

The Toodyay Herald

Your locally owned
community newspaper
Est. 1902

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

August 2024
Edition 437

Rental shortage 'worst in memory'

Sean Hefferon

VETERAN local Toodyay real estate agent Tony Maddox reckons it's the hardest rental market in his 34 years in the industry.

"It's real tough in Toodyay and even tough in Merredin with no chance of improvement".

Even when you can find local rental accommodation some places "are not fit for human habitation" according to Roz Davidson from Toodyay Locals Care.

She knows of a number of substandard rental properties where "people feel threatened to speak out" for fear of being evicted.

Online real estate sites showed that on 25 July 2024 there were three rental properties listed in the Toodyay area with rents from \$360 to \$850 per week.

Mr Maddox confirmed that one of those rentals had in fact "gone", indicating that rentals are quickly snapped up and the situation in Northam is no different.

The lack of rental properties is hurting local employers with many facing higher staff turnover.

Many newly recruited staff find the commute from Perth expensive with the high cost of fuel and also time consuming.

The increased travel time may also mean an increased risk of a traffic accident.

After all, Toodyay Road was listed as an "animal collision hotspot" by national insurer AAMI earlier this year.

The insurer claims that the most dangerous time for animal collisions is at dusk, with a quarter of accidents occurring from 4.30-8pm, about the time many workers begin the commute home.

All of above is a moot point if employers cannot find people in the first instance, because they cannot be housed.

The Shire of Toodyay is facing its own challenges with Acting CEO Tabitha Bateman confirming that the shire also struggles with obtaining staff because of the lack of local housing.

The shire has recently, however, obtained \$125,700 of funding through the Commonwealth Government's \$500M Housing Support Program.

Toodyay is one of six Wheatbelt shires to receive funding with the others being Victoria Plains, Moora, Dandaragan, Goomalling and West Arthur all of which will share in \$877,065 to support the future delivery of affordable housing in the region.

This government funding may be too little too late with rental stress in Australia at record highs with Toodyay and surrounding areas not being immune to what is in effect a national housing crisis.

Anglicare Australia has released the June 2024 Cost of Living Index, an analysis which compares the incomes against essential living costs such as rent, food, and transport.

This edition covers households on income support payments.

A family of four with two parents on payments can't afford essential expenses, falling short by \$386 a week.

Continues on Page 8.



Kerry B Ryan and Rupert Guenther perform at the opening night of the music venue. Photo: Sean Hefferon.

New Toodyay live music venue opens at historic Stirling House

Sean Hefferon

STIRLING house owners Rory and Fiona Davin last month unveiled the latest addition to Toodyay's cultural scene with the opening of a new live music venue in Stirling Terrace opposite the well-known local bakery.

The Davins wanted a strong name for the venue with a nod to their Celtic roots so they opted for "The Chieftain", meaning "protector of the clan".

The idea for a music venue has been a longstanding dream for the couple as a way to activate an iconic building in the heart of

Toodyay and give back to the community.

At the opening last month local musicians Kerry B Ryan and Rupert Guenther played an eclectic mix of electronic blues.

For the Davins music is a way of healing the heart and making people feel wonderful – and The Chieftain aims to do just that.

More pictures Page 8.

Brickmaker appeals council vote to reject weekend work

Sean Hefferon

THE SHIRE of Toodyay is in dispute with Austral Bricks concerning the council's rejection of the claybrick manufacturers application to renew its extractive industry licence.

Austral Bricks a subsidiary of the global Brickworks Limited conglomerate is to argue its case in the State Administrative Tribunal on August 9.

The planning or general directions hearing is to clarify the issues in dispute and plan how the application will proceed.

Disputes may be resolved in several ways including by mediation; however, the

tribunal can make final orders.

The company applied for a renewed licence for a 21-year term, which would allow them to recommence clay extraction at their Schist Pit in Morangup.

The licence had expired on 19 November 2023 and was itself issued by order of earlier application by Austral to the tribunal on 5 August 2014.

The 26 June 2024 shire council meeting had rejected the shire officer's recommendation that proposed approval of the licence renewal with a 10-year term not a 21-year term as sought by the company.

Continues on Page 8.

Coming events

International Food Festival
Sat 10 August, 10am - 4pm

Toodyay Farmers Market
Sun 18 August, 9am - 1pm

this month

classifieds	30
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public notices	30
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when & where	30

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Elders

The Toodyay Herald

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

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

MEMBERSHIP - Membership of *The Toodyay Herald* is available at \$15 (\$12 concession) per financial year, with members entitled to free advertising worth \$15 annually. Please send your name, phone number and residential, postal and email address with your membership fee to PO Box 100, Toodyay 6566 or leave it at 92B Stirling Terrace, Toodyay.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

President: Peter Ruthven
 Vice President: Allan Gregory
 Secretary: Andrew St John
 Treasurer: Heather Appleby
 Members: Beth Ruthven, Julie Hoy Poy, Judy Morrissey, Madison van Helsdingen, Susan Pearce

PRODUCTION

Editor: Sean Hefferon
 Sub-Editor: Sean Hefferon
 Design/Layout: David Palmer/Sean Hefferon
 Admin/Advertising: Heather Appleby

DISTRIBUTION

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

Printed by Colour Press Pty Ltd

THANK YOU

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped produce this edition of *The Toodyay Herald*: Joseph Fernandez (Legal), Peter Ruthven, Judy Morrissey, Laraine Brindle

ADVERTISING

RATES - NO GST IS APPLICABLE

The cost of a casual display advertisement is \$4.35 per column cm (NB Column width is 61.5mm.)

Full Page: Mono - \$696.00; Colour - \$747.50.

Setup size: 260mm wide by 385mm deep.

Half Page: Mono - \$348.00; Colour - \$399.50

Setup size: 260mm wide by 190mm deep.

Quarter Page: Mono - \$174.00; Col. - \$225.50.

Setup size: 127.5mm wide by 190mm deep.

Page Nomination Loading: Front page - 100%, Back page - 50%, Centre pages / Page 3 - 25%, other pages - 10% (based on mono price).

Advertorial: Must be accompanied by purchase of quarter page advertisement (text 200-300 words) \$65.00.

Colour advertisements of a size not listed above incur a \$51.50 surcharge with the exception of the Trades and Services section. A one-off setup fee (artwork fee) may be charged for advertisements which are not print ready. Advertisers, please supply a postal address for accounting purposes and the number of issues in which you would like your advertisement to be included. Accounts are issued every month with payment required within 30 days. Payment may be made by post, EFTPOS or at the *Herald* office.

Specifications

Print-ready material is required to be supplied at a minimum resolution of 300 pixels per inch at the size the advertisement is to be printed, eg: full-page, half-page etc.

Trades and Services

Single advertisement in colour (including initial artwork): \$30.00.

Setup size: 61.5mm x 60mm deep.

Double advertisement in colour (including initial artwork): \$60.00.

Setup size: 127.5mm x 60mm deep.

Classified Advertisements

\$10.00 for 20 words; \$5.00 per subsequent 20 words.

Payment must be submitted on placement.

Public Notices

\$10.00 for 20 words; \$5.00 per subsequent 20 words.

Payment must be submitted on placement.

Discount

A 10% discount will apply for full page and half page bookings for a term of six months or more and a 5% discount will apply for full page and half page bookings and for a term of three and five months. Where a long term discounted booking is cancelled by the client, the *Herald* reserves the right to back-charge the full rate on all discounted advertising bookings.

INDEMNITY AND WARRANTY

Advertisers and/or advertising agencies upon and by lodging material with *The Toodyay Herald* for publication or authorising or approving of the publication of any material, **INDEMNIFY The Toodyay Herald Inc.** against all claims, demands, proceedings, costs, expenses, damages, awards, judgements and any other liability whatsoever wholly or partially arising directly or indirectly in connection with the publication of the material, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, indemnify **The Toodyay Herald Inc.** in relation to defamation, libel, slander of title, infringement of copyright, infringement of trade marks or names of publication titles, unfair competition, breach of trade practices or fair trading legislation, violation of rights of privacy or confidential information or licences or royalty rights or other intellectual property rights **AND WARRANTY** that the material complies with all relevant laws and regulations and that its publication will not give rise to any claims against or liabilities to **The Toodyay Herald Inc.**, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, that nothing therein is in breach of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* or the *Copyright Act 1968* or the *Fair Trading Act 1987* or the defamation, consumer protection and sale of goods legislation of the States and Territories or infringes the rights of any person.

The Toodyay Herald accepts no responsibility or liability in relation to any loss due to the failure of an advertisement to appear according to instructions. The positioning or placing of an advertisement is at the discretion of the Editor.

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NEXT TOODYAY HERALD EDITION

ADVERTISING DEADLINE	STORY DEADLINE	DISTRIBUTED
Noon Friday August 23	Noon Monday August 26	Thursday September 5

Please note our email addresses

Advertising: advertising@toodyayherald.com.au

Articles and stories: news@toodyayherald.com.au

Proposing to your partner is like turning your head to gaze at a shooting star

Dr. Christian Mauri

IN 1968, a young couple sat atop a hill to watch a controlled burn.

"If I asked you to marry me, what would you say?" asked the young man.

Put on the spot, the young woman replied simply, "But you haven't asked me..."

His face reddening in the light of the burning block, the young man got fired up. "Alright then, I'm asking"

Cool enough for the both of them, she gave her answer. "Yeah, alright then."

It happened so quickly and the space between the crackling of the fire he asked her and she said yes.

More than fifty years later I sat with the old married couple and recalling that night up on the hill, he joked that she must have said yes because she liked his arms.

She couldn't help but smile.

PRECIOUSLY brief and profoundly impactful, proposals make for varied, lovely stories.

If the proposal was untraditional, it was cool and creative yet if unoriginal, it was dignified and if embarrassing, it was charming and funny (at least in hindsight).

These stories fly in threes.

The proposer recalls one set of experiences (the fear, the delicate work of balancing on a bad knee).

The propose-ee recalls a different set of details (the shock, a ring... that song).

Thirdly, together, they share the story, bringing more details to light in the overlap (where we were in life, how it turned out).

I met a bloke who proposed while in bed with his lover, naked and ringless, during a particularly glorious Sunday sleep in.

I interviewed a woman who, wanting to share the weight, booked the restaurant and hired the suit for him to pop the question in.

Most husbands I speak with admit to finding the leap a bit terrifying and many wives confess to immediately comparing the moment with what they'd long imagined.

Whatever side of the proposal they're on, most people tend to partially miss the moment with their memory blacking bits out, much like when someone with stage fright attempts to recall public speaking.

Last month I proposed to my partner of eight years (to be fair, the ring's been in my

sock drawer since 2021...)

I asked her quietly by Fortescue Falls in Karijini, an ancient, sacred place, where the spray fills the air with little rainbows.

That night we each wrote down what we could remember while it was still fresh.

Let me share my experience with you.

AWED by the falls, I knew it was now so I went down on one knee, cold water soaking through my jeans.

She looked down at me, not yet realising what was happening and with the waterfall so loud, I thought I heard a gasp.

A very old and odd feeling rushed over me with a string of childhood memories.

I remembered the first time I trespassed over a fence as a little boy.

A stranger far away shouted. *Oi! What are you doing?*

Heart pounding, I flung my remaining leg over the fence and bolted.

I remembered asking out my crush in the last hour of a primary school excursion.

I remembered how hearing those two words leave my lips - "Will you..." - felt just like swinging my legs over that fence.

This time it was not some stranger behind me, but a voice inside that shouted out. *Oi! What are you doing?*

Again, I threw myself in and gave it legs, asking her out at an embarrassing pace and there have been more times since that I've heard that inner voice cry out.

It's like something deep down and vigilant in my body remembers that feeling, which lives between trespassing and committing.

It cried out at me in Karijini, with water on my knees and little rainbows in the air.

Oi! I felt the words leave my lips. "Will you..." *What are you doing?*

My love looked down from my face to the ring and back again as realisation flushed across her eyes and cheeks.

I gave it legs. I bolted. I asked her.

She replied, "Yes."

I recall her face and her voice and a kiss as someone behind us applauded - or was it the waterfall?

It happened so quickly, shooting past like space dust in the atmosphere.

It's good, then, that we have all the time in our world remaining.

Where is this funny thing in Toodyay?



First reader to state the location of the object in this pic and where the photo was taken from gets a bakery pie and coffee on the editor. Send your guesses to: editor@toodyayherald.com.au

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Office Hours are from 9.30am - 12.30pm on highlighted days						
AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug 4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Sep 1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sandy's legacy lives on in these pages

Sandra Harms (21/12/45 –14/7/24)

Michael Sinclair-Jones
Herald editor 2013-2023

SANDRA HARMS was one of the finest newspaper graphic design artists I have ever had the privilege to work with.

Her sudden death last month was a shock to all volunteers at *The Toodyay Herald*, where Sandy was Advertising Manager.

Sandy was sharp, witty, had an eye for detail and possessed the wicked sense of humour needed to succeed in a tough media environment driven by relentless deadline pressures and workplace stress.

This was not only at *The Herald* but also in her role as much-loved editor of the popular *Gidgegram* newsletter, published monthly by the Gidgegannup Agricultural Society, of which Sandy was an elected management committee member.

I first met Sandra Harms about 10 years ago after moving to Toodyay to fill a vacancy created by the retirement of former *Herald* editor Grant Scobie.

Sandy and her neighbour Ieva Tomsons were starting to make local news as founding members of the new Avon and Hills Mining Awareness Group which was formed to oppose Chinese plans to build a huge open-cut bauxite mine in Morangup.

Sandy had trained as a graphic artist at the Perth *Sunday Times* newspaper, and Ieva had started the *Broome News* after working as the first woman proof-reader at the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Australian Financial Review* daily newspapers in Sydney.

Both were highly skilled media professionals with a strong 'news sense' and love of print journalism – rare qualities in a small rural community like Toodyay.

We all hit it off straight away, and Sandy soon became Advertising Manager at *The Herald*, with Ieva as the new sub-editor and prolific *Page 3* profile writer.

Both were a joy to work with and together we helped to produce many fine newspapers that won recognition and acclaim throughout Australia, including among senior editorial

ranks at *The Australian* national daily newspaper.

Sandy's skill as a media graphic artist was second to none.

Graphic artists play a crucial role in the design and lay-out of newspapers to make them as attractive as possible and to present news to its maximum advantage.

Sandy was a highly skilled typographer who understood the correct use of a myriad of fonts and type sizes available in modern digital publishing, and she also had a deep understanding of colour and its effective use in constructing key elements of graphic design, particularly in advertising.

Anyone who has ever tried to create an ad on their computer at home will know how hard and frustrating that task can be.

It is only those with the fine eye of a skilled artist and a quick mind for a catchy slogan who succeed, and Sandy's ads were the best.

The fact that *The Toodyay Herald* continues to carry some of the best-looking ads in the business is entirely due to Sandy's consummate digital design skills – and her legacy lives on in the pages of this edition.

It was with great sorrow that I learnt of my dear friend's surprise diagnosis of Stage 4 lung cancer in her unexpected call to me on a recent late June Saturday morning just as she had begun laying out pages for last month's *Toodyay Herald*.

It was an even greater shock only five weeks later to receive a sad text message from her husband Peter that Sandy had passed away in Northam hospice care.

Sandra Harms led a full life of creativity, adventure, and community service – including 14 years in Germany where she met Peter after sailing overseas to live and work in Europe, as did so many of Australia's '60s Baby Boomer generation.

That torch is now being passed on to their heirs and successors, including Sandy's two adult daughters, a son and grandchildren.

Sandy was also a significant contributor to Aboriginal Reconciliation and helped to create the artwork for many colourful signs and displays commissioned by the Shire of Toodyay at various public sites in



Vale Sandra Harms 21/12/45 - 14/7/24.

close collaboration with the local Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal Corporation.

Her ongoing story now forms part of the Dreamtime legacy – vale Sandra Harms.

Formidable grassroots activist

Ieva Tomsons
Herald sub-editor 2014-2022

IF EVER there was a team player, it was Sandra Faye Harms.

Sandra never hesitated to lend a hand or share her knowledge of graphic design which was extensive.

From the age of 16 she honed her craft in Perth at a time when designers drew from scratch but she readily adapted to technical advances and whole-heartedly embraced digital change in the printing industry.

Before settling with her husband Peter in Morangup in 1995, Sandra worked as a graphic designer in Germany and later in Perth created advertising campaigns for many well-known companies.

The Toodyay Herald benefitted greatly from her expertise, and her eye-catching advertisements and layout skills elevated the paper to a more-professional level.

The *Gidgegram* was another publication to which Sandra added her design skills for nominal remuneration and created arguably the best community newsletter in the state.

Her ability to create brilliant tailor-made ads boosted the coffers of both publications.

Sandra was a great believer in not monopolising skills and information and would quote her old boss in Germany who stressed the need to "open up the bottom drawer – you don't know when you'll be run over by a bus, so share what you know".

Many community groups benefitted from Sandra's skills which she provided at the drop of a hat, free of charge.

When bauxite mining threatened to impact Morangup, Sandra became a founding member of the Avon and Hills Mining Awareness Group (AHMAG) providing graphics for the group's website and countless flyers and promotional material.

She was also a formidable campaigner at a grassroots level.

Sandra loved the bush and created

wonderful silkscreen stencils which she applied to manchester items for friends and family.

Her banksia-inspired tote bags for AHMAG were a top-seller for the community group.

She was an integral part of the local community and her self-effacing

contributions will be sorely missed by many.

As a measure of people's respect for Sandra many friends and colleagues attended her funeral in Midland late last month.

Sincere condolences to Peter Harms and Sandra's children Alexander, Christiane and Sarah.



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- ✔ We will upgrade 10,000kms of regional roads by mid-2025 under our Regional Road Safety Program.
- ✔ Delivered upgrades and maintenance at every public regional school as part of our School Maintenance Blitz.
- ✔ Guaranteed the future of the Royalties for Regions, as promised, with \$4 billion allocated to the program over the next four years.

Darren West MLC

Member for Agricultural Region

185 Fitzgerald Street, NORTHAM WA 6401

📞 9621 1999 📧 Darren West MLC 📧 darren.west.mp@mp.wa.gov.au

Authorised by Darren West



The Toodyay Herald

Renting in Toodyay

IT'S PRETTY hard to find a rental in Toodyay nowadays and the dire situation will not be changing anytime soon.

The lack of rentals means local employers cannot get new staff as they have to be accommodated somewhere.

But right now, in Toodyay there is little or no "somewhere".

This means employers are stretched as current staff have to pick up extra tasks that a new starter could do, or things are just not done.

So, the whole town suffers.

Homelessness crisis

LIVING in safe, adequate and secure housing is a human right.

Whether one agrees or disagrees with the above statement is a moot point as housing insecurity or homelessness is not a one-off but rather an everyday problem.

It's a problem that doesn't just involve the bloke you may have seen camping in Pelham Reserve or the fellow with his dog sleeping in a car near the local high school.

Granted, the most visible experience of homelessness involves sleeping rough, but this type of homelessness only represents six percent of the homeless population.

Your mate who is couch surfing after being evicted from a long-term tenancy is also homeless.

As is the family you may know living in a severely overcrowded house that falls well below adequate standards.

So, you probably know someone who is homeless, yet we equate homelessness to "rooflessness" only.

The distance between living in secure housing to being at risk of homelessness or experience homelessness may also be closer than you think.

Life throws curveballs after all and a change in circumstances can see a person out on the street.

Or perhaps you are one in three of those Australians that live payday to payday – job loss often precedes homelessness.

It's also human nature to think, "it will never happen to me".

Me, homeless?

In 2024, Homelessness Week 2024 will be held from August 5 to August 11.

The theme for Homelessness Week 2024 is "Homelessness Action Now".

Square Peg Community Support will be hosting an information stall to raise awareness about homelessness at the Toodyay International Food Festival on August 10.

Please drop by to support them.

Shire CEO

THE SHIRE of Toodyay council has moved out of neutral in chasing down a new CEO with interviews occurring late last month.

A good move as inertia gets one nowhere.

Sean Hefferon
Editor

Wheatbelt Clinical Psychology

94 Stirling Terrace Toodyay WA 6566

Richard Taylor
Clinical Psychologist

Foundation member
Australian Clinical Psychology Association

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Best deal for local Tradies



The Toodyay Herald offers the best exposure for Tradies. Circulation of 5000 copies each month and growing!

advertising@toodyayherald.com.au



The way we were – Toodyay harvest time: a binder on the left is drawn by two horses, a winnower works in the middle and a farm worker on the right sews wheat bags. Picture donated to Newcastle Gaol Museum by Harold Donegan, date and place unknown.

Your local newspaper needs you

The Toodyay Herald

Andrew St John
Secretary

THE TOODYAY Herald would like to expand its membership.

This is an invitation for more of you in the community to be part of one of the most successful regional newspapers in WA.

The Toodyay Herald operates in a similar way to many special interest associations.

Any member of the community can apply to be a member of The Toodyay Herald (Inc).

From that membership, which is currently modest, financial members can nominate for election at the Annual General Meeting or may be co-opted to the Committee should any vacancies arise during the year.

The Committee manages the monthly operations of The Herald ensuring it is financially viable and supporting the production team who produce the newspaper.

The production team is led by the Editor who determines and is responsible for what appears in The Herald.

While Editorial independence is critical there remain many ways the Management Committee and Herald members can ensure the success of the newspaper.

In a climate of dwindling regional newspapers, The Toodyay Herald is thriving.

Some years ago, ABC TV highlighted The Herald as one of three WA regional

newspapers bucking the downward trend and continuing to actively report on what was going on in their community.

While there remain a large number of local newspapers, many run significant amounts of advertising, particularly real estate, with little reporting of actual news.

Many in the Toodyay community support the format of The Herald which balances equal amounts of news with advertising from local traders as well as other larger organisations including the Shire of Toodyay.

Our advertising revenue is healthy and this support ensures the paper is financially viable yet there are also challenges.

We believe more members – with new ideas and possibly contributing skills – could help us address these challenges.

This year The Herald has successfully undergone a change in Editor – Sean Hefferon has taken over from Michael Sinclair Jones who had the editorial reins for a decade.

Last month we suffered a tragic loss with the death of Sandra Harms a professional graphic artist, responsible for designing advertisements and preparing the layout of The Herald before it goes to the printer.

We have found a local replacement, David Palmer, who has experience in producing other local newspapers.

Yet we currently have no sub-editor, a critical task if we are to maintain the high

quality for which The Herald is known and we feel is important to maintain.

There are other people who help produce The Herald, who are paid modest honorariums and we must not forget our proofreaders who volunteer every month as well as those who assist with distribution.

The success of any organisation is partly dependent on succession planning and ensuring there is a backup of people who can step into roles at critical times.

Expanding membership may assist with those succession and backup processes.

There is another key need for any newspaper in this challenging environment.

That is to provide ideas and input into how we can ensure The Herald thrives and is able to report on activities in our local community.

So please consider becoming a member of The Herald – the cost is a modest \$15 per year (\$12 concession).

No matter your age, or your skills, we would value your input and with our AGM on September 21 all financial members are invited to attend and vote.

Shortly after the AGM we will hold a planning session when all members will be invited to contribute as we plot a course to ensuring the future success of The Herald.

If you would like to join us, membership forms can be found at www.toodyayherald.com.au/about/membership/ or call Heather on 0419 906 083 for further information.

Rough waters

Sean Hefferon
Herald editor 2024 - present

THE LOCAL paper is sailing in rough seas.

A recent blow to the Herald is the unexpected and sad passing of Sandra Harms who apart from being a lovely person was a talented newspaper graphic design artist.

She made a huge difference to the Herald and will be sorely missed.

A new editor started earlier in the year on the retirement of Michael Sinclair-Jones.

We have seen Roger Simms the page two columnist depart and likewise Mark Roy our sub-editor and profile writer.

Christian Mauri stepped up as the new page two columnist offering a fresh perspective.

Two new committee members have started in Susan Pearce and Madison van Hesdingen, who doubtless will make a rich contribution to this volunteer run newspaper.

David Palmer has started from this edition onwards and has a deep background in graphic design and will, with Heather Appleby, be point of contact for advertising.

The Toodyay Herald

Your locally owned community newspaper

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of The Toodyay Herald (Inc) will be held on Saturday, September 21, 2024 at 11am at The Herald Office, 111 Stirling Terrace, Toodyay (rear of Christmas 360).

The Agenda will include Minutes of the 2023 AGM, Matters Arising, President's Report, Treasurer's Report, Editor's Report, General Business and Election of Committee.

Financial members are invited to attend and vote at the AGM.
Enquiries Heather: 0419 906 083.

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.

Toodyay Rainfall

Recordings and average commenced on 1 January 1907 *July figure up to 9am July 29, 2024

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
2019	1.8	0	5.8	15.4	8.7	125.7	128.4	66.3	13.4	15.2	6.0	0	386.7
2020	0	31.6	9.8	6.4	38.2	48.9	43.7	61.8	30.2	5.9	48.8	3.5	328.8
2021	0.03	17.3	137.3	11.1	121.7	30.4	154.2	70.3	39	61.6	2.2	0	645.13
2022	31.7	4.5	14	30.9	36.8	43	42.7	151.1	44	15.6	12	5.1	431.4
2023	0.1	0	54.9	29	21.8	74.3	42.4	19.8	32.3	2.9	7.4	2.0	286.9
2024	9.8	4.5	0	7.8	43.5	53.2	73.3*						118.8
Average	12.10	14.30	19.50	23.10	54.80	76.90	81.70	60.40	35.40	24.70	12.70	8.80	424.40



Meetings, greetings and discussions. From L to R - Toodyay Shire President Cr. Mick McKeown, Cr. John Prater, Cr. Steve McCormick, Local MP Shane Love, Deputy Shire President Cr. Shelly Dival, The WA Nationals candidate Lachlan Hunter.

Local political candidate meets community groups

Sean Hefferon

LOCAL MP and Opposition Leader Shane Love and Lachlan Hunter The Nationals WA Candidate for the Central Wheatbelt visited Toodyay and Bolgart last month to meet with several organisations including Toodyay Locals Care, the Shire of Toodyay and Bolgart CWA.

Hunter said, "Community groups in Toodyay are doing some wonderful work, such as Roz and her team at Toodyay Local Care, providing support for those less fortunate."

He added in relation to a *Herald* question concerning the housing and cost of living crisis, "Communities like Toodyay need a government with a regional focus, and that is what you can expect from The Nationals WA."

In response to questions about the Federal government's decision to end the live sheep trade he reiterated that the Nationals, if elected into government at the next Federal election, will scrap the phase-out bill and reinstate the live sheep trade.

As of the 2025 state election, the Shire of Toodyay will be in the electorate of Central Wheatbelt.

Recreation centre back in shire control

Sean Hefferon

AT LAST month's Shire of Toodyay council meetings elected members reviewed several officer recommendations.

One related to the recreation centre which returned to shire control with Clublinks ending their contract on 30 June 2024.

Prior to the new contract termination date the shire engaged Ascentive Consulting to assist with an operational management review of the recreation centre.

The review assessed the centre's current operational model and compared similar facilities with varying management models.

Community consultation included online survey feedback with 172 responses obtained and a public forum held on June 6 at the centre facilitated by Ascentive.

After this external review councillors endorsed the recommended operational model for inclusion in the 2024-2025 Annual Budget, being shire-managed aquatic areas and hybrid-managed dry sports facilities.

In effect, shire staff directly manage the pool area and the dry sports areas by local sporting clubs using the centre, not unlike how clubs currently use the facilities at the Toodyay Showgrounds.

Councillors also supported the officer's recommendation regarding the preferred design option for Slaughterhouse Bridge, a structure that has speed restrictions and additional structural supports in place.

This option was unanimously endorsed by council as the planned bridge alignment is expected to minimise the land take required

from adjacent private properties and "allows for a posted speed limit of 60 kph from the railway level crossing south of the bridge through to and past the horizontal curve of the road north of the bridge".

The preferred option also allows for a footpath in the bridge design, a public amenity the current bridge lacks.

The design costs for the bridge are to be met by Main Roads WA with council to receive a formal update at the 50 per cent design stage with detailed costings.

The shire is up for 20 percent of the bridge construction costs or between 1.2 to 1.6 million dollars, with the federal government funding the remaining portion of the costs.

The officer's report to the council meeting said, "The Shire of Toodyay will not have the capacity to fund 20 percent of the bridge reconstruction cost from municipal funds."

Funding the shire's component will need to be met by a loan or funds from another funding program - officers are investigating the latter prospect.

With rates pending, Tabitha Bateman, Acting CEO of the Shire of Toodyay said in a subsequent meeting with the Herald, also attended by Cr. Mick McKeown, Shire President, that the 2024-2025 rates are to be set no later than August 31.

The next ordinary council meeting is scheduled for August 28 and it is anticipated that rates will be confirmed then.

Interviewing to fill the ongoing role of shire CEO also commenced last month with five applicants making the interview shortlist from an initial pool of 30 applications.

Wheels of justice grind slowly for Maddox in Wagyl case

Sean Hefferon

TOODYAY real estate agent Tony Maddox was charged by the state's heritage department in March 2023 after building a crossing over Boyagerring Brook on his Nunile farm.

The state alleges he has breached the West Australian Aboriginal Heritage Act by building the crossing and in doing so disrupted the Wagyl - a rainbow serpent central to Noongar mythology.

A prosecution "statement of facts" describes the site as "having mythological value and is the Waugal's home".

The Avon River and its tributaries were identified to the State Government in 1999 as sites of special significance under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

In early 2023, Mr Maddox pleaded not guilty to breaching the heritage law.

The charges carry a maximum penalty of nine months' jail and a \$20,000 fine for altering the creek crossing on his property.

He has previously told *The Herald* that should he be found guilty of the charges

he could be barred from selling real estate which would also mean closing his business, leading his staff to be out of work.

Mr Maddox maintains that when he built the creek crossing, he was unaware that Boyagerring Brook was protected by Aboriginal heritage law.

Under Section 62 of the Act "it is a defence for the person charged to prove that he did not know and could not reasonably be expected to have known that the place or object to which the charge relates was a place or object to which this Act applies."

He said the hearings into the matter have been adjourned five times since the legal proceedings commenced.

Mr Maddox's next court appearance on the matter is to be at the Perth Magistrates Court in front of Magistrate Andrew Matthews on August 21.

Closing submissions have previously been provided to the court and he is hopeful that the case will be finalised soon.

The 18 month-long legal process to date has come at the cost to his health, Mr Maddox said.

Toodyay business best in WA



Alan and Heather Clarke with their industry gold award. Photo: Sean Hefferon.

Sean Hefferon

A SMALL family-owned business based in Toodyay has become the best in its class in Western Australia.

Bluewater Pool Solutions won a gold award for "Best Mobile Business Service" at the Swimming Pool and Spa Association awards recently held at the Westin Hotel in Perth.

Alan and Heather Clarke have come a long way since moving from the coastline to settle in the Toodyay hills.

Along the journey they have built a house on the rolling hills that Toodyay is known for and started a family.

Like many who move to the local area they have had various jobs - and now a multiple award-winning business.

Bluewater Pool Solutions has been a

business that has focused on constant improvement to meet customer needs.

Alan said that the 2024 award "is a very special achievement for us, going up against much larger multi-vehicle, Perth based businesses and is a fantastic reward for effort after claiming the silver award in 2022 and 2023".

After six years in business, Bluewater now has 100+ pool sites under management, nine regional shires represented and a 30,000km² service territory, plus those three industry awards.

The success of this local business is apparent not only with the industry recognition but also by the testimonials from satisfied customers throughout the Wheatbelt.

With the 2024 WA award on the family mantelpiece Bluewater is now in the running for an award at the national level.

"Thank you
Toodyay Herald,
that ad worked
wonders"



Driver behaviour leads to vehicle check and cannabis stash

Police Beat

With Sgt
Jamie Boryczewski
Toodyay Police Station



LAST MONTH Toodyay police attended the Emergency Services dinner held at the Memorial Hall.

This important social occasion was organised by Ian Macgregor of the Toodyay Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service with catering from the Toodyay Football Club.

Big thanks to Macca and the footy club for what was a great evening.

The local police team have been busy preparing for a number of major social events that will be hitting town in the near future being the Avon Descent, Toodyay Races and the Agricultural Show.

All these events will see significant numbers of visitors coming to the local area so we are preparing accordingly.

With the Ag Show, we will also have a big focus on community engagement so will be looking to bring in additional resources such as the mounted police.

Traffic-wise the wet weather, with the changing road conditions it brings, has seen a number of motor vehicle accidents occurring including a single-person fatality on July 9.

A male person was the sole occupant in his vehicle travelling at night in rainy conditions on the Goomalling – Toodyay Road when he crashed between Whitfield and Boyagerring Roads.

He was conveyed to Northam Hospital and then Royal Perth where he passed away.

The incident is under investigation at present.

A motorcyclist lost control of his machine after hitting some road debris on July 13 while travelling along Lovers Lane Road.

The male rider escaped with minor injuries but his accident reinforces the need to be mindful of road conditions.

A further motor vehicle crash occurred on July 23 when a driver travelling east on Julimar Road lost control in the wet weather and collided with a tree. Fortunately the airbags deployed and the driver had no injuries.

Toodyay police are always mindful of speeding vehicles and urge drivers to slow down.



Bags showing confiscated cannabis. The bag on the right was confiscated from the driver involved in the July 15 incident and is to be held in evidence until the court case.

One vehicle was stopped on July 15 for speeding and subjected to a vehicle check due to the driver's behaviour.

This check found about one ounce of cannabis and as a result the driver is to front the Northam Magistrates Court on September 9 charged with speeding and being in the possession of an illicit drug.

We are targeting the use and dealing of illicit drugs so we ask community members with relevant information to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 who will then advise local police.

Apart from the above motor vehicle incidences local police were also made aware of an online fraud matter.

A gentleman stopped by the station to tell how he had tried to buy some items from NSW, but the items were not delivered or a refund given.

The matter provides a cautionary tale about doing due diligence when it comes to online purchases.

The firearms buyback continues and should you own a firearm and wish to turn it in to police please attend the local station to make an appointment between Monday to Wednesday.

On a couple of final notes, I'd like to

personally thank the local police team for their dedication to their duty and the community over the last 12 months.

Last but not least, a big congratulations to Jim Moore for his promotion to Senior Constable.

Conspiracy theories thrive in social media network bubbles



Pick your social media network: just watch out for the conspiracy theories.

Computer Safety

Phil Hart

CONSPIRACY theories have been around since the time of ancient Rome (bit.ly/3W1qm6H).

While it may seem that conspiracy theories are becoming accepted by more people, studies suggest that this is not the case (bit.ly/3zCMdKq, bit.ly/4cR5EgY).

What appears to be happening instead is that more people are becoming aware of the conspiracy theorists in our midst.

Belief in conspiracy theories tends to rise in times of crisis (bit.ly/3zKpZWX).

This may be because in a crisis people have a need for stability and having seemingly "simple" answers may help us feel like we are in control.

Conspiracy theories may also be used by some people as a way to justify their existing political or world views.

The Internet has enabled people to access a vastly greater amount of information than was available 30 years ago, including

conspiracy theories.

This was due to the advent of search engines with Yahoo! Search first appearing in 1994 (bit.ly/3y11ILw).

This search engine was the first collection of web pages across the internet.

Conspiracy theories thrive in social media bubbles and people in such bubbles tend to reject points of view that do not align with their own.

Debunking outlandish beliefs in any social media bubble tends to produce a backfire effect, thereby serving instead to reinforce those beliefs (bit.ly/4bQMKpt).

According to research the tendency to believe conspiracy theories may be due to a combination of personality traits and motivations (bit.ly/3LrN3fF).

People may turn away from a conspiracy theory when inconsistencies become apparent to them (bit.ly/3LstCmQ, bit.ly/4bNKyPm, bit.ly/3ydzMEh).

Like all technology, the Internet has both benefits and drawbacks so go in with your eyes wide open and ears pinned back.

SOCK Week: Save our country kids

SaferToodyay

Desrae Clarke

MONDAY June 24 to Friday June 28 was SOCK Week which stands for 'Save Our Country Kids'.

It is a week-long campaign where everyone in their community is educated about road safety rules and also raises awareness and engages with road users about safe road use.

This event was created by the Narembeen Community Resource Centre to promote road safety rules in small country towns.

On Friday June 28 Toodyay District High School (TDHS) held a 'Fluro Friday'.

This is where everyone gets dressed up in bright fluro colours to promote responsible road use and safety within the community.

TDHS has representation on the SaferToodyay committee and it is very pleasing to have writings on the SOCK Week activities given by the Year 10 students.

Police 131 444

Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000 or crimestoppers.com.au.

Let's keep Toodyay safer.

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tyres1@inet.net.au

'Macca' arranged a delicious emergency services dinner

Toodyay Central Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Peter Brennan

ON SATURDAY evening July 13, several of our members attended a very enjoyable Toodyay Emergency Services dinner at the Memorial Hall.

The dinner was organised by Captain Ian MacGregor from the Toodyay Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service (VFRS).

Over 100 volunteers and their guests attended, with representatives from across Toodyay Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades, VFRS, Police, State Emergency Service and both the Toodyay and Morangup St John Ambulance Sub-Centres.

Several awards were presented on the evening, including a 25-year clasp for our Chief, Craig Stewart.

The dinner was also attended by DFES Deputy Commissioner Craig Waters AFSM, Police Inspector Kareene Santoro, St Johns Sub-Centre Coordinator Clare Dadds and Toodyay Shire President Mick McKeown.

A special thanks goes to Liz Ferguson for coordinating the Toodyay Football Club who catered the dinner with a terrific meal and many delicious nibbles upon arrival.

Well done team.

As the daylight hours begin to become longer, the Brigade leadership team is reviewing its training refresher needs before the Restricted Burning Period commencing on October 1.

Further, a general clean-up of the station was undertaken on Sunday June 23, along with a thorough detailing of the inside of our fire appliances.

We had a great turnout of our volunteers who made quick work of the tasks.

The activity was then followed by a well-deserved BBQ lunch enjoyed by all.

Many members have also continued to attend DFES professional development courses during these cooler months.

These courses have encompassed activities such as on-road driving, emergency driving, structural firefighting, advanced bush firefighting and crew leadership.

In early July some of our members, and some from the Coondle brigade, attended a chainsaw course held at the Coondle station.

The course is a requirement before personnel can operate any of the chainsaws that we carry on our fire appliances and was of great value to those who attended.

The next meeting of the Brigade will take place on Tuesday evening August 11 commencing at 7pm.



Above: Craig Stewart, receiving his clasp from Deputy Commissioner Waters.

Below: Volunteers who attended the chainsaw course.

St John WA Toodyay volunteers have more than 85 years' service recognised



Ambulance Volunteers who received service awards at the recent Emergency Services Dinner (from left) Claire Dadd, Regional Sub Centre Coordinator – Northern Wheatbelt, Paul '007' Harrington, Lee Street, Dave Flaherty and Pam Tennant, Chairperson, Toodyay Sub Centre.

St John Toodyay Sub Centre
Monika Williams

THE ANNUAL Emergency Services Dinner was held recently on Saturday July 13 at the Toodyay Memorial Hall.

It was well attended with the various Emergency Services Volunteers.

Local St John WA Toodyay volunteers Paul "007" Harrington and Dave Flaherty received WA Volunteer Service Awards for 40 years of service.

We also congratulated Lee Street with her five years of service bar.

George Murray, Daphne Lee, Lyn Somers, Sandy Smith, Michael Morgan and Pam Tennant were also recognized for their service.

We would also like to welcome five new volunteers who are and will be going through various stages of training.

Corri Murcott joins us after a number of years with the Fire and Rescue service.

Nathan Gill is a FIFO worker who is upskilling his onsite medical skills as an Emergency Services Officer.

Bruce Sharman is a local businessman who would like to give back to the community.

Kylie Degenaar is a First Aid trainer with St John who would like to expand her skills by working in the ambulance,

Brittany Wassell, is currently an Event Health Services officer with St John, who is in her third year of Paramedicine studies and is looking to gain some on road experience before she starts her new role as a Transport Medic in January 2025.

We look forward to working with this diverse group and thank them for their time they are giving to the community.

Our Community Transport Services officers have been undertaking some training of their own in the form of a system called PocketCad.

This system, similar to the Ambicad system used in the ambulances, allows for the drivers to enter the details of the job they are doing and for our Systems Operation Centre staff to track their journey for safety reasons.

After five years of our CTS drivers not using PocketCad, we admire their willingness to move with the times and learn something new.



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



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



Injury management
Treat and manage injuries in interactive training scenarios.



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New live music venue opens in Toodyay



Council in dispute with brickmaker

Continued from Page 1.

The officer's report outlined a number of risk factors related to the application including "financial impact" as the applicant has the right of appeal of council's decision, potentially exposing the shire to increased legal costs.

As reported in the July 2024 edition of The Herald, "the sticking point that led to the council's decision to reject the application turned on the number of truck movements proposed by the company".

Toodyay council is also "generally not in favour of Saturday trading" in relation to the number of truck movements proposed by the company between Schist Pit and their Caversham factory.

TOODYAY COMMUNITY GARDEN

Inaugural General Meeting was held on 25 July 2024.

- The committee is:
- Chair, Gary Nelmes
 - Deputy Chair, Catherine Ehrhardt
 - Secretary, Rosemary Madacsi
 - Treasurer, Tanvier Fowler
 - Toni Anne Chrimes, Catherine de Vos and Annette Müller.
- Enquiries to: Gary Nelmes 0428 924 100 or Rosemary 0448 473 328

Homelessness higher in regional areas

Continues from Page 1.

A single parent on the Parenting Payment falls behind by \$262 a week.

A person on JobSeeker living in a sharehouse falls behind by \$69 meaning they could not afford to move out of shared accommodation.

A report by Anglicare in 2022 found that just over half of all available homes in the Wheatbelt were deemed "affordable" for lower income families, where rent takes up less than 30 percent of household income.

Housing is the biggest living cost facing households, with average rents rising by more than 50% since 2020.

These cost increases in the private rental market have placed increased pressure on social housing.

As a result of these pressures a WA government inquiry *Funding of homelessness services in Western Australia* was launched in 2021.

The report from the inquiry tabled in the WA state parliament in June 2023 assessed there were 19,000 applications for social housing with 34,000 individuals waitlisted and 9000 priority listed.

The average wait time for social housing is two years and an unmet need for 3900 social housing and 19300 affordable housing across WA.

Expenditure on homelessness services were found to be less in WA with spend per person being \$33.83 compared to the national average of \$47.49.

According to Census figures published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics rates of homelessness are higher in regional areas of WA compared with Perth.

In WA one in three people experiencing homelessness are Indigenous, a high number

compared with about 1 in 30 of the general population being Indigenous.

The homelessness stereotype may be one of people rough sleeping but this type of homelessness only represents 6% of the homeless population.

People living in overcrowded dwellings, couch surfing, or relying on temporary accommodation such as living in caravan parks or camping in shire reserves are also considered homeless.

In Toodyay, Greg Warburton, the shire's Reserves Management Officer, said that he has seen rough sleepers in local reserves including Pelham and Wallaby Reserves as well as Cobbler Pool.

Joe Fitch, founder of Square Peg Community Support has first-hand experience of the rental crisis when he and his family had to leave their Northam home of five years after it was sold.

At that time, his family was at risk of homelessness until they moved to a friend's house in Toodyay.

For Joe and his community group, raising awareness about homelessness as well as directly assisting those in need is a mission.

The theme for the 2024 Homelessness Week which is to run from August 5 to 8 is "Homelessness Action Now".

The aim of the week aligns with Joe's group, to raise awareness about homelessness and the solutions to end it.

Square Peg Community Support will be hosting a stall at both the Toodyay International Food Festival and the Bilya Festival in Northam.

This is after successfully hosting events at both festivals in 2023 and obtaining much-needed additional funding of \$5000 from Shelter WA

Just another Saturday scene in Toodyay

Sean Hefferon

WE ALL live for the weekend, at least that is what the queue into the Toodyay Bakery and bustling folks along Stirling Terrace may suggest, more so if the weather is fine.

Toodyay has a different pulse on those two days when visitors come up the hill to enjoy what is on offer in this neck of the woods.

On a Saturday morning you may spot the Newcastle Parkrunners doing their 5km run before a carbo replenishment in a local café, post-run of course.

These hardy folks will even run on a misty morning, which isn't really surprising given that the Indigenous name for Toodyay is Dudja, meaning "mist".

And as locals know misty mornings are very common during the season of Makuru, around June and July.

On a Saturday you may even come across a local auction as was the case on July 27 when the local RSL group put what can be described as a liquorice allsorts collection of old farming bits and other pieces under the hammer.

Local real estate agent Tony Maddox kept the auction going at a rate of knots as he swayed bidders to bid for old mangles, wagon wheels and such like.

Toodyay RSL President Max Howard said the funds raised will go towards the construction of a new building for the group. Just another Saturday scene in Toodyay.



Above: Local parkrunners on Toodyay's Newcastle Bridge. Below: RSL auction crowd.



Joe Fitch one of the founders of Square Peg Community Support.

Best deal for local Tradies

The Toodyay Herald offers the best exposure for Tradies. Circulation of 5000 copies each month and growing!

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New RSL flyers promote help for veterans and families

Toodyay RSL Sub-Branch
Max Howard

A MAIN function of the RSL throughout WA is to look after veterans and their families and to offer assistance to them when needed.

This assistance comes in many forms, such as arranging advocates to interview people and to help sort out their problems.

To do this the Toodyay Sub-Branch through our Welfare Officer Geoff Brown puts out flyers with his contact details for veterans where Geoff will organise advocates to contact the parties concerned.

We would like to publicly acknowledge the following companies for their assistance in displaying our notices as they do inform a large part of the community.

Toodyay IGA, Toodyay Post Office, Victoria Hotel, Toodyay Hotel, Makit Hardware, Toodyay Traders, River Mist Tearooms, Toodyay Pharmacy, Tony Maddox

Real Estate, Elders Real Estate, Toodyay Medical Centre, Community Resource Centre, Toodyay Op Shop, Bottlemart, Toodyay Bakery and both Dunning's Fuel Stations.

In Northam, Northam Auto Electrics, Auto Pro, Rudee's Menswear, Coles, Treasures and Pets, Celebrations, Mobil roadhouse, Boeckmans Machinery, Nutrien Landmark, OPSM, Specsavers, Stewarts Pharmacy, Centrelink, Northam Glass, Blackwell's Plumbing, Avon Valley Radiology, Northam Family Practice, Northam Natural Health, Steve's Hairdresser, and Darren West's office.

The RSL is aware there are hundreds of veterans in our rural communities experiencing problems and there will be some who may be in need of assistance.

If you know of any such people, talk to them and advise help is available as it is never too late.



Wreaths laid at the Toodyay Anzac Memorial Park.



Late lambers are now lambing and there are plenty of calves out in the paddocks also.

Late lambers enjoy the sunshine between mid-winter showers

Toodyay Agricultural Alliance
Kirsten Carrington-Jones

MOST broadacre farmers in Toodyay are finished seeding and have probably cleaned their equipment ready for next year.

More than a few farmers have been impacted by slugs, predominantly on heavy soil types.

These slimy critters can eat a lot while you are not watching.

Slug baiting, similar to what you put through a vegetable garden has taken place, and some areas have been re-sown.

Everyone is pleased with a significant rainfall.... finally.

Until the last week, many of us were raising dust in some areas, which shouldn't be the case in July.

The rainfall is well below average, and we will be looking towards the sky for more.



Tree planting is hard work.

Lambing has finished for early lambers, and they would be in the process of weaning, some may be finished.

Late lambers are lambing now, and they are enjoying the sunny days between the rain.

You will also see lots of calves around the paddocks.

Time slips by quickly, and by next edition, we will be thinking about preparing for hay cutting and swathing.

If we are lucky, the season may extend, and we will have rain for longer.

This is often referred to as a soft finish.

A few farmers, large and small are tree planting and many of the projects are partially funded by the Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management.

Several farmers are regenerating sections of the Balgaling Brook, by planting native species along the Brook and small changes have already been noticed, with frogs, birdlife and native gilgies now spotted.

The water line has been fenced in these areas and this means livestock aren't damaging the waterways.

There have been many people involved planting trees over the years, and it is really rewarding for them, and the environment to see them begin to prosper.

On another matter, like the rest of the world we wait with bated breath to see what happens in the USA.

Our last experience with Trump at the helm did not bode well for our barley trade with China.

The markets have been jumping up and down with each development.

Watch this space.

Ear-piercing war whoop ends club rendition of *Running Bear*

Toodyay Music Club
Jenny Edgecombe

LAST month we had a cheerful meeting in the CWA Hall although the weather was a bit wet and windy.

As usual, we started with an enthusiastic warm-up session of well-known songs, including *Running Bear*.

One singer who shall remain nameless contributed the customary ear-piercing war-whoop at the end of this song.

We were also delighted when long-time former members, Peter and Moya, arrived on a surprise visit as for many years, they had made the trip from the Perth area to attend the club meetings.

This time they were in town as tourists and came well prepared with some delightful numbers, including *Who Knows Where the Time Goes*, and *Hasta Manana*.

Joe presented the poignant song, *Bush Girl*, an Australian song based on the story of a much-loved poem.

He also joined Jenny in a long-time favourite song, *Summer Wine*.

Australian singer and songwriter, Judy Small, has written many lovely songs and last month, Anne chose one of them, the moving *Speaking Hands and Hearing Eyes*.

Spencer contributed a beautiful rendition of the song, *Unchained Melody*, in his selection.

Collette gave us the haunting, thought-provoking song, *Sonny Don't Go Away*.

All this and a delicious afternoon tea leading to a most enjoyable afternoon for all.

The August meeting will be a light-hearted theme day, featuring songs relating to 'Pests' and you are welcome to join us as a performer or audience member.

The next club meeting will be at the CWA Hall, August 10 from 1pm and for more information call Joe on 0400 862 694.

We'll miss her

Moondyne Festival
Jean Melhuish-Hill

LOCAL Toodyay Graphic Artist, Sandra Harms, has been an enormous help with the Moondyne Festival by way of designing and producing the program and flyers.

Sandra devoted much time and expertise for a modest fee to the festival during the past five years during which the current committee has been involved and we are sure she helped for many earlier years as well.

She has also been the backbone of *The Toodyay Herald* newspaper.

Sandra was diagnosed with cancer just weeks before sadly passing on 14 July 2024.

She leaves a big hole in the Moondyne Festival preparations as well as at *The Herald*.

Our condolences to Sandra's family and friends.

Learning new songs for October Show

Toodyay Community Singers
Anne Millar

ISN'T the year flying by?

It's the Avon Descent already and it should be a good race now we've had the rain.

The Toodyay Singers are enjoying our rehearsals for the Agricultural Show in October with a selection of new songs for your entertainment.

It's not too late to join us and be part of this community event.

We rehearse every Thursday evening from 5.15pm to 6.30pm at the CWA Hall in Stirling Terrace.

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The Toodyay Herald





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NAIDOC event “Keep the fires burning” was a blazing success for the local Toodyay community

Noongar Kaartdijin
Aboriginal
Corporation



Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal
Corporation

THANKS to all who visited our recent NAIDOC event “Keep the Fires Burning” where Noongar information about local flora and fauna and food resources was on display.

Many visitors to our town dropped in on the day and headed home more informed about the cultural heritage of this area.

A huge thanks to our corporation members and to Dudja Dreaming services who helped out, and to *The Toodyay Herald* for use of the courtyard space.

It is with great sadness this month that we

write about the recent passing of Sandra Harms – friend and graphic designer who had been supporting us with the developing Noongar Trail.

A compassionate, intelligent, and kind human, Sandra was a rare combination of all the best of humanity.

Her support helping with graphic design on the Noongar Trail and other projects (including the National award winning Gnulla Karnany Waangkiny) was hugely appreciated.

Sandra immersed herself and her creative talent into these projects alongside our trail coordinator, Elders and research team.

Her respect, and growing understanding of Noongar culture was something she spoke about often.

What a sad loss for her family, and everyone who had the pleasure of knowing this most wonderful lady.

Rest in peace Sandra as you go to the place of your ancestors.



Some participants at the recent NAIDOC event “Keep the Fires Burning”.



All who attended had a great time at the event.

Kids auditions for ‘Matilda the Musical’ are coming up August 13

Toodyay Theatre Group
David Mitchell

THE TOODYAY Theatre Group is thrilled to announce this year’s upcoming youth production of ‘Matilda the Musical’.

And the best news is YOU can be part of bringing it to life on stage.

Whether you are an experienced performer or completely new to the stage, we encourage you to come along to auditions and showcase your talents.

Auditions will be held on August 13 at the Toodyay Memorial Hall from 5pm-7pm.

Rehearsals will then be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5pm to 7:30pm beginning on August 15 and running each week until the performances in mid-November.

We are looking for youth and there are roles for both male and female actors aged eight and up, as well as a few young adult roles too.

This beloved musical, based on the classic children’s book by Roald Dahl, promises to enchant audiences with its heartwarming story, memorable characters, and captivating music.

‘Matilda the Musical’ follows the story of a brilliant young girl with a vivid imagination.

At school, Matilda faces the headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, who rules with an iron fist.

However, Matilda finds an ally in her kind and supportive teacher, Miss Honey, who recognises Matilda’s potential and helps her harness her abilities.

Along the way, Matilda befriends classmates like Bruce Bogtrotter, known for his love of cake, and Lavender, who becomes a close friend.

Together, they navigate the challenges of school and stand up against the injustices they face.

Through courage, intelligence, and a bit of magic, Matilda shows that even the smallest individuals can make a significant impact and change their world for the better.

Don’t miss this incredible opportunity to be part of something amazing.

Get ready to bring the magic of Matilda to life on stage.

For more information, please contact the Toodyay Theatre Group.

Otherwise, we look forward to seeing you at the auditions on August 13.

AUDITIONS FOR

ROALD DAHL'S
Matilda
THE MUSICAL

AUGUST 13TH 2024
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
TOODYAY MEMORIAL HALL

For more information

TOODYAY THEATRE GROUP

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The Toodyay Herald



A bit of TLC and donated pet food keeps local pets healthy

Toodyay Locals Care
Jacquie Lucas

WHAT has happened at Toodyay Locals Care in July you may ask?

Big news is TLC took a delivery of pet food from ARK and Petbarn for distribution

through the Toodyay, Bedjoording and Morangup communities for people doing it tough to help them keep their pets healthy.

If you would like some please get in touch by text to Roz on 0427 744 352.

The vegetables are growing and as for the mushroom patch, it is positively exploding.

We have planted potatoes, broccoli, garlic, out of season tomatoes, beetroot, various herbs and more.

Thank you to Rio Tinto for their grant which enabled us to buy three more wicking beds, and get some posts to expand the chook yard.

As for our broody hens, no roosters mean no chickens.

The hens are about to be sent to broody jail so they are placed in an airy cage with food and water but no nesting materials.

This cools them down and breaks the cycle – important for their health as being broody without fruition results in a sick hen, and they may die without intervention.

They need to be caged for about seven days if not they go back on the cluck.

Thanks to a very generous person who won one of the recent wood raffles and kindly donated their winning wood to TLC.

This firewood has been distributed within the community to those in need.

We have been inundated with requests for warm soups and casseroles.

This is stretching our budget so donations of excess home produce are welcome.

Sincere condolences to all who have lost loved ones recently and please reach out if Toodyay Locals Care can help in any way.

We would like to thank those who have donated blankets, vegetables, fruit and warm clothing as well as all other items.

You would be surprised at the community need and we can only help with your help.

Thank you.

Lions change-over a 'Roaring Success' with a well-kept surprise

Lions Lines – Toodyay Lions Club
Heather McNamara, Secretary

ON SATURDAY June 29 your Toodyay Lions Club held their Change-Over night at The Rec in Northam.

I hear you say, "What does Change-Over mean?"

Well, it means we install our new officers into their positions within the club.

For 2024-2025 our main office bearers are President Rachel Oliver, Secretary Heather McNamara and Treasurer Peter Edwards.

At Change-Over night we also made John Pearce our 2023-2024 Lion of the Year.

This was in recognition of his outstanding work in coordinating the successful 2024 Lions Jumbo Auction, for liaison with the Toodyay Agricultural Society and working to build our 'Friends of Lions' community.

John's unwavering loyalty, devotion, and promotion of the Toodyay Lions Club across all platforms and in the community further makes his recognition well earned.

He is a busy man also being our membership coordinator and for this and the above and the 2023-2024 award we say "well done John".

If you see yourself joining Lions and being a potential 'Lion of the Year' email Toodyay.wa@lions.org.au for more information.



Meet Lion John

John is one of the Toodyay Lions Clubs founding 'Charter Members', who joined alongside his father Vern Pearce.

John has held the positions of First Year Director, Vice President and President on many occasions.

Anything we need to know about Lions in our community we have a walking, talking historian, in house.

John says, 'We have a focus on the valued contribution of our members including what, how each one can contribute'.

Why join Lions? – 'It gives you the opportunity to meet people outside of your normal routine. Lions' members are usually people with a glass half full outlook, and are eager to give back to the community.'

If this sounds like you then we would love to hear from you.

We Serve.



Roz Davidson and Graham Clarkson who donated the use of his truck

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Bolgart holds Open Golf Day

Bolgart in the News
Pam McGill

BOLGART Primary School P&C Association will be holding a Twilight Market on Saturday November 9 in Bolgart from 3pm to 7pm.

Should you have an interest in holding a stall, please email bolgart.pandc@gmail.com a link will be emailed to you.

Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Edward (Ted) Ludemann who passed away on June 29 aged 93 years.

Ted lived and farmed in Bolgart and Toodyay from 1931 to 2000.

Ladies Golf

Well done to Joy Hamilton, Vivienne Camerer and Therese Chitty who travelled to Augusta for the Golf WA Provincial Stroke Event and finished in the top 16 in the AM/PM Nett.

Ladies held their Open Day and played for the Edmonds Cup kindly sponsored by Matthew and Lynda Edmonds.

There was a great field of 49 Ladies from 16 clubs, playing a Stableford event, the weather was good, the food delicious.

A highlight for the day was Kerry Fewster from Gingin scoring a Hole in One on the 15th hole.

Kerry also won the Edmonds Cup with 34 points and the Nett runner-up was Grace Snooke (Northam) 33 points.

Gross Winner was Jenine Robinson (York) 19 points, Best 3rd Nett Tracy Vanzetti (Moora Lake View) 31 points.

Best Veteran 65+ Pam Meston (Bolgart), 30 points, Best Unplaced Visitor Crystal Pascoe (Wongan Hills) 31 points, Best Unplaced Local Jenni Knowles (Bolgart) 31 points.

Best 1-9 Joselyn Crook (The Vines) 20 points, Best 10-18 Nolene Kaszanski and Therese Chitty (Bolgart) 17 points.

Congratulations to all winners and many thanks to all the generous sponsors.

Ladies first round of Championships, Captain Nolene Kaszanski Trophy, was won by Jenni Knowles with Joy Hamilton runner-up.

Mens Golf

The Bolgart Men held their 4BBB sponsored by CNE Ag Innovations, Dylan, Brian and Karlene Crane on Saturday July 13 with 15 pairs competing in the Stableford event in good weather.

Winners were Barry Chattaway and Dave Thorn (Goomalling) 44 points, Gross

Winners Steve Pecnik and Steve Russell (Lakelands & Mandurah) 32 points.

Nett runners-up were Justin Edmonds and Keith Cream (Bolgart) 42 points, third Nett Lester Snooke and Bryan Crane (Bolgart) 40 points.

Congratulations to all winners.

The Ludemann Cup sponsored by the Ludemann Family was played for on Sunday July 14 with a field of 28 players playing 27 holes.



Men's 4BBB Winners L to R Dave Thorn (Goomalling) Sponsor Bryan Crane, Barry Chattaway (Goomalling).



A warm fire at a Bejoording feasting night.

Bejoording hosts feasting nights

Bejoording

Community Group
Allana Armstead

WOW, THE last 2 months have flown by.

The cold weather has crept up and now everyone is putting on their heaters and those lucky enough to have a fireplace are relaxing in front of them and watching the flames dancing around the burning logs.

The Community Group has had a couple of yummy, belly filling and warmth evoking feast nights.

In June, the theme was casserole and curry and what a spread – a delicious variety of home cooked meals with chicken, beef and vegetables – something to suit every taste bud.

Then there were sides of rice, soft fresh bread rolls and papadums (who knew that you can get them and cook them in the microwave?)

Soup was the theme at our other feast night at the beginning of July.

Sadly, I had to miss this night as I was unwell and did not want to spread whatever nasty bug that I had picked up.

From the info I could shake out of the other half, the night was a success with the delicious variety that we always seem to have each month on feast nights.

Not a drop was left and everyone went home with a full belly.

A very big thankyou to all members who provided the food for these feast nights.

Each month we get to try different recipes for dishes that we might never have had before and appreciating the opposition and their take on your favourite dish.

However, before we could start our dining, the monthly meetings had to take place.

Seems like we are going pretty well so far this year and nothing out of the ordinary was reported.

At this time of year, we have the new arrivals of baby lambs frolicking around

paddocks.

Everyone is cleaning up around their property to get it looking good for spring and summer.

Spraying those pesky weeds, tidying up around the gardens (more pesky weeds) and pruning trees and bushes and piling up the cuttings for an end of season bonfire.

We were lucky enough to be able to celebrate three "big" birthdays during the last month.

It is great to be able celebrate with friends and enjoy the laughter, fun, great food and warm fires.

Happy birthday to Deb, Jen and Badger.

Join us every Wednesday at the Bejoording Community Centre on Bejoording Road.

Rock up as you are from 6pm, enjoy the conversations and laughter and leave when you wish.

We welcome all to our group so if you are new to Bejoording or have been in this area for a while but have not dropped in, don't be shy.

We really do enjoy welcoming all and help you to get to know your neighbours and the local community.

Keep warm and drive safe as the mornings are starting to be quite chilly. The rain is making the roads a bit slippery and morning fog makes for an interesting drive to work.

Until next month, enjoy every day.

More facilities at Community Hall

Morangup Progress Association
Daryl Cooper, Chairperson

THANKS to the efforts of the Morangup Progress Association, locals can look forward to more facilities in and around the community hall in Wallaby Way.

Successful grant applications have been made by the association resulting in funding to install a barbecue in the outdoor area between the hall and the basketball court, as well as an upgrade to the kitchen facilities.

We acknowledge the donors Chalice Mining and Bulk Nutrients respectively.

While it can be difficult – due to the current demand for trades – to confidently predict a completion date for projects, it is hoped to have the barbecue area completed by the time the weather is more conducive to outdoor events.

Meanwhile, the Friday Drop-In nights at the community hall on the last Friday of the month are increasing in popularity despite the inclement weather (perhaps the fire pit is helping in that regard).

Attendees say they welcome this opportunity to meet with fellow residents.

Another upcoming opportunity for the community to get together is a Quiz Night on September 7 to raise funds for our local community organisations and more details of the event will be available soon.



Ludemann Cup Winner Lester Snooke (Bolgart)

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Bolgart Country Women's Association 100th Birthday

Country Women's Association
Viv Street

CONGRATULATIONS to Bolgart CWA on their 100th birthday last month.

A great feat for Bolgart and the women who have given time, love and skill into helping their community thrive.

The CWA teddy wore a special outfit for the birthday, not very suitable for this wet weather but a one-hundredth birthday deserves a touch of outrageousness.

Four members and our State President Felicity Edwards joined Bolgart for their celebratory lunch with branches gathered at Bolgart to mark this proud moment.

The State Conference in Joondalup had 109 branches represented.

No Toodyay members were able to attend, however, the Baldivis Belles were our proxy and Kelly-Anne Kain carried our banner in the opening ceremony which we watched on a video link.

Our votes were given by her and we were pleased the new Constitution motion was accepted with huge enthusiasm.

Dalwallinu CWA was awarded the Community project grant which they will use to provide a sheltered gazebo at Richardson Park Nature playground.

Koorunga and Rockingham branches shared the Clarice Rudduck memorial award shield and monetary prize.

This award was established in 1962 by Mr Rudduck in memory of his wife a member of the State Council at the time of her death and is presented to the branch which exhibits the finest community effort in the preceding year.

So many communities benefit from the work the CWA does so it is thanks to Mr Rudduck that each year a mention is made of those branches which work hard.

One change this year is men can now join the CWA as associate members though need to be invited to join meetings.

Many husbands help and support the work we do and they deserve our thanks.

A new cookbook 'Generations in the Kitchen' and a Women of Spirit Grevillea plant were also launched at the conference and I think both will be in great demand at

\$35.00 each.

We hope to have the cookbooks soon and our CWA cookbook is still selling well.

It was a quiet month at a local level with members unwell or travelling but we met to see the completion of our knitathon blankets at our last coffee morning.

Elizabeth put the finishing touches to the edges and made a smart bag for each blanket so recipients will have a handy carrier bag and a cosy warm blanket.

Three lovely scarves were an extra treat from Lynne so thank you again Lynne.

Last meeting we were supposed to dress up as Goddesses but only one turned up who

was the Celtic goddess of Nature Danu.

Someone pointed out that most of the Greek goddesses were near naked but that was a step too far in our winter.

A Celtic goddess needs warmth and maybe she brought rain with her that week.

We hold our meetings on the fourth Thursday of the month at 1pm and coffee mornings on the second Thursday of the month at 10am.

Both are held in the CWA Hall on Stirling Terrace with easy access from Charcoal Lane for walkers and wheelchairs.

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



Elizabeth Mansom with all the bags she made and Viv Street as Danu Celtic Goddess of nature. In other words 'Danu and the Bag lady.'



The group of retirees from Beechboro who visited the Old Goal Museum in July.

Volunteers needed for Museums

Volunteers of Toodyay Museums
Barry Keens

SADLY, last month we said goodbye to Suellyn, the Shire of Toodyay's Cultural Heritage Officer and wish her well in her future endeavours.

In the short time Suellyn was with us she made some progressive and beneficial changes to the Newcastle Goal Museum.

We have continued fundraising with over \$2000 raised by selling the old roof shingles and donated \$1850 to the community and museum in the last financial year.

We thank everyone for their support and hope this will continue until we sell all the shingles over the next couple of years.

We are also short of two volunteers for front-of-house duties at the museum and would welcome anyone with an interest in museums or community to contact our new Cultural Heritage Officer, or just enquire at the Toodyay Visitor Centre.

The hours are easy, and you get to meet people from all over the world.

The museum's exhibition room is being prepared for a display by the Toodyay Agricultural Society at the Annual Show later this year and more details will follow next month.

Amongst our visitors for the month, I caught up with a group of retirees from Beechboro who were happy to have their photo taken.

They were then off into town for lunch.

As a reminder, the Old Gaol Museum and Connors Mill are open daily from 10am to 3pm and Toodyay Shire residents are admitted free of charge.

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Great door prizes help raise much needed funds for the Cancer Council

The Crooked Needle
Jean Melhuish-Hill

FRIDAY June 28 was a big day for the craft group with 48 attendees at our Australia's Biggest Morning Tea held at the CWA Hall.

We had some great door prizes as well as a large selection of raffle prizes.

The trading table was also a great success with the funds raised from the sale of these items all going to the Cancer Council.

Our members invited friends and family; the atmosphere was very festive and the morning tea outstanding.



Kwan Stevens, winner of the quilt made by our ladies specifically for the morning tea event.

There were lots of homemade goodies, both savoury and sweet accompanied the tea and coffee.

We had a 'guess how many beads in the jar' and 'how many balls of yarn in the container'.

Elizabeth Mansom came closest on the number of beads the jar held and won a

beautifully embroidered fleecy blanket crafted by Carol Barlow.

Veya Due was the closest to the number of yarn balls, winning a beautifully crocheted handbag crafted by Lee King.

Both the ladies were guests and members of Toodyay CWA.

Two table games took the form of a general quiz and the other a true or false.

Our general knowledge contained craft questions, some related to cancer, a few regarding the town of Toodyay and some general knowledge questions which were taken from the 10-15 year old quiz selection. I was quite surprised at how much information kids were expected to know.

We had a few tables with the same score so we had to go to a tiebreaker.

The table who in 30 seconds could list the most heritage listed buildings in Stirling Terrace took away the prizes of some lovely facial and body products for each participant.

Our second game contained two True and one False statement and the tables had to pick the false statement.

We had a clear winner on that one so no tiebreaker was required.

This table received individually embroidered drink coasters.

The raffle prizes ranged from craft items, wine, honey, tea and coffee mugs to mention just a few.

The major prize from the raffle was a gift voucher for the Victoria Hotel which was won by Val Keoh, one of our members who has a holiday home in Toodyay and had made a special trip up the hill for our morning tea.

Whilst there were a number of door prizes the piece de resistance was a quilt that our members had made specially for our morning tea.

In varying shades of pink and white it contained 12 individually hand stitched Sashiko panels.

The lucky lady who won this is new to craft and has been mastering crocheting.

She had been admiring the quilt as it came together at our weekly gatherings.

Congratulations to Kwan Stevens for a great piece of work.

After eating all those delicious morsels and a number of cups of tea or coffee we raised

\$1,738.25 for the Cancer Council – our best contribution yet.

My thanks go to all the ladies of the craft group who helped on the day, brought along morning tea as well as those who were unable to be with us and to everyone for the very kind monetary donations and/or raffle prizes.

We would also like to thank the Victoria Hotel for their gift voucher donation.

We have a very happy prize winner.

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

For contact information please see *Where and When* on Page 30.

Building a community quilt for the Toodyay Show a block at a time

Ragbags Quilting Group
Kerry Gregory

I GET to this month each year and I am renewed with the joy of living where we are with the beautiful green paddocks, tree laden hilltops, anticipation of good crops and a good spring and summer ahead.

With those thoughts is the expectation of the Toodyay Agricultural Society Show, which celebrates the 170th show this year.

Preparations are under way including the Dance through the Decades on August 31.

There is also work-in-progress to produce a community quilt commemorating the 170th milestone, and many women from our Toodyay district have been busy completing blocks for the project.

We are all excited knowing there is work to be done in compiling the blocks, borders and binding the quilt, fingers crossed, it will be done in time for the show.

With the event nearing it is time for local handcrafters and quilters to be working towards items for exhibiting on show day.

It is not too late to start a quilt if you have fabric, pattern and the enthusiasm to get cracking.

A highlight of the show for me is to see exhibitors I know producing fabulous items, not just

quilting but knitting, crochet, sewing, embroidery and craftwork helping to make our Toodyay Show such a success.

As always, new members are welcome to join our regular gathering of the Ragbags group and a cuppa and a chat are assured.

Bring along some handwork, your blocks and sewing machine if you wish, or any craft work being undertaken: we love to see your creativity and share your enthusiasm.

The Ragbags Group meets at the St Stephens Anglican Church Hall, Stirling Terrace, Toodyay on the first and third Wednesday of each month between 10am and 2pm, (we use the back door as it's too cold to have the big front one open) and bring your lunch.

One block for the new Agricultural Society commemorative quilt, by Lynlee Chitty.



CBH Pre-Harvest Meetings

The pre-harvest meetings are an opportunity to get involved in planning for your local sites and hear about any important changes for the coming harvest. We encourage and welcome everyone to come along and provide input.

Date	Time	Location	Sites
18/9	9am	MECKERING SPORTS CLUB	MECKERING
18/9	12pm	GOOMALLING COMMUNITY CENTRE	GOOMALLING
19/9	9am	KELLERBERRIN REC CENTRE	KELLERBERRIN / DOODLAKINE / KODJ KODJIN
19/9	1pm	CUNDERDIN CRC	CUNDERDIN / TAMMIN / WATERCARRIN
24/9	10:30am	AVON CBH OFFICE	AVON / MEENAAR
24/9	3pm	CALINGIRI FOOTBALL CLUB	CALINGIRI
25/9	10am	QUAIRADING CRC	QUAIRADING / YOTING / MAWSON
25/9	3pm	YORK COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE	YORK / GREENHILLS

For more information, contact your local CBH office or visit cbh.com.au/harvest/pre-harvest-meetings



Legendary 'Dundee Cake' and 'Dancing through the Decades'

Toodyay Agricultural Society (Inc)
Alison Wroth

AS YOU read this the Toodyay Show schedule and events program will be at the printers and soon to financial members.

This information will then be available in town and online via our website: www.toodyayagshow.com.au.

Social media posts will also be featuring judges' tips and ideas to give you the heads-up of what to expect leading to the event.

For those who enjoy cookery, have a go at the President's favourite recipe.

Karen has picked a recipe from 1882, the famous 'Dundee Cake', and the legendary cooks in our community better start thinking of a recipe to bake for the popular 'Man Cake' this year.

The good old tomato soup ingredient is battling to get a mention nowadays, as things are getting very flash in that class thinking of last year's competition.

Promotion of the 'Dancing through the Decades' has hit an all-time high lately, especially with Damien at his Makit Hardware & Farm Supplies Shop providing a cash or Eftpos ticket outlet allowing hassle-free ticket purchases.

Please buy your tickets soon so you'll be there on the night to help us celebrate and honour seventeen decades of the Toodyay Agricultural Show with this Decennial Dance on Saturday August 31.

The dance will be at the iconic Toodyay Memorial Hall and promises an enchanting blend of nostalgia and festivity against the backdrop of warm country hospitality.

Attendees are encouraged to embrace the dress to impress theme to celebrate a night of timeless elegance and fun.

"Tod Woodward, better known as 'The Dinner Singer', is returning to his roots in Toodyay to serenade guests with his soulful voice and electrifying guitar skills", said President Karen Dore.

"Whether you prefer classic ballroom or disco beats, if you've seen or heard of Tod's live repertoire or even his DJ sets, we know he will keep everyone on their feet."

For the taste buds, Temptations Catering will be offering hearty savouries complemented by a delightful selection of sweets and warm beverages served by Blue Gum Coffee from their charming van.

The link to the Toodyay Show is obvious and prepares everyone for a great night to celebrate our historical Agricultural Show.

Cold drinks will also be available on a cash basis thanks to local volunteers.

Tickets are available for \$100 per person or \$170 per couple from the Makit Hardware & Farm Supplies for cash or Eftpos sales with tickets in the hand.

For more information and to purchase tickets online, visit <https://toodyayagshow.com.au/forms/dance/>.

Transperth has scheduled a 'Show Special' from Midland to Toodyay, with excellent

times of arrival and departure to suit all visitors and give a decent day out.

To make a booking go to our website then hit 'contact', 'getting there', 'Avon Link'.

If you have any problems, contact our Admin Officer to assist.

I would like to thank our new Platinum Sponsor and partner, Toodyay and Northam Bendigo Community Bank for their support of our fireworks display.

Both parties are keen to see this sponsorship continue into the future.



2021 Agricultural Show fleece winner.

Without the financial backing and in-kind support from our major sponsors, Chalice Mining, Boshack Outback, Toodyay Op Shop, Double Barrel Entertainment, Dunnings Fuel, Morgan Stock Feed, Makit Hardware and Farm, CSBP Fertilisers, Vernice Earthmoving and especially the Shire of Toodyay, the new attractions, competitions and overall smooth running of the show would not be possible.

We also extend our gratitude to the local businesses and individuals who provide support by donating prize money and trophies, and by advertising in our Show Schedule and on our social media sites.

Please start thinking about the show in the next few months.

We have been out there with the committee members at our wood raffle over the past weeks at the coldest place in town – the IGA foyer.

Congratulations to Donna Clarke for buying that ticket when Neville was talking and thanks for the jarrah donation by Darryl Kemp.

Our new competition prize is one donated

by the eco-retreat Boshack Outback being a special weekend for a family of four staying at Boshack valued at \$1000.

What a huge door prize at the Toodyay Show that will be.

We are so thrilled to have Deryck Brockhurst support the show in this way and our heartfelt thanks go to him.

See you at the Toodyay Show.



2021 Agricultural Show crowd scene.

50th anniversary of historic publication - Old Toodyay and Newcastle

Toodyay Historical Society (Inc)
Robyn Taylor, Vice President

THIS year our town has a number of anniversaries to celebrate.

The Toodyay Agricultural Show being the biggest, celebrating the 170th Anniversary of its first show (1854) in October.

A 'younger' group is the Toodyay Friends of the River that has been organising a series of events throughout the year for its 30th anniversary.

This includes a photographic display that is currently making its way around town at selected venues, and the recent launch of the West Toodyay Wander walk trail.

Fortunately for our Society, it was realised by Adam, one of our more alert (and younger) members, that this year also marks the 50th anniversary of the publication of Toodyay's history, *Old Toodyay and Newcastle*.

Researched and written by Dr Rica Erickson AM (1908-2009), the book was launched by the Shire on Sunday 24 November 1974 in the Toodyay Memorial Hall.

The book remains to this day a classic history of a rural region in Western Australia and owes its depth and breadth of coverage to a writer of extraordinary abilities.

Rica Erickson nee Sandilands came to Bolgart as a young school teacher in 1934 and in 1936 married local farmer Sydney Erickson.

Following Education Department regulations, she had to undertake compulsory retirement.

The birth of four children followed.

As a young woman Rica had a passion for history and the natural world that surrounded

her, taking her children on jaunts into the bush to observe and collect specimens.

As well as achieving status over the years as an eminent historian, Rica became a renowned naturalist whose observations and contributions to natural history resulted in a nature reserve in the Shire of Victoria Plains being named after her.

Rica also achieved renown as an illustrator and painter of wildflowers, with some of her publications becoming standard texts particularly on trigger plants and orchids.

In 1987 Rica was awarded AM, an Order of Australia.

To acknowledge and celebrate our former Patron's achievements and contributions to Toodyay and this region, our Society planned a History Forum about Rica to follow our AGM on Sunday 4 August.

Titled 'How lucky is Toodyay', an exploration into Rica Erickson's outstanding contribution to Toodyay's history and heritage' expresses our deepest appreciation for the legacy of her work.

Those who knew Rica were welcomed to come along and share their memories.

Later in the year, in November, we plan to hold a celebratory exhibition with the Shire at the Newcastle Gaol Museum.

Recognising this derelict building was one of Toodyay's most significant heritage buildings, Rica started the process for its restoration with the assistance of prominent journalist friend Mrs Ray Oldham.

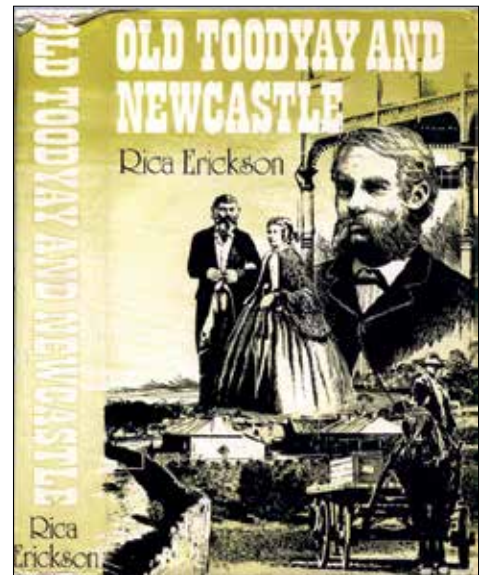
Ray and her landscape architect husband John Oldham were renowned for their research and publishing about the state's colonial heritage including the major government works of George Temple-Poole.

Toodyay is fortunate to have several Temple-Poole buildings including the Duke Street School (1886), Toodyay Court House (1896) now the Shire Council offices, the Hospital (1892-1894) on the corner of Henry and Duke Streets, and the former Post Office (1897) in Stirling Terrace.

Our August excursion will be a tour of the Toodyay Museums (Mill and Gaol) then a picnic lunch at Pelham Lookout.

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

Contacts: See *Where and When*, page 30.



A well-used copy of *Old Toodyay and Newcastle* by Rica Erickson. Launched by the Shire of Toodyay in 1974.

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'The Crocodiles would get me before I had a chance to drown'

Avon Woodturners
Hamish Dobie

WE HAVE had to behave more appropriately at the woodturners shed recently, as we have two new members, Raelene and Beatrice, who are already beginning to embarrass the men with their enthusiasm and skills.

Woodturning isn't just for men. These ladies have quickly picked up the skills needed, and their sense of style (which, sadly I'm lacking) will soon come to the fore with the pieces they make, leaving us men in their wake.

Well done, ladies, and I hope your successes encourage others to come along and have a go on the wood lathe.

For myself, well I've been away in Africa for several weeks.

I came across Rhodesian Teak trees, now an endangered species in Zimbabwe.

Teak makes fantastic furniture, floorboards and veneer and, unfortunately, has been over-harvested for generations.

Then I found out about the Sausage Tree in Botswana also endangered due to over-harvesting.

Locals use this tree medicinally, cosmetically, and as a snake bite antidote.

As the tree trunk grows straight up, they were used to make dug-out canoes to get around the Okavango delta in North Botswana.

The locals use fiberglass these days, but the shape is the same.

I travelled in a local canoe, and told the 'skipper' I couldn't swim, but he said not to worry, as the crocodiles would get me before I had a chance to drown.

Now home safely, I've continued to work on a special segmented fruit bowl, while also

starting on a vase made of a hard wood that had been attacked by a borer some time ago and has holes all through it.

With luck I'll be able to use resin to decorate the finished vase, plugging the holes at the same time.

If unsuccessful, well it will come in handy in the fire on these very cold nights.

However, all the levity stopped last month with the passing of one of our members and very dear friend, Rob Pearce.

Rob was a true gentleman, a big bundle of fun with a generous heart.

We will miss him and all Avon Woodturners members send our condolences to his wife Sue and his family.

We meet each Wednesday and Sunday, 9 am until noon at Shed 1, Shire Depot, Railway Road, Toodyay, and all are welcome to come along and try their hand.

Please contact me on 0423 115 204, or hamishd2701@gmail.com, if you want more information.



The skipper of the dug-out canoe wasn't joking about crocodiles in the Okavango delta in North Botswana.

Advertorial

Lance East Exotics welcomed as sponsor of Tarmac Events WA including the 2024 Tarmac West

ROSS Tapper from Tarmac Events is proud to announce and welcomes Lance East Exotics as the official sponsor of the 2024 Lance East Exotics Tarmac West and their other events over the next 12 months.

The iconic event, a cornerstone of Perth's motorsport calendar, will make a thrilling return to the Perth CBD and surrounding areas.

The exhilarating four-day Tarmac West Rally will run from September 12 to 15.

Lance East Exotics' sponsorship of the Tarmac Events WA and Tarmac West is a testament to their dedication to the motorsport community.

By sponsoring this event, Lance East Exotics recognises the hard work, commitment, and precision of competitors, volunteers, and enthusiasts.

"We are proud to support the remarkable skill and passion of the drivers at the Tarmac West Rally," stated Lance East Exotics Managing Director Alfa Aminudin.

"These individuals push their limits to achieve greatness, providing a thrilling spectacle for all motorsport enthusiasts."

Lance East Exotics – a luxury car dealership where luxury meets velocity – specializes in offering an exclusive range of supercars that are not just modes of transportation but expressions of personality and sophistication.

From the roar of a Ferrari to the elegance of an Aston Martin, Lance East Exotics handpicks each vehicle to ensure it meets its unrivaled quality and performance standards.

The Lance East Exotics Tarmac West starts in Forrest Place at midday on Thursday, September 12, and then runs through

Whiteman Park and the exciting night stage in Ellenbrook.

On Friday, the rally goes through Parkerville and Kalamunda, including the iconic Zig Zag, before heading back to Forest Place for a Show N Shine in the middle of Perth CBD.

On Saturday, the crews head to Toodyay, Lower Chittering, and Bullsbrook.

On Sunday, there is a Celebration of Motorsport and Celebration of Hot Rods and Street Machines, which promises a day brimming with excitement.

Spectators can look forward to an atmosphere of vibrant carnival set against the backdrop of the Perth City Sprint and Shannons Classics on the Swan with the final stage for Tarmac West.

The event will showcase Perth's largest collection of motorsport vehicles and

various interactive workshops, including a demonstration of Radio Rally Club's remote-control cars, Motorcycling WA's workshop for young riders, with opportunities to ride the Monster Bus, helicopter rides, food vans and much more.

Join us for Lance East Exotics Tarmac West from Thursday, September 12, to Sunday, September 15, at Langley Park, Perth.

Admission to Langley Park is free and all the spectator Points, ensuring a memorable event that encapsulates the spirit of motorsport for all attendees.

For more information about Lance East Exotics, please visit their website at <https://www.lanceeastexotics.com.au/>. For more information on Tarmac Events WA and Tarmac West, please visit <https://tarmacevents.com.au/>

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SHIRE NEWS

Compliance Matters

Did you know that the Shire of Toodyay is responsible for issuing Development (Planning) Approvals and Building Permits and that you as landowners and developers are responsible for ensuring you have the correct approvals in place prior to commencing any development?

The Shire of Toodyay is experiencing numerous examples where development has already commenced (such as delivery of materials onsite to earthworks and pouring of concrete slabs). This is creating significant issues for Shire staff as compliance requires additional administration and often puts the team under pressure to resolve these issues. This means additional cost burdens and time blowouts for other applications and services. We recognise that times are tough and that engaging contractors to do these jobs as well as supplying materials is becoming increasingly difficult. However, in continuing to ask for 'forgiveness' rather than seeking permission first, it is unfair on members of the community and developers who are trying to do the right thing. It is also a serious matter which can result in fines and or prosecution.

To avoid such unpleasant outcomes, we ask you to plan well in advance and talk to Shire staff about approvals and processes so we can best serve you. Just because you are getting a good deal on supplies and works – doesn't mean that the rest of the community deserves a bad one.

Let's capture your attention on trapping animals.

The Shire of Toodyay Rangers can assist residents by providing animal traps for a \$100 bond. Contact the Shire Rangers on 9574 9370 prior to pick up or drop off to ensure the traps are available. Traps can be collected at the Shire Administration Centre or the Visitors Centre. This service is available weekdays between 8.00am and 5.00pm.

The Rangers will not come to pick up a trapped animal outside of these times. So, to avoid any unnecessary stress on the captured animal, or on you as a landowner, avoid capturing animals over the weekends.

The Rangers may be able to provide a drop off and collection service of the traps direct to your door.

For more information – give us a call.



Toodyay International Food Festival

The Toodyay International Food Festival has an exciting lineup of entertainment this year. Our Stirling Park stage will host a plethora of music entertainment including Luz Del Bosque – music from the jungles of Brazil and the Peruvian mountains to the Mexican Deserts and beyond. The Bambuseae Rhythm Section will keep you entertained with a six-piece groove-based band hailing from Fremantle. They will deliver a fusion of original funk, rhythm & blues, rock & roll and global rhythms. Sam Brazil is back again, the beautiful and talented dances really wowed the crowd last year and got everyone up on their feet.

Don't miss our youth band stage in Duidjee Park, featuring a large range of music.



Toodyay International Food Festival
Ocean Reef High School Year 12 Band

performed by our up and coming Perth Musos including Reggie Thompson, Reggie is fun and flamboyant, covering hits from the 60's, 70's and 80's. Ocean Reef High School were a hit last year and are back, performing a huge variety of different genres. So don't miss this year's festival. All of this entertainment and more....

Shire bids farewell to Greg Warburton

It is with great regret that the Shire bids farewell to one of its outstanding employees, Mr. Greg Warburton, who began work as the Shire's first ever Reserves Management Officer nearly 10 years ago.

He was already well known to the Council and the local community through his years of various volunteer and conservation activities. During his tenure, Greg focused on environmental management and bush fire risk reduction on Shire managed land.

With 160 reserves and large areas of unallocated Crown Land across the Shire, this role has been challenging and multi-faceted. In consultation with local heritage groups, he has added value to many reserves and river localities by installing interpretive signage, walking trails and facilities to enhance the visitor experience.

The creation of a Conservation Covenant and the ongoing development of the Bilya Walk Track have been particularly rewarding for him and many others. Much of Greg's time was spent working closely with community emergency services for bush fire incident response and support. This relationship has also delivered transformational change through the engagement of specialised contractors funded by the State Government's Mitigation Activity Fund.

Greg's contribution has been greatly valued by the Shire and we all wish him and his wife Vicki the very best for their well-earned retirement.



Greg Warburton

Changes to Planning Delegations - Heritage

Planning delegations refer to the authority granted to certain individuals or bodies within a local government to make decisions on planning matters without requiring approval from the full council. This process helps streamline decision-making, improve efficiency, and reduce the burden on council meetings.

These delegations are frequently reviewed and periodically changes will be made.

Recently the Council voted to change the delegations which now require any variations to the Shire's Local Planning Policy – Central

Toodyay Heritage Area to come to the Council for determination.

For example, if your development is proposing a roof pitch of 15 degrees as opposed to 25 degrees – the matter must come to the Council.

As this process may now add additional time to the approval process to allow for sequencing in the Council Meeting cycle, please ensure you are planning well in advance and not engaging with contractors or commencing works until this process is complete.

Notification of proposed night works

Arc Infrastructure, the manager and operator of Western Australia's freight rail network, is planning rail maintenance works daily between 6pm 31/7/2024 to 6am 30/9/2024 at various locations within the Rail Corridor in the boundaries of Shire of Toodyay with the Shire of Northam in the East and the City of Swan in the West as indicated in red on the map below.

Rail grinding will be undertaken during night shift to mitigate fire risk of conducting works during the day.

The rail grinding is safety-critical work which reduces the day-to-day wheel noise from the trains and prolongs rail life reducing the need for track replacement. The Shire of Toodyay has approved their Noise Management Plan with the condition that they notify residents of the proposed works. Works will be carried out between scheduled train movements. All efforts will be made to minimise disturbance to you and other members of the public; however, some unavoidable inconvenience may arise.



REMINDER: Community Dog Walkers

When walking your dogs on Community ovals please use the "poop" bags provided by the Shire to pick up your dog's mess. These ovals are also used for children and adults to play sport and other activities. Nobody likes to step or fall on smelly mess when enjoying a day out.

