GRV Residential	0.162427	1,460.00
GRV Commercial	0.170446	1,460.00
GRV Industrial	0.142081	1,460.00
GRV Rural	0.159772	1,460.00
GRV Rural Residential	0.151295	1,460.00
UV General	0.013602	1,460.00
UV Rural	0.007657	1,460.00

The proposed rate in the dollar is mathematically calculated from the updated Landgate Valuations to arrive at a consistent 5.0% revenue increase across each Land Use Category.

The figures stated above are indicative and are subject to change due to valuation variations and as part of Council's 2024/25 Budget deliberations. All rates in the dollar are provided on this notice as information to the community.

A document describing the objects and reasons for each proposed general and minimum rate may be inspected at, or obtained from, the Shire of Toodyay Administration Office, 15 Fiennes Street, Toodyay, between the hours of 8.30am and 4.30pm or on the Shire's website at this link: <https://www.toodyay.wa.gov.au/resident-services/your-rates/statement-of-objects-and-reasons-for-differential-rating.aspx>

Further queries can be directed to the Acting Executive Manager Corporate & Community Services, Grace French on 08 9574 9303 or by email to G.french@toodyay.wa.gov.au.

Submissions regarding the proposed differential rates and minimums must be received by **3.00pm on Friday 30 June 2024**

Tabitha Bateman
Acting Chief Executive Officer



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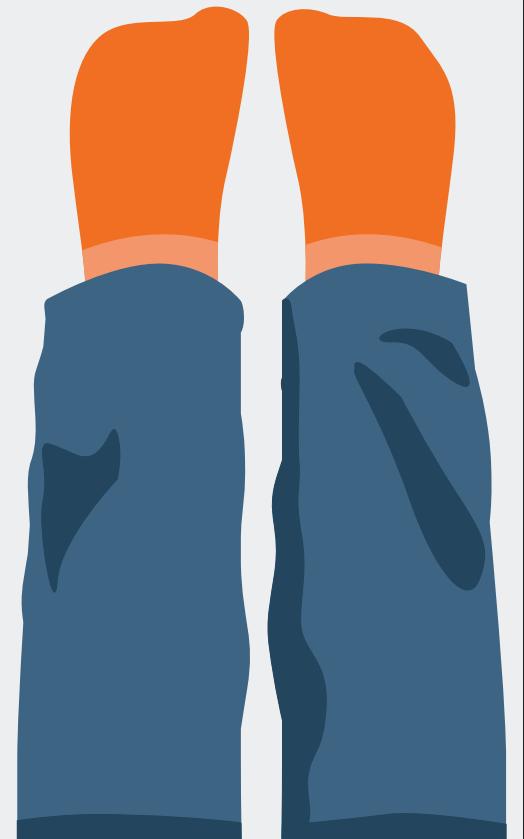
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*Source; Roy Morgan Single Source Australia, May 2023
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'Friends' theme prompts happy and hilarious singalongs

Toodyay Music Club
Jenny Edgecombe

PRESENTING songs based on the delightful theme of 'Friends' made last month's meeting a happy and hilarious occasion for members.

We warmed up with a singalong session of well-known songs *Whistling Gypsy Rover* and *Mocking-Bird Hill*.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed joining in singing these old favourites.

Brian's chosen songs for the theme included a lovely unaccompanied rendition of *My Friend the Wind*.

We knew we were in for a treat when Collette paused to 'accessorise' before one of her songs, adding a mass of glittering jewellery.

This display provided a hilarious setting for *Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend*.

Spencer's melodious rendition of *My Friend the Sea* was a beautiful reminder of the songs we enjoyed in the old Toodyay Folk Club days.

Jenny and Joe also indulged in some nostalgia from those days, presenting the old favourite, *Red Rose Café*, with Joe on guitar.

Eileen treated us to a lovely version of

You're My Best Friend.

Although 'Joe of a Thousand Songs' had some difficulty in locating the nostalgic *Walls* song in his monster file, we all agreed that the delay was worth the wait.

Maurice regularly surprises us with something from left field, this time throwing in a theme song from *The Cisco Kid* television series.

Several other club members did remember that slightly bizarre children's show.

As always, we shared a scrumptious afternoon tea after the first round of singing, enlivened this month by an animated discussion of mouse plagues we have known.

This was followed by another round of songs based on our theme and the afternoon was declared a great success.

Next month's meeting will take place in the CWA Hall, starting at 1pm on Saturday June 8.

We will be back to the usual free choice for items.

You are welcome to join us, as an audience member or a performer with music acoustic only.

For more information, please call Joe on 0400 862 694.



Year 6 students singing at a theatre performance of Sir Henry Parkes' Tenterfield Oration.

New trailer makes camping easier

Toodyay District High School
Tonia Demeur

TOODYAY District High School had a special presentation at our last assembly of a brand-new enclosed luggage trailer.

School Chaplain and Cadets Leader Mr Doug McGhee thanked the Toodyay Op Shop, Toodyay P&C and Chalice Mining Company for their generous sponsoring of our wonderful new trailer.

The trailer will get a lot of use for camps and excursions, sports carnivals and other events that require moving equipment.

Our Cadets Program has approximately 80 cadets who can attend adventure camps each year.

Luggage, tents, and barbecues are just some of the equipment that needs to be transported for these camps.

Investment such as this in our Toodyay young people will always bring dividends both now and into the future, as our young people become stronger and more connected with our Toodyay community and make lifelong memories.

A big thank you to St John Ambulance Toodyay for their generous donation of a large first aid kit for our school.

The existing kit was quite worn and in need of a thorough re-stock.

Instead of supporting us with the re-stock items, they provided a whole new kit.

We are very appreciative of their generosity.

We are now prioritizing a knowledge-rich curriculum for Years 3 to 6, following on from the InitialLit literacy program in the early years.

Known as the Core Knowledge Curriculum, the emphasis is on developing literacy skills while, at the same time, building world knowledge.

Student learning is focused on a central 'big' question which encourages deep conceptual learning.

These units of learning cover key core areas of knowledge and literature, including Ancient Civilizations and Modern History, Australian History and Politics, Classic and Contemporary Literature, Mythology and Geography.

A carefully designed sequence of knowledge and literature units is being drawn together under the expertise of our teachers and influenced by the Knowledge Project Coalition and The Knowledge Society.

The Year 6 class readers' theatre performance of Sir Henry Parkes' Tenterfield Oration at the recent assembly was polished and articulate, evidence of the program's positive impact.

How to stay home with Mable

Staying In Place Toodyay Districts
Charmeine Duri

EXCITING things are happening in the Wheatbelt and other regional towns, with a movement called "Mable" assisting the elderly to stay in their homes, within their community as they age.

It is a model that draws on 'locals supporting locals' through coordination from a local group and oversight of an approved aged care provider to deliver a comprehensive and flexible model of services where the recipient has a greater choice in their package delivery.

Last month a group of Toodyay locals travelled to Pingelly for a two-day Expo to learn more about this innovative community approach which has now been embraced in 40 regional areas in Western Australia.

This movement not only benefits the people receiving the aged care packages but also boosts the town's economy by enabling locals to become 'contractors' to supply a variety of services.

If you are over 65 years old, or an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander over 50 years old, you could be eligible for a Home Care Package funded by the Australian Government.

Eligibility is determined through an Aged Care Assessment Team assessment to identify what support you require to regain or retain your independence and manage daily tasks.

You can easily apply online yourself via www.myagedcare.gov.au.

You will only need your Medicare Card. Alternatively, our dedicated coordinator will assist you through this process to access the locally available services and support needed to continue living comfortably, safely and independently at home.

Services are varied and therefore present opportunities for a range of skills, whether providing qualified nursing care, allied health, such as aromatherapy and reflexology,

or gardening and cleaning.

Social support is also sought after to support the inclusion in family and community life such as assisting a client to share a hobby such as wood turning, assisting with craft skills, listening to stories of days gone by, or just off fishing.

Contractors can choose the hours and services they wish to provide and earn a negotiated fee agreed upon with their client.

This is an integral part of the movement. Sharing your skills and interests with others whilst building relationships and connections in your community is a meaningful and rewarding experience.

To become an independent contractor, you will need an ABN, Police Clearance and two referees.

An application is required to be completed on the Mable Platform where it will be assessed for the applicant to become a Support Worker.

Training is available and insurance is provided through the Mable Platform <https://mable.com.au>.

Our Coordinator, Charmeine Duri is here to help you and can be contacted at siptd@outlook.com or by mobile number 0494 085 790.



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Toodyay Locals Care

Jacquie Lucas

LAST month was busy for Toodyay Locals Care volunteers with a rush of activities to contend with.

Such as the Friday night catering at the Toodyay Club which continues to be a success.

If you haven't come down yet, we do three-course meals for \$25 – a bargain.

If you would like to engage our catering services for any purpose, please call Roz on 0427 744 352.

If you are unable to catch her on the phone, please send a text message rather than a voicemail.

Roz took a well-earned four-day break going down south to catch up with friends and appreciates those who held the fort while she was gone.

We have also had the privilege of helping families say goodbye to their loved ones.

Believe it or not, the drought has affected the use of our ablution block.

As people have run out of water, there has been an increased level of use of the facilities.

The ablution block has a toilet, washing machine and shower available.

Those of you driving past our community house at 20 Fiennes St, Toodyay may have noticed the grow tunnel that has been constructed.

It contains the first of our wicking beds with shade cloth for the tunnel still to come.

The chickens are also settling in well and are giving us a steady supply of eggs.

The first community meeting was organised for our community garden and there was an enthusiastic response.

We continue to fundraise through Cash for

Cans, with the funds currently going towards the community garden allowing us to grow assorted winter cropping vegetables at the moment and we will be establishing fruit trees come spring.

The fruit and vegetables will be used for catering for fundraising and also to put meals into the fridge/freezer, which is open 24/7.

Please do not forget that we have many options to help people stay in their own homes.

We have shower chairs, walking frames, wheelchairs and other aides for free, although donations are gratefully accepted.

Once again please contact Roz on 0427 744 352, remember to send a text message if she is not available.

Check out our website at www.toodyaylocalscare.com or search for our Facebook page or join our Facebook group to keep up to date.

We appreciate your contributions to our raffle

Butterly Cottages

Judy Dow

BUTTERLY Cottages Association would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who supported our recent raffle.

Especially to Sally for donating our wonderful prizes, to Deb and her helpers and to everyone for purchasing tickets or giving such wonderful donations.

Your contribution is so very much appreciated.

Congratulations to our winners Mary, Lorraine and Mark.

As you can see we don't just sit around

Autumn Club News

Michael Cox

LAST MONTH the Autumn Club travelled to the Life Style Village in High Wycombe for a friendly game of carpet bowls.

Ann organised a bus to take us there, so we all met at the car park and boarded the bus at 9am.

Arriving at the village we were escorted to a large hall and there we were invited to morning tea after which we commenced a game of bowls with plenty of laughter and joking.

After a few games, we had a delicious lunch and grazed on a large selection of food.

Lunch was followed by a raffle and then a couple of games before it was time to say our goodbyes and make our way home to Toodyay.

Coming up next this month is our AGM, a visit to the Mundaring Club and then a train trip to Fremantle.

As you can see we don't just sit around, so if you would like to join us, just come along to the Pavilion in the showgrounds on a Wednesday to say hello.



Autumn Club members enjoying a day out and a game of carpet bowls.

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Strong community support as hundreds attend Anzac services

Toodyay RSL Sub-Branch
Max Howard, President

THANKS to all of the Toodyay community for attending the Anzac Day services on 25 April.

Over the two services held the Toodyay Returned Services League Sub-Branch estimates several hundred people attended.

This year again tells us community support for the RSL is strong.

An event like Anzac Day cannot go ahead without the support of various people and I would like to thank the Toodyay Singers, Toodyay District High School (TDHS) Chaplain, Mr Douglas McGhee, and their Cadet Unit, together with Mr Rupert Guenther for his outstanding playing on his electric violin.

Also, the TDHS choir led by choir mistress Ms Shuang Aliaga, Clive Millett for his address on his Great Grandfather Jack Millett, a prisoner of war at Colditz.

Thanks also due to Vicky Hagerty and Monica Williams who sang the Australian and New Zealand (in Maori) National Anthems, Tom Findlay for his expertise in putting the electronics together, Sgt Jamie Boryczewski, and the officers of Toodyay Police.

Finally, thank you to the Toodyay Lions Club for the gunfire breakfast.

I would just like to remind families who have year 9 and 10 students attending any school, or home-school, your students can apply for two scholarships being offered by the Sub-Branch researching Toodyay's men and women who died during the two World Wars.

If you are interested please contact Wesley Sutton at pWjs63@hotmail.com who will supply the application forms.

If successful, students and one guardian will win a trip to Canberra paid for by the Sub-Branch.

This is a very special time in the history of the Toodyay Sub-Branch which received its charter 105 years ago and is currently on the cusp of having its own home.

We would love to see more service and affiliate members join us and help us achieve

this milestone.

An affiliate member is any person who currently has or had a member in the Australian Defence Force.

This also includes persons who served in or had relatives in the Allied nations of the world in all conflicts, persons currently or past employed in the Emergency Services of Australia, namely Police, Fire Services, or St John Ambulance etc..

If interested please contact me at avon.hill@bigpond.com, or 9574 2102.

Several weeks ago an anonymous donor gave us a large selection of old Australian and other memorabilia, and this is going up for auction on the 27 July.

More notifications of this event will occur in the coming weeks, and a web page will be going up displaying some of the items.

All monies raised from the auction will go into the building fund.

A few days before Anzac Day a number of us were invited to the TDHS Anzac Day service, which was most impressive.

I was blown away by the young choir which sang on the day.

Our thanks to the Principal, Sharon Anderson, her staff and students for a great event.

Local linedancers raise big bucks

Avon Linedance Event
Debbie Grave

The May edition of *The Toodyay Herald* covered the inaugural Fun in the Avon dance workshop.

The workshop organisers are pleased to confirm that as an outcome of the successful event \$1500 has been donated to Toodyay Locals Care.

A further \$500 went to the Country Women's Association for catering the event.

More than 100 linedancers filled the Memorial Hall on the day of the workshop.



Avon woodturners spinning wheel.

Vintage spinning wheel given a new lease on life

Avon Woodturners
Hamish Dobie

HERE at the Avon Woodturners, we don't just turn out pots and pens, make mountains of wood shavings and drink tea and coffee while consuming cream cake and biscuits.

Sometimes we are asked to help with a repair or a refurbishment for an individual or a club.

A few weeks ago, a lovely lady came by with an old spinning wheel that she said had been in storage for a while and had received some water damage.

She asked if we could sand it and clean it up so that another of her friends could complete the refurbishment and bring it back to 'as new'.

We agreed to give it our best shot, and she left it with us.

Unfortunately, we were all working on projects at the time, and then sickness and the Moondyne Joe weekend delayed our start on the wheel.

This is when guilt set in and spurred us to get on with the job, get it finished and return it to the owner.

We stripped the spinning wheel down and found that some parts were damaged, so we made the necessary repairs and set about sanding down the individual parts.

The photo is of the wheel when part-

assembled, and we hope that the lady will be happy with the finished product.

This spinning wheel was made by Wright & Fendick of Leederville and was probably made by John Hendrey Wright.

A total of 420 Wright & Fendick wheels were made between 1916 and 1971 and each was numbered.

The first wheels were made in response to the demand for yarn to make socks for the troops in the First World War.

This one is stamped '308' so it's probably older than me, and maybe some of the locals around here have worn socks that were made from the yarn produced by this very machine.

This brings my thoughts back to long-gone winter days, long trousers, thick jumpers, beanies and gloves. (I am Scottish after all.)

Hopefully, the long, warm, dry weather is behind us and the cool nights and long-awaited rainy days have taken their place.

Everyone is welcome to come down to our workshop.

We are located at Shed 1, the Community Depot at the end of Railway Road, and are there on Wednesdays and Sundays from 9 until 12.

If you are interested, we are happy to show you around the workshop, do a little demonstration and have a chat over morning tea. See When and Where Page 28 for contact details.

We made it — 50 years together



Toodyay couple Margaret and Eugene O'Sullivan on their wedding day 50 years ago.

Margaret O'Sullivan

*FIFTY years ago you took my hand
And promised by me you would always stand.*

*I was young, naïve and only seventeen,
But you took me and taught me and made me your queen.*

*They said we were children with a game to play
Yet they didn't realise the commitment we made on that day.*

*Not all pathways we traversed were smooth and clear
Yet together we have continued, year by year.*

*Three amazing children who are the best,
Followed by six precious grandies, further we are blessed.*

*Farming, teaching, banking, monumental work, as the years flew,
Now music, bowls, golf, reading, and travel, to mention a few.*

How have the years flown so quickly by and here we stand.

50 wonderful years together whilst still we walk hand in hand.

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New meeting time to avoid chilly mornings

Country Women's Association
Vivien Street

LAST month was busy with illness, travel and work restricting those who could help with Toodyay CWA activities.

We had extra help from family and friends and wish those absent good health and safe travels.

We have changed our meeting times to 1pm so more members can attend, probably a wise move on these chilly mornings.

Anzac Day was such a morning as we gathered with our baskets of Anzac biscuits at the memorial.

Kathy and Julie-Anne took up our wreath and after the service, we mingled with the crowd to give out Anzac biscuits.

Thanks to those who baked and packed them and those able to be there.

Moondyne Festival was another early start with much to do before the crowds descended.

The weather was perfect, but we had no time to step outside as customers kept coming for our refreshments.

We did spot Moondyne Joe as he lurked in the hall; alas he was arrested and hauled away before he could even enjoy a cuppa.

Sorry, Joe – come in earlier next year.



Val Byron, Gina Butler and Julie-Anne Vucemillo with baskets of Anzac biscuits.

Visitors appreciated we had dressed up in period costume though by the end of the day those mop caps were getting pretty warm as we dashed about.

It was an enjoyable day and a good fundraiser for us so thanks to helpers and visitors alike for your support.

CWA Teddy gained a friend during the day,

either gifted or maybe it was mislaid by a child who may be pining for it.

Either way, it is safe and can be retrieved by contacting Toodyay CWA.

Jennacubine held a Friendship and Games Day last month and the four members from Toodyay who attended were full of praise for an enjoyable and interesting day.

Some of you may have visited York CWA which held a Devonshire tea weekend as well as an exhibition celebrating the centenary of CWA of WA at the end of May.

Congratulations to York members for a great event and their delicious scones jam and cream.

Having only had a day of the Moondyne to cope with we can appreciate the effort that went into that York weekend.

The centenary celebrations are filling our calendars this year as every branch marks the occasion in their way.

Our next visit is to Beverley for a friendship day and sumptuous morning tea plus a memorabilia and historical display.

Meeting other branches and renewing friendships is as important a part of CWA as its long history.

Have any of you seen the book we donated to the library and called "Women of Spirit"?

A century of CWA Stories full of the lives of inspirational and brave WA women who have been part of CWA.

Our next coffee morning will be our Knitathon on June 13th, starting at 10 am.

Any knitters out there who want to come along are welcome as are any non-knitters interested in seeing what CWA is about.

Our next General meeting is at 1 pm on June 27 and the fun item for that day is Goddess Dress-up Day; a theme that offers plenty of scope for your imagination.

New members are most welcome and will find our hall at 101 Stirling Terrace and access is also from Charcoal Lane.

Look for the spotty teacup sign at the front of the hall and the bright mural at the back.

Plenty of parking in Charcoal Lane and easier access from that side for those of us not so limber.

Hall bookings can be made with Margot on 9574 2823 or 0405 067 591.

Moondyne Men finish with the horse, now it's time for the chickens

Moondyne Men
Graham Hill

AFTER a hectic time assisting at the Moondyne Festival it must be almost time for the Moondyne Men to have a rest but not so.

There was a horse ramp to complete and a chicken coop as well.

The good news is the horse ramp is now complete and the chicken coop is underway.

Once the chickens come home to roost the next major project for the Moondyne Men team is our annual Wood Raffle where the lucky ticket will win a large trailer load of firewood.

The raffle will be held at the IGA entrance on Friday, June 7, and Saturday, June 8 with the draw being on the 8th.

Everyone will have a further opportunity to win again on the following week, June 14 and 15 with another trailer load of firewood for the coming winter.

But it's not all work and no play as we have our members' free breakfast on the first Saturday of each month, followed by our monthly committee meeting.

We also host some interesting talks and recently had Owen Catto from Regional Men's Health speak about men's health not only physical but also psychological.

As we age respectfully it is important to keep all these things in mind for our general wellbeing.

Being a member of the largest men's group in Toodyay is about community connections

and wellbeing and both Secretary Colin and I had the pleasure of chatting about the group on ABC Wheatbelt Radio.

We were pleased to let the listening audience hear the advantages of being a member of the Moondyne Men.

Plans are also underway for our Christmas in July lunch to be held later next month.

If you are looking to join Toodyay's largest and most proactive men's group, come and join us for tea, coffee and a biscuit at the Community Resource Centre in Stirling Terrace.

We meet on Monday and Thursday, 8.30am to 10.30am and on the first Saturday of each month for breakfast.

For further details please contact Secretary Colin on 0424 195 003.



Ollie the horse gives his approval to the new horse ramp.

Needles busy for Christmas

The Crooked Needle
Jean Melhuish-Hill

WE ARE currently organising our Australia's Biggest Morning Tea event which is being held at the end of June.

The event will be great and already we have received some beautifully crafted donations for our raffle.

We are also working on a quilt (in pink) for the occasion which will be the major raffle prize.

Right now, the weather is cooling down and some of our mornings have been a little chilly.

With these cool mornings a few of the ladies had misjudged how cold it gets in the CWA hall, however, there are some benefits of knitting or crocheting blankets as you have them in your lap while you work.

Much of our work is given to charities as well as to families and friends.

There never seems to be a shortage of organisations that are looking for donations, particularly in the cooler months, to be given to those in need.

With Christmas being only six months away we ran a couple of Christmas decoration workshops which brought out the artistic flair of the group.

We never seem to be short of things to do keeping our mind and body active.

On my recent travels, I popped into the craft centre in Gingin.

The centre is used for a wide variety of activities such as singing, quilting, knitting and mosaicing.

When I dropped in, soap was being made: you can always find something new to try and soap making looks interesting.

If you are new in town or find yourself with some free time, pop along to the CWA Hall on any Friday, 9.30am to noon and see if we can interest you in a new craft or you may be able to share one with us.



Some ideas from our Christmas workshop.

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