

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, Waddington, Dewars Pool, Culham, Bejoording, Nunile, Julimar, Bakers Hill, Clackline, Woolloo, Wundowie, Gidgegannup and local districts.

November 2024
Edition 440

Huge crowd enjoys 170th Toodyay Show on a perfect day



The 170th Toodyay Agricultural Show saw over 5000 visitors descend on the town to enjoy the abundance of community exhibits, including the best Man Cake in Toodyay, fruit and veg displays, quilting and woodcraft. Not to forget the sheep, chickens, cattle, goats and equestrian events. In the words of Karen Dore, President of the Toodyay Agricultural Society, "Wow, what a spectacular Show Day we have all just enjoyed". More pictures Page 8.

Policy not followed for road upgrades

Sean Hefferon

DURING public question time at last month's Ordinary Council Meeting a senior Toodyay Shire officer said that policy was not followed when selecting road upgrade projects for the 2024-25 budget.

The Toodyay shire policy titled "Road Upgrade Criteria" has the objective "to establish a transparent and quantifiable approach for the prioritisation of proposed road upgrade projects across the Shire's road network for consideration in the next financial years budget".

Under the policy, road upgrades are to be rated against four key criteria being transport benefit, community benefits, financial benefits and road safety.

The road safety evaluation criteria include reported crash history, road safety and alignment and road width.

In response to the following question put by Mr Aldo Lamas, a Toodyay resident and past Coordinator Civil Works & Maintenance at the shire, "While developing the infrastructure roads budget could you please confirm that the selection of these roads was conducted as per the Shire infrastructure policy road upgrade criteria?"

In his initial answer Charles Sullivan, Executive Manager Infrastructure, Assets and Services said, "In terms of selection, there were a number of roads proposed for upgrades at various parts of the Shire, however due to budgetary constraints Council at the end of the day made a decision on what roads were included in the current financial year budget".

"Roads have been selected based on community feedback and our responses from the community and the industry on the routes that are deteriorating due to traffic loading

and connectivity, for example Phillips Road", Mr Sullivan said.

Cr McKeown Shire President then said, "I think to be fair to Mr Lamas his question was could we confirm the selection of the roads was conducted in accordance with the infrastructure road upgrade criteria policy?" Mr Sullivan replied, "No".

Continued on Page 5

Chalice answers

THE HERALD was contacted last month by a Toodyay resident worried about the potential for asbestos exposure related to Chalice Minings proposed Gonneville Project.

These concerns were prompted by Clair Medhurst's opinion piece in *The Herald's* October 2024 edition ("Many risks associated with proposed mining").

Continued on Page 3

Coming events

Remembrance Day Service
Mon 11 November, 10.45am

Toodyay Farmers Market
Sun 17 November, 9am - 1pm

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The Toodyay Herald

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NEXT TOODYAY HERALD EDITION

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Noon Friday
 November 22

STORY DEADLINE

Noon Wednesday
 November 25

DISTRIBUTED

Thursday
 December 5

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 Articles and stories: news@toodyayherald.com.au

In praise of joining the audience

Dr. Christian Mauri

A FEW months ago, my fiancé and I attended the opening of Toodyay's own Chieftain Music Club.

The warm audience in that beautifully decorated room inspired me to take a note for a future article.

It read: "In praise of joining the audience." Given that the previous article explored the idea that opportunity dances with those on the dance floor, I'd like to use this month to honour that little note by sharing two observations from my work writing life stories and organising public events.

If you don't consider yourself a performer but fancy a good live show, then what follows is for you.

It's where things get real

A few years ago, I interviewed a man named Andy for a book about a local community group.

While Andy was a core member of the group, he described himself as being more interested in watching the dance floor than joining it.

Far from viewing this preference as a negative, he celebrated it as the source of cherished memories.

An example of this is from his observations of Adam, whom I described last month.

From Andy's perspective, Adam always seemed to be this softly spoken, deeply serious intellectual. (Sounds intimidating, right?)

This view was shattered when a Swedish pop song began playing at the group's Christmas party.

Suddenly, Adam launched into what Andy described as a mysteriously captivating set of head jerks and waist twists.

The silliness of that moment dissolved an invisible distance between the two men.

While Andy's respect for Adam was untouched, it was now more grounded – more human.

I've heard many stories just like this in my work.

An academic said that they were unable to relax around their scary supervisor, until they watched her butcher Kate Bush at karaoke.

An old Scotsman said he was only able to work up the courage to email his hero after seeing "that he was just a guy" at a show where the sound failed.

These moments require human contact. Yes, they can be observed through online blooper reels and tell-all biographies.

But it is best to see them in the flesh.

There are no bots at the bar

Did you know around half of online traffic is generated by bots? About a third is human-appearing bots designed to confuse and upset you.

This is because irate people engage more, meaning they give more data and see more ads.

The next time you find yourself saying, "This fool online can't actually believe that!"

you may well be right.

Bots can't believe anything.

For the last five years I've organised a monthly event called Politics at the Pub.

Every month, the online advertisements I post for the event are met with preposterous, but just believable, comments and messages.

Curiously, none of these commenters ever attend the event in person.

While some of them are indeed real people, most of them, it turns out, are bots.

If you only "engage" with society online, it is easy to believe the world's gone mad.

It isn't uncommon for first-time attendees to express surprise that the event was so pleasant.

The tenor of the discussion online leads them to expect a bloodbath in person.

But there are no bots in person. People, it turns out, are typically looking for a good time.

And so, if your online experiences have you harbouring poor expectations for the beliefs and behaviours of others, take a trip to the audience.

If the dance floor is where we step up and present ourselves to the world, the audience is where we sit back, blend in, and appreciate the sights and sounds.

It's where we watch staged performances, listen to live music, look at art and consider presentations.

Being present in the audience takes work.

First – and for this article we are assuming that being in the audience is a public activity – you need to get out of the house and into the community.

This isn't easy when there are so many creature comforts, streaming channels, delivery services, and reasons to save money by staying home.

On top of this, the online world has a way of making society seem less inviting by the day.

And then, once you've overcome the call of your pyjamas and made it to the event, the mind wanders.

As someone else's kid walks across the stage, you reminisce about your own school days.

As the inspirational speaker pauses for effect, you make a mental note to buy milk and bananas.

We check our social media as the band plays on.

But when it works, there is something beautifully encouraging about being part of a real-life audience.

To be physically, mentally and emotionally present with others is humanising – it connects. Sociologists call it *collective effervescence*.

And if all of this is not enough to convince you, just ask the next artist performing at the Chieftain.

While they'll have plenty of stories about bad audiences, every artist on earth would love for you to be a part of the good ones.

Where is it?

CLIVE Millett was right the October pic was of the wisteria alongside the Heartlands Vet driveway at 98 Stirling Terrace.

Number 98 built in 1872 had various uses including as Dr O'Reilly's surgery and when he passed in 1977 his wife Mrs O'Reilly was given life-time occupancy there.

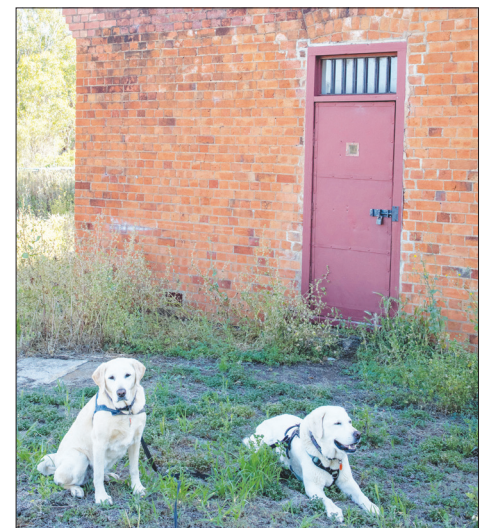
Number 98 Stirling Terrace is still commonly called Mrs O'Reilly's cottage.

Clive, drop the editor a line when you want to grab that Toodyay Bakery pie and coffee.

But where were the labs for the November 'Where is it?'

First reader to state where this photo was taken (and what the structure is) gets a bakery pie and coffee on the editor.

Send your guesses to: editor@toodyayherald.com.au



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

November 2024 (If unattended please phone 0419 906 083)

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

Local animal care legends moving on

Sean Hefferon

AFTER a 20-year connection to the Toodyay area Brian and Robyn Foley, the founders of the animal care group Marsupial Mammals and Pappas, are moving on.

Brian told the Herald that it's time he and Robyn opened a new chapter in their life while they can.

Days after this story comes out in the local paper, they will start on a dream journey that many retirees look forward to.

They have bought a 4WD and caravan and plan to travel around Australia aiming to visit the many friends they have made over their years in the wildlife community.

They plan to travel for about 10 to 12 months which should allow time for a unit to become available in the Mandurah retirement village they have their eyes on.

As Brian was unloading a container *The Herald* asked what made him and Robyn start Marsupial Mammals and Pappas.

He said when they bought their property, in the Toodyay area they had the room and Robyn also had 40 years' experience in wildlife care.

It didn't take long for people to just start



Robyn and Brian Foley local founders of Marsupial Mammals and Pappas.

bringing in wildlife that needed help.

This was about five or six years ago and the group started growing by word of mouth

very quickly.

Robyn was also approaching people to become animal carers.

In time people came forward offering to care for animals.

There are now about 60 group members from Karratha to Esperance with 30 carers in the Wheatbelt area.

When asked about the number of animals helped over the years, Brian said it "must be in the thousands, including many endangered species".

He wants to see the group "grow stronger and save as many animals as they can.

"You know you can't save everything but if the group can just save what they can and enjoy it.

"Enjoy the wildlife, that's the main thing, you just have to enjoy it."

He added that "animal caring has its downtimes when an animal you've been feeding dies on you, but to see the animals being released and run off into the bush where they should be, that's the enjoyment you get from being a carer."

Even though the founders are moving on the animal care group is in good hands.

The last words are Brian's. "I would just like to thank all the community that have supported the group over the years and supported all the rescued animals."

Shire cases continue

Sean Hefferon

THE LONGRUNNING case against the Shire of Toodyay relating to alleged breaches of Aboriginal Heritage legislation continues.

On the 18 January 2024 the shire received two notices of prosecution from the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage acting on a complaint and after a subsequent investigation alleging breaches of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

A week after receiving the notices the Toodyay council approved expenditure up to \$15,000 to engage legal advice and representation.

The specific allegations relate to shire works undertaken in early 2023 to repair crossings on Toodyay Brook at Picnic Hill and Glendearg Road – as well as the Boyagerring Brook crossing near the Toodyay District High School.

Court hearings have been delayed on repeated occasions with the next hearing set for 10am on December 23 at the Northam Courthouse where the shire will face ten charges relating to the alleged breaches of heritage legislation.

In response to *Herald* questions Toodyay Shire CEO, Aaron Bowman, said that legal costs to date for the shire relating to the court case are less than \$1,000.

Given the current legal proceedings he added that "the Shire is unable to comment" as to whether or not there are any other Shire projects, past or present at risk of breach of the Act.

The dispute between the shire and Austral Bricks, Australia's largest clay brick and paver manufacture, is to go to a mediation hearing on November 26 in the State Administrative Tribunal.

The company commenced tribunal action after the Toodyay council in June 2024, rejected the company's application to renew an extractive industry licence at their claypit in Morangup.

This rejection was contrary to the shire officer's recommendation which was that the council approve the "application for an Extractive Industry Licence at Lot 1 Morangup Road, Morangup" subject to a range of conditions including a ten-year lease from the date of approval.

The extractive licence had expired on 19 November 2023 and was previously issued by the shire by order of the State Administrative Tribunal in 2014.

The current dispute and the reasons for the council's decision in the June meeting concerns the number of truck movements between the Morangup pit and the Austral Bricks factory in Caversham, and potential effects on tourism traffic.

The company wants to cart up to 160,000 tonnes of clay from the pit over two separate campaigns per year of 3-4 weeks each time.

'Testing has detected quantities of fibrous materials'

Continued from Page 1.

The Herald put a list of questions to Ben Goldbloom General Manager Corporate Development at Chalice Mining Limited.

Mr Goldbloom said, "As a general comment it's important to note that naturally occurring fibrous minerals have many different forms including both asbestiform and non-asbestiform forms.

"Consistent with the relevant WA Government departments and others in the industry, we therefore use the term 'fibrous minerals', which are widely distributed and commonly found in the rocks that host mineral deposits across the State.

"Fibrous minerals only present a health hazard when airborne and because of these well-publicised health risks, the mining and exploration industry has well-established and very stringent protocols in place for managing these risks effectively."

Herald: "Is there naturally occurring asbestos (NOA) in the ore body at Gonneville?"

Chalice: "Initial testing has detected the presence of minor quantities of fibrous materials at Gonneville which appear to be in line with what is typically seen at several other WA nickel mining operations.

"Fibrous minerals can pose a health hazard when airborne and Chalice has implemented stringent controls to mitigate potential health risks in line with both Government regulations and industry best practice."

Herald: "Were workers assessing core

samples at sample trays relating to Chalice drilling required to wear hazmat suits and associated PPE to undertake the performance of their duties?"

Chalice: "Chalice has a comprehensive Fibrous Material Management Plan, which includes the use of appropriate personal protective equipment and a regular fibrous materials sampling program of our workforce and contractors that is conducted by specialist external consultants."

Note that there has been no exploration drilling activity on site since March 2024.

Herald: "Were these protections in place due to concerns relating to the presence of asbestos in the core samples?"

Chalice: "If fibrous minerals exist on a mining or exploration site, a Fibrous Minerals Management Plan must be formulated and made available to the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety.

"Chalice's Fibrous Material Management Plan was developed and implemented in line with standard practice across the WA mining industry."

Herald: "Were Chalice site motor vehicles required to have their cabin air filters changed over more frequently than manufacturer specifications due to the potential risk of airborne asbestos within the vehicle cabin?"

Chalice: "The testing and monitoring of fibrous materials did not identify a risk of exposure to vehicles or occupants on site."

Herald: "Does Chalice expect to find NOA in the future mines waste tailings?"

Chalice: "Initial testing has indicated the potential presence of fibrous materials in future waste tailings.

"Storage of this waste in an on-site Tailings Storage Facility will be in line with a typical WA nickel mining operation, with suitable measures implemented to effectively control any health risks in line with best-practice protocols developed and widely implemented across the WA mining industry."

Herald: "How is NOA in the tailings to be managed?"

Chalice: "Chalice's current Fibrous Material Management Plan is suitable and applicable to the current activities of the site.

"Once the project is operational, the appropriate management plans will be developed and implemented to suit an operation with a Tailings Storage Facility.

>Typical controls for dust management and fibrous material management include dust suppression with water, maintaining physical barriers to prevent airborne dust, and air quality monitoring."

Herald: "Does Chalice have an asbestos management plan?"

Chalice: "As outlined above, Chalice has a Fibrous Material Management Plan, which meets the standards established by the WA mining regulator and industry best practice.

"To reiterate, this is an issue which is common across the WA mining and exploration industry, and which the industry is well versed in managing effectively."

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The Toodyay Herald

IT WAS ONLY in October 2020 when the report of the "Inquiry into the Shire of Toodyay" was presented in the Western Australian Parliament.

The report inquired into aspects of the Shire of Toodyay administration and Council and made 25 findings.

To be blunt the Shire's governance was found to be deficient.

A number of findings were sheeted home to the then shire CEO Stan Scott who after a short break became CEO at the Shire of Cuballing – helped along it seems by two anonymous Toodyay referees.

Mr Scott has now retired as of last month and *The Herald* wishes him well.

The inquiry had several objectives including to investigate "the adequacy of and adherence to Council's policies and procedures by both elected members and administration".

The report found that the Shire had failed to follow a number of policies.

Which brings us to the present moment where we have the recent admission by a Shire officer that policy was not followed when it came to selecting road upgrade projects for the 2024-2025 budget.

The policy in question called the Road Upgrade Criteria policy aims to bring "transparency and a quantifiable approach" to selecting road projects to go into the Shire budget.

The policy has been in place since 2007 and approved by council on three occasions, most recently 2022.

However, in the officer's own words road upgrades for the current budget were selected on "community feedback" a term that could mean many things depending on who you speak with.

Adhering to the policy requires assessing a project against four categories (including safety) split into 20 evaluation criteria.

It appears then that a policy approved by council on multiple occasions and to be used for evaluating road projects wasn't followed which may bring to the fore questions around Shire governance.

Whether it does or not is perhaps for others to consider.

Another Shire document in the community gaze is the draft Local Biodiversity Strategy.

There will be many people that want to see this strategy work to ensure the biodiversity that the Avon River Basin is renowned for is protected and preferably enhanced.

It is therefore heartening to hear that the recent meeting between the Shire and local environmental groups was positive.

Community engagement will be critical in assisting the Shire to meet the objectives of the strategy.

We are pretty lucky to live where we do – in a place worth protecting.

On a closing note, kudos to Cr Mick McKeown Toodyay Shire President for his first article of "Between You and Me".

Sean Hefferon
Editor

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Our environment matters at the Toodyay Herald...

news@toodyayherald.com.au



The way we were: Chairman Edward Davy addresses the first meeting of Toodyay Road Board in the old courtroom 19 March 1959, Members (men) seated at top bench.

LETTERS

We should be proud of our Toodyay community

WE WOULD like to acknowledge the dedication and community spirit at the recent 170th Toodyay Agricultural Show.

The quilt section was gorgeous.

The MC Kerry Knowles did a fantastic job.

The Toodyay District High School Choir was outstanding.

All the dignitaries played their parts.

We live in a great community and should be very, very proud of what it has to offer.

Bill and Annelle Morgan

Bouquets to shire staff

ON THURSDAY September 26, I attended with two grandchildren the free community concert - Vivaldi *The Four Seasons*.

The event was held at the Toodyay Memorial Hall.

It was pleasing to see many of the community attend.

The performing group was part of a CircuitWest collaboration to build strong relationships and provide resources to showcase performing arts throughout WA.

The music for each *Season* was explained and demonstrated prior to the musicians playing the *Season* section.

It was a delightful and moving experience of baroque music played by string instruments.

My granddaughter is learning to play the flute.

As a young student instrumentalist, she was given the opportunity to take part in a one-on-one hour session Masterclass.

She enjoyed the learning experience and was grateful for the opportunity to engage with talented musicians sharing their knowledge.

Thank you to the sponsors, the Shire of Toodyay and the Bendigo Bank.

A very big thank you to the dedicated shire staff who facilitated this cultural experience for the Toodyay community.

Susan Pearce
Toodyay

And brickbats as well

WEEKS ago, we attended a family wake in Perth and at the wake the Perth relatives told our visiting female cousin from Victoria, "Don't spend time in Toodyay as there is nothing to do or see and it is just a dot in the landscape".

Our cousin spent three and a half weeks in Toodyay where she discovered cafes, shops, museums, environmental groups, walk trails and experienced the epic Avon Descent, with its International Food Festival.

She was very impressed and amazed about the "dot" and its size on the landscape.

Regrettably, the same cannot be said about our Shire as it is an unimpressive business.

The President sits on his highchair and declines monthly media briefings with *The Herald*.

Then a sudden motion to change meeting times to push out Cr R Madasci from attendance, adds to the misery.

Finally, Folewood Road is still a sore point as it is in the same condition as when a letter pointing to its need for repair was sent to the Shire in March and April.

No work was offered even when two letters were published in *The Herald* in June and July 2024.

In August Mr Sullivan, Executive Manager of Infrastructure and Asset Services, visited our house.

He extrapolated the problems with finances, machinery and work commitments in the Shire.

There was a strong hint that all will be taken care of.

Yet, he had to wait for his 'boss' to give an answer, despite him being the Executive Manager.

Five months later and after requests sent to Mr Sullivan no work has been done on Folewood Road.

I received an email from Mr Sullivan on October 2 in which he said, "My portfolio includes waste management, roads, drainage, traffic/transport, buildings, plant and fleet as well as asset management, parks/reserves maintenance and depot operations."

"I do not know where all people are always

and hence need to consult on programs." "You will be advised on the timetable for Folewood Road as soon as possible."

To reiterate nothing has been done after our meeting and letters, however a recent email promised work to start the end of the Oktober week – we shall see.

There is a "Dornroeschenschlaf" (if the Shire doesn't know what that means, I suggest the internationally known term be Googled) of the highest degree in this Shire.

Congratulations, after several months of demands, the holes and corrugations in the Nottingham Road were repaired.

We no longer lose our teeth when driving there

However, Nottingham Track, which is supposed to be closed during the winter was kept open, for anyone who believed they were on the autobahn for an emergency.

The new rangers did not bother (even after a call) to close the track gate.

Some people cannot read signs.

Those of us who have property entries are an endangered species as we are unable to see who charges up or down the track, when exiting our properties.

We need a clean-out of the lethargy in our Shire.

We need pro-active people who get out of the fog.

Monika Zechetmayr
Toodyay

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 stating "Letter to the Editor" in the email subject line.

Letters that are short, sharp and to the point about topical local issues are preferred.

The Herald reserves the right to edit letters for length, grammar and punctuation.

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Toodyay Rainfall

Recordings and average commenced on 1 January 1907

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	77	85.3	18.7	21.6			321.4
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

Toodyay Shire President reflects and looks ahead

Between You and Me
Mick McKeown, Shire President

Looking back

THE LAST month or so has been busy in the Shire and included two iconic community events – the annual picnic races of the Toodyay Race Club and the annual show of the Toodyay Agricultural Society.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the organisers of these two terrific events.

I was pleased to be able to attend the Toodyay races with my wife and several thousand other racegoers on Sunday 22nd of September.

I have been to many race meetings over the years and this year's Toodyay meeting was a stand-out event in my memory – my memory of the day will be that a good time was had by all, even the losing punters I talked to were happy!

Thanks to all who contributed to the running of the event.

The Ag Show on Saturday 5th of October was once again a great success – it's always a day for the community to get together.

Unfortunately, due to recovery from

surgery I had undergone on Thursday afternoon before show Saturday I was unable to attend the Agricultural Show this year.

My wife and I have been long term supporters of the Show having attended every show since we moved to Toodyay twenty years ago, including many as stall holders.

Councillor Dival was kind enough to represent the Shire on the day and was privileged to be able to meet the Governor of Western Australia, Mr Chris Dawson, who opened the event and to attend morning tea with him, invited guests, and members of the committee of the Toodyay Agricultural Society.

The Governor was particularly appreciative of the morning tea provided by the "Ladies of the Devonshire Teas".

I was also lucky enough to take part in the Bogan Trivia Night organised by Avon Valley Shotokan to raise funds towards hosting a karate tournament in the Avon Valley.

Over a hundred people came along to the Toodyay Memorial Hall on Saturday evening 26th of October to lend support.

Thanks must go to the organisers of the event where Flannys got a good airing and a good time was had by all!

Looking forward

Councillors and staff have commenced a review of the Shire controlled facilities and buildings.

Currently, 72 items are on the list including such things as Shire offices, historic houses, toilet blocks sporting facilities, museum buildings, fire stations and the Shire works depot.

For each property, the review is based: on how it aligns with our Council Plan for the Future; its fitness for purpose; its historical, social and cultural significance; the demand for its use; and the efficiency of its maintenance and operation.

The Toodyay Swimming Pool opens on Saturday 2nd of November.

Following a request from the company that was operating the pool to terminate their contract early, the operations of the pool are now being managed in-house by Shire of Toodyay staff.

Also, Council has brought the fees and charges for the use of the other facilities

at the Toodyay Recreation Centre into line with the charges at the similar facilities at the Showgrounds.

We look forward to more use of the Rec Centre in the future.

The Prohibited Burning period runs from Friday 1st of November 2024 until Saturday 8th of March 2025.

By the time this edition of *The Toodyay Herald* hits the streets, the prohibited period will have already started.

Please make sure the necessary steps have been taken for firebreaks and fire preparedness and keep a lookout for each other during this time.

Monday 11th of November is Remembrance Day. The Toodyay RSL has organised a Remembrance Day Service at the ANZAC Memorial Park commencing at 10:45am.

The service is timed to match the date and time that guns fell silent on the Western Front in Europe at the end of World War 1.

Now we mark the day by remembering the loss of Australian lives in all wars and conflicts.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

'The delay is caused by the Shire of Toodyay and is due to a lack of critical processes'

Continued from Page 1

The policy has been in place at the shire since 2007 and was rewritten by the Manager Infrastructure and Assets in 2022 and approved by council.

Mr Lamas asked a series of further questions during public question time including one on road funding and Aaron Bowman Toodyay Shire CEO said there had been a reduction in grant funding received and the municipal spend on road upgrades has risen by 12 per cent.

Greg Warburton who recently retired from his shire role of Reserves Management Officer asked questions on behalf of local environmental groups relating to the shire's draft Biodiversity Strategy and offered the services of local environmental groups to help rewrite the strategy.

The council meeting also considered the renewal of an extractive industry licence for Austral Bricks and the officer's report said the matter was before the State Administrative Tribunal, however mediation between the shire and Austral was progressing with further mediation on November 26.

The report said, "This allowed for the Shire to obtain relevant assistance from a suitably experienced planning consultant due to current issues with the Shire's extractive industry process".

The report added that, "the delay is solely caused by the Shire of Toodyay and is due to a lack of critical processes currently in place at the Shire for both new extractive industry applications and renewals.

"There is a need to improve the Shire's management of extractive industries".

The officer's recommendation was that as Austral had supplied all relevant information and the delay is solely due to the shire that a short-term extractive industry licence be issued until 27 March 2025 and that requirements in clause 4.3(1)(d) be waived.

The recommendation was supported unanimously by council.

The Midland Brick's application for a short-term extractive industry licence was resolved in the same manner.

In this instance the shire CEO was both the author of and responsible officer in relation to the report which also states, "There is a need to improve the Shire's management of extractive industries and Midland Brick is assisting significantly with this review".

Minutes covering the October 2024 council meeting can be found on the shire's website.

The Works Advisory Committee is a recent shire initiative and was established by council on 22 May 2024.

The committee's purpose is to provide advice to council concerning the management of the Toodyay Shire's assets.

Minutes from the September 11 committee meeting said, "The Shire of Toodyay is responsible for 16 bridges and that Level 1 bridge inspections are conducted annually with the results provided to Main Roads WA".

At present the shire does not have an

asset management plan covering the bridge portfolio.

Notice was given by Cr McKeown Toodyay Shire President of a special council meeting to be held on November 6.

The notice said the meeting was "for the purpose of considering the appropriate structure for administering the local government and all matters related thereto".

The agenda confirmed the confidential meeting is to consider the following report: "Administering the local government".

In *The Herald's* September 2024 edition Aaron Bowman CEO at the Shire of Toodyay said key challenges for the shire included finances and "what we can do for the community" and "what we can utilise better".

"I've got staff at four different locations which is unique and comes with challenges and a cost".

Whether or not the special council meeting is to consider a consolidation of shire staff functions or locations remains to be seen.

Biodiversity strategy attracts community interest

Sean Hefferon

The Avon River Basin is part of the South West Australia ecoregion which is Australia's only Global Biodiversity Hotspot and is home to a variety of unique flora and fauna.

Given this context the Shire of Toodyay's draft Local Biodiversity Strategy which closed for public comment on October 25 is well timed.

The draft strategy has attracted community interest with local environmental group Toodyay Friends of the River (TFOR) making a submission.

The submission supports statements in the strategy that acknowledge Toodyay's unique biodiversity, and the recognition that the Avon River has a 'remarkable ecosystem' and these are priceless features of the Shire.

Bridgett Leggett TFOR Secretary said the group believed that aspects of the strategy including the goals, actions and timeframes needed to be further strengthened to achieve biodiversity conservation.

Desraé Clark from the Toodyay Naturalists Club hoped that the final version of the strategy "really will protect, retain and enhance the areas of native vegetation and local biodiversity within our Shire".

Representatives from both groups met shire officers last month after submissions closed.

Untidy verges means time for a cleanup

Been a while since Toodyay won Australia's Tidiest Town Award.

Some may say that it has been a long nine years since the town got the national gong.

The photograph below suggests it is time

for Toodyay to tidy up those verges, put that rubbish in the bin and inject some (more) civic pride into our town's environs.

Judging by this month's shire news it seems that the local authority is onboard.



Federation Square on Stirling Terrace, Toodyay – looking a bit untidy.

“ As a GP working in the Wheatbelt since 1998 I have watched this country become significantly worse.

The main parties all seem to be taking us down the wrong path, and it's time for us to fight for what's right for all of us.

If you'd like to meet up please get in touch. The election is on 8th March, so let's get ready.

Dr Peter Lines
One Nation candidate Central Wheatbelt District
WA Legislative Assembly

**One Vote
One Voice
One Goal**

one NATION
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
wa.onenation.org.au

peter.lines@wa.onenation.org.au

Authorised by R Caddies - Pauline Hanson's One Nation WA. 28 Pinjarrah Rd, Mandurah, WA 6210

Our environment matters at the Toodyay Herald...

'Last month was horrific with 22 car crashes'

Police Beat

With Sgt
Jamie Boryczewski
Toodyay Police Station



LAST month was particularly busy for the Toodyay police team.

On October 5 an incident occurred at the Victoria Hotel. A person has been charged with stealing and disorderly conduct.

This case is ongoing and should the person be found to have committed an offence in licensed premises, police will not hesitate to seek a WA wide ban restricting the offender from entering other licensed venues.

The key is to drink responsibly and to respect other patrons.

Sometime between the October 10-12, a burglary was committed at Connors Cottage where the offender gained entry to the premises by a shop window.

Investigations are continuing and should any local residents have any information about the incident please contact CrimeStoppers on 1800 333 000.

Traffic-wise last month was horrific with 22 motor vehicle crashes in the Wheatbelt alone several of which were serious and several were fatal.

Local police are focusing on driver behaviour particularly speeding, drink or drug driving and fatigue.

With the introduction of Tom's Law on December 1, which will ban WA's

P-plate drivers from carrying more than one passenger in their first six months behind the wheel, parents are encouraged to have positive conversations with their children in respect to driving.

With the fire season here local residents should have emergency plans in place.

Further information can be found at the Department of Fire and Emergency website (dfes.wa.gov.au).

The key takeaway is to be prepared with a plan in place.

Toodyay police were pleased to participate in the local Ag Show and our exhibit was well attended.

The two robots we had seemed to draw a crowd and the giveaways were popular.

I'd like to thank Jodie Howard and Kevan French for organising the exhibit and I

reckon Kevan made a great Constable Care.

Thanks also to the Toodyay Club for the loan of the chocolate wheel which was well-used through the day.

Lastly, please welcome Constable Jake Jauncey into the Toodyay community.

Jake graduated from the WA Police Academy in 2021 and was at the Cannington Police Station for almost three years.

He started with the local police team in late October.

In his words, "I'm stoked to join Toodyay Police Station and get to see what country life is about as well as getting involved within the community as much as I can.

"Outside of work, I love my footy and basketball and am currently looking for some teams to join within and around Toodyay."

Welcome to Toodyay Jake.

Local roadwise committee after new energy and fresh faces

Toodyay RoadWise
Bob Neville

THE TOODYAY RoadWise Committee has been active for more than 20 years.

Local representatives from the community have advocated for improvements and safety upgrades to roads and footpaths, in both residential and commercial areas.

The upgrade of Toodyay Road, which began in 2015 is the largest project our organisation has been involved in.

With three sections still to be completed, the project is expected to be finished by the end of 2025.

These upgrades were necessary to address the high crash rate which has resulted in numerous fatalities and serious injuries.

Over time, the number of RoadWise Committee members has reduced.

It currently consists of two local community members, along with representatives from the Shire of Toodyay, a Senior Police Officer and a Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) RoadWise officer.

Our local roads are lifelines for the community including the business areas that host local shops and attract numerous visitors to our town.

This activity supports a vibrant local economy and creates great places for our

community to meet and socialize.

The group is planning a future funding submission to the 'Streets Alive' program.

This is a community-led funding initiative delivered by Town Team Movement (in partnership with Main Roads WA and WALGA).

This program aims to help communities calm traffic, to increase people-friendly neighbourhoods, and promote more prosperous shopping streets.

There is also a focus on significant improvements to enhance road safety, including the current Heavy Haulage Route.

As part of our commitment to improving roads, we advocate to ensure road projects are carried out in a way that preserves the natural landscape wherever possible.

We are dedicated to balancing the need for safety improvements with the protection of our town's unique environmental charm.

Toodyay RoadWise is also negotiating with the Shire to engage an Elected Member to represent Council at our meetings.

We invite local community members to join us in helping to shape the future of our neighbourhoods and local business areas for the benefit of all.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Bob Neville, Chairperson on 0419 853 160.

Yes, I have lost it all

Computer Safety
Phil Hart

TIRED people make mistakes.

There are cases where people have worked all day on an important document only to lose it all and the resulting flood of negative emotions can be quite distressing.

Making intermediate copies of your work, saving each copy with a different filename as you progress is one way to manage this.

Using "save as" usually warns you if you are about to accidentally overwrite an earlier version.

While you can use any filename you like, it can be helpful to append a symbol followed by a letter or a number or two.

Examples include *work-a*, *work-b*, *pres_01* and *pres_02*.

There is also the advantage that you can refer to earlier versions if you need.

The main challenge is to force yourself to make intermediate copies in the first place.

It can seem like a bit of a bore to make that intermediate copy while you are in the flow of writing.

Setting a timer to keep going off once an hour can act as a reminder to save that file.

Another way is to save your work every time you reach a logical break.

Repeated practice makes it easier and those back-up copies might just save you significant frustration in the long run.

Which has to be a good thing.

Scam emails

Safer Toodyay
Desrae Clarke

It was a surprise to receive an email from a friend with a rather strange request.

It was from a gentleman in the Wheatbelt asking if I could help him.

He stated he couldn't speak on the phone as he had severe laryngitis.

He asked if I was able to get a specific brand birthday card for a friend who had Stage 3 cancer.

He asked me to buy the card and he would repay me.

I wondered why his wife was unable to buy the card.

I mentioned the request to my husband. "DO NOT ANSWER THIS EMAIL" was the emphatic reply.

My husband rang our friend who stated he had had nine calls that morning with the identical request.

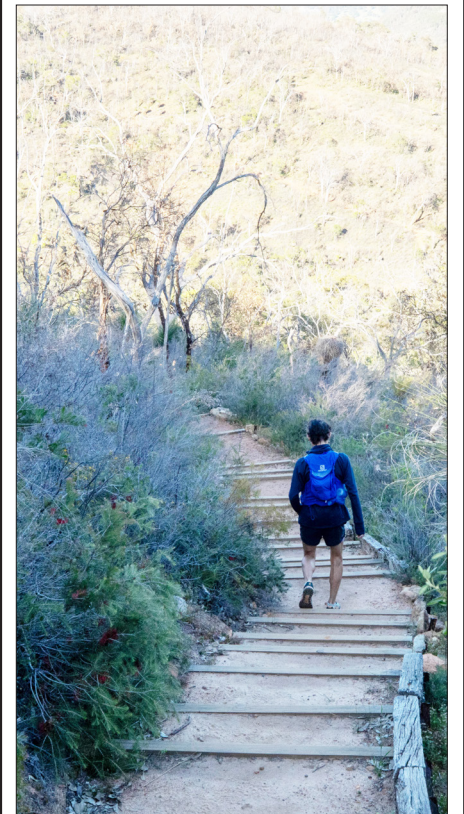
Apparently, the story of a caller having a throat infection and being unable to speak on the phone is a frequently used ploy.

The emailer wants to gain access to the victim's bank details for the repayment.

Police 131 444
Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or crimestoppers.com.au

Non-urgent Toodyay Police 9574 9555.

Walking in a wildlife sanctuary



Walking the Numbat Trail at Paruna.

Sean Hefferon

A HIKE, even on a hot October day, at Paruna Wildlife Sanctuary makes one appreciate the extent of biodiversity in the Avon Valley.

Paruna is a 20-square kilometre nature reserve a short 30-minute drive from Toodyay heading towards Gidgegannup.

The reserve is owned by the Australian Wildlife Conservancy, a non-profit organisation working to conserve threatened wildlife in Australia.

The sanctuary is part of a nature corridor between Walyunga and Avon Valley National Parks and offers a number of walking trails including the Numbat and Quenda trails.

The Numbat Trail is a 12-kilometre walk rated as medium to hard and includes part of the Quenda and Possum trails.

Set aside a day if you want to do the Numbat walk and take in the views.

Walking the 6.5 kilometre Quenda Circuit takes about 3-6 hours and is of medium difficulty.

The trails take the hiker through a variety of habitat including jarrah, wandoo and powderbark forest and heathland.

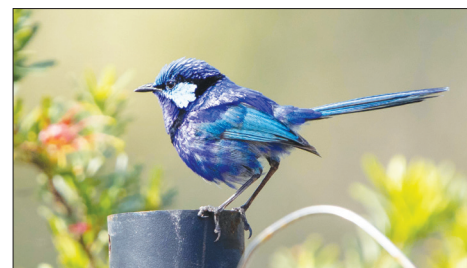
There is a chance to see native mammals that have been successfully reintroduced into Paruna including the woylie, quenda and tammar wallaby.

Or even an echidna not to mention a lot of birds including cockatoos.

Whichever walk you do choose, wear sturdy footwear and a hat.

Don't forget to take plenty of water, some food and a snake kit.

The sanctuary when in season opens at six in the morning so great light for photography.



The Blue Wren.


MRB 2339

Tyre Service

New 4X4, Truck,
Motorbikes &
Tractor

Repairs
Exhausts
Balancing
Suspensions
Wheel Alignment

Lot 20
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9574 4499
tyres1@iinet.net.au



EMERGENCY SERVICES Are you bushfire prepared?

Toodyay Central Volunteer Bushfire Brigade

Peter Brennan

THE PROHIBITED 'No Burning' season commenced November 1.

Firebreaks should be in place and properties cleared in preparation for the summer.

The forecast is for a hot, dry summer and this is likely to be challenging for firefighters.

So it is timely to remind everyone about two very important fire safety messages that all families should be aware of.

Firstly, know the *Fire Danger Ratings* as they are important when deciding on your trigger to leave in your bushfire plan.

The system has four levels and each level tells you how dangerous a bushfire could become and comes with clear actions to take.

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

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

It is a common misconception that the ratings indicate the chance of a fire occurring.

Stay prepared by daily checking your local Fire Danger Rating at www.emergency@wa.gov.au.

Please make the time to review and understand the information on the website.

We also strongly encourage all households to take the time to hold a family 'Five Minute Chat' about what you would do and where you would go in the event of a bush fire.

Visit the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) website dfes@wa.gov.au/emergencywa/prepare.

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

The second message is that you cannot outrun or outlast a fire.

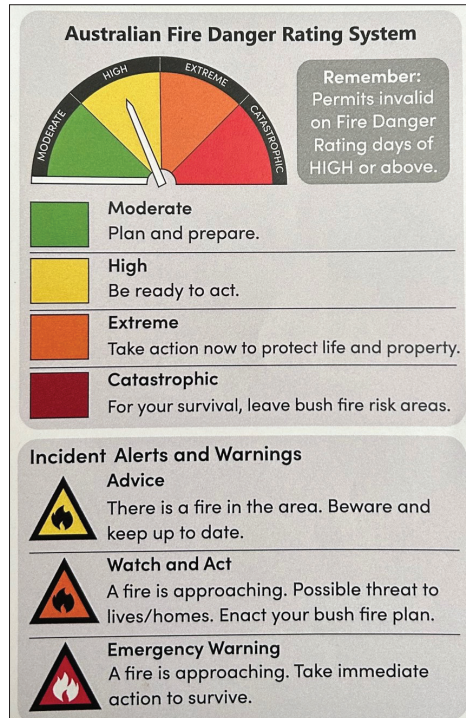
Most importantly, to survive a bushfire you must be prepared to make your own decisions and not rely on someone else or social media to tell you what to do.

To help you prepare for what you might do when threatened by a bush fire, visit mybushfireplan@wa.gov.au as it could help save you and your family's life during a bush fire emergency.

The DFES website will help you review whether your plan is fireproof.

Your best chance of surviving a bushfire is to plan now for what you would do in the event of a fire.

Please have a plan if you intend to defend



Fire rating.

your property.

Every summer our brigade members attend real examples across the State of just how fast fires move and it can be frightening.

Please act now and take five minutes to discuss with your family or neighbours WHEN will you know to leave, WHERE will you go, WHICH way will you go, and WHAT will you do if you are caught away from home?

During October our volunteers have continued training activities in preparation for the summer fire season.

We have covered map reading, radio operations, burn-over, drafting and deployment of the collar tank.

Our brigade does little to no fundraising but we will be producing a one-off collector's item for sale in the next couple of months.

These will make great Christmas presents or stocking fillers.

We would appreciate your support of this project.

We would like to thank the Toodyay Op Shop for the generous donation that helps us move forward with this project and for the support they make annually to each of the Toodyay Fire Brigades.

The ladies at the Op Shop provide a tremendous service for our local community and we are most grateful for their support.

Learn first aid and one day you may help save a loved one

St John Ambulance Toodyay
Monika Williams

IT WAS SHOCKTOBER – Restart a Heart Day on October 16.

Shocktober is a global initiative to educate people about the lifesaving importance of CPR and AEDs in the community.

Knowing how to respond in an emergency can mean life or death.

Whether it is a sudden medical crisis, an accident at home, or a health scare in public, First Aid skills can empower you to act decisively when it matters most.

Learning First Aid gives life-saving skills and confidence to act in critical situations.

We create a safer environment by having more people trained in First Aid.

Skills you will learn:

1. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR): CPR is a vital skill and can triple a chance of survival after cardiac arrest.

You will learn techniques for adults, children, and infants.

2. Choking Relief:

Learning how to help someone who is choking to effectively clear the airway.

3. Wound Care and Bleeding Control:

Learn how to properly clean and dress wounds, manage bleeding, and identify when further medical help is needed.

4. Burn Treatment:

Gain knowledge to assess and treat burns, helping to minimize damage and pain.

5. Recognizing Medical Emergencies:

Understand how to identify signs of

heart attacks, strokes and other medical emergencies to ensure you can provide appropriate care.

6. Basic Splinting Techniques:

Master how to immobilize injured limbs, reducing pain and preventing further injury.

The Benefits of Learning First Aid

Confidence Boost: Knowing what to do in an emergency can empower you to take action rather than freeze in fear.

By learning First Aid you contribute to community safety, potentially saving lives in critical situations.

First aid is a powerful way to prepare yourself for emergencies.

By being trained, you enhance your skills and make a positive community impact.

Equip yourself with knowledge and confidence to be a lifesaver when it counts.

Our volunteer ambos teamed up with the DFES volunteers once again at the Toodyay Agricultural Show.

The crew demonstrated expertise and teamwork, extracting three patients from a simulation motor vehicle accident exercise.

The show was enjoyed by onlookers and also by the volunteer Curtin University students who were our "patients".

A huge thankyou to Wayne Fletcher and the Ag Show organisers for providing the simex volunteers and the space for our display tent and First Aid post.

Last month the crews attended 80 jobs covering 5160kms and the Community Transport Service took 19 clients to their appointments.

By now your firebreaks should be in so please maintain them throughout the fire season

Coondle – Nunile Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Aurelie Zimmermann, Secretary

THE SHIRE wide prohibited "no burning" season came into effect on November 1.

It is the responsibility of all landowners to ensure their firebreaks are in place and maintained throughout the season.

Firebreaks must comply with minimum standards for width and height to enable safe access for emergency services and crews.

Different requirements are in place depending on the size of the property.

Visit the Shire website under residents' services for all the information.

www.toodyay.wa.gov.au/resident-services At the station the crews have been busy with more callouts and training.

A few weeks ago, an 'all brigades' training organised by Toodyay Central took place at the Coondle station.

The volunteers were able to refresh basic skills and learn new information with the new 12,000 litres collar tank orientation.

We all learnt something that day.

More training has also taken place with DFES classes

The classes which are open to all volunteers were on machine supervision, radios and remote area firefighting awareness.

Training days are a great opportunity for all firefighters to gain valuable skills which can be used locally and on deployment in the State or nationally.

As we are heading towards summer, the trucks and crews had a bit more action lately.

Mainly grass and scrub fires to keep us on our toes and as a clear reminder that, despite looking green, the land is very dry.

There was a great response to vehicle checks held in the late afternoon on Fridays.

Those weekly checks for members are so very important.

The checks increase members knowledge of the trucks and the equipment they carry.

They also provide the opportunity to get to know the other members.

Being a part of and working in a crew is a

critical part of firefighting activities.

This season will be the first since the introduction of the new Australian Warning System (AWS).

The system was reviewed and modified under a national approach to emergency information.

The aim was to make it easier for the public to understand emergency information.

Each warning is now followed by an action statement.

The statements provide communities with clear and brief information about what action to take.

This new system applies to all and it is important that everyone familiarizes themselves with the new warning system.

Go to the DFES website Australian Warning System.

<https://mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au/australian-warning-system/> As always, the brigade is looking for dedicated people to join up.

Being a volunteer firefighter has many benefits.

You get to learn new skills, meet new people, and it helps to make your community a safer place.

The Coondle-Nunile VBFB meets at the station every Friday at 5pm.

The station is on the corner of Coondle West Rd and Bindi-Bindi Toodyay Rd.

If you are unsure about whether firefighting is for you, you are welcome to come to the station or contact us to have a chat – coondle.nunilebfb@gmail.com

We hope to see you soon.



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.

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

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

Huge crowds come out for 170th Toodyay Show

Continued from Page 1

Toodyay Agricultural Society
Alison Wroth

ONE THING a country town needs is an event that brings individuals and businesses together.

One of those special events, our historic 170th Anniversary Toodyay Agricultural Show occurred on Saturday October 5.

Gate numbers of over 5000, the smiles and constant activity showed the committee efforts had been worthwhile – put your hand up if you agree.

We are very proud of our history and since the Society's establishment in 1853, the iconic Toodyay Agricultural Show has played a key role in our community and we always aim to celebrate this.

A sight to remember this year was the WA Governor, Chris Dawson and Mrs Dawson, arriving in a vintage Stutz car; with TAS President Ms Karen Dore, guided by three well known locals on vintage motorbikes.

Life member Mrs Kerry Knowles as MC introduced the Welcome to Country and the Governor's Opening of the Toodyay Show.

Followed by the presentation of the

handcrafted 170th Anniversary Quilt by representatives from local quilting groups who made the showstopper.

As the Governor viewed the Showgrounds after the opening and morning tea with life members, the Show proceeded, and the crowd increased.

The full Show Train arrived bringing many visitors to Toodyay and we are hoping to lock in a train next year.

The Equestrian Pleasure Show had pony rings that were filled with activity.

Trade exhibitors stalls and the sideshow alley made the ground a family magnet.

Popularity awards go to the Poultry Stewards and exhibitors, Goats of ANY breed, Butterflies, Heritage Chillies, Lucas Timber Mill and the WA Police Display.

With 26 entertainment groups, all interests were covered.

The exhibition halls were packed with over 1630 community and regional entries.

School wall displays added to the colour of the Floriculture & Craft sections.

The Livestock did not disappoint with the cattle yards full and a packed Poultry Shed guarded by Henrietta the Hay Hen.

The Sheep Pavilion was replete with many breeds in competition, sharing the space with

the WA Dairy Goats.

Wool and agriculture were well supported which was great to see from the local farmers.

Our 170th Show did not disappoint on a day blessed by exceptional weather.

The Committee works hard to organise the Show aiming to cater for all ages and interests.

With the positive comments received on the day and afterwards the committee believe that we achieved this.

We are looking at better promotion of "entering the Show" next year, with entries made easier especially online.

Social media and our website promotion was excellent this year motivating everybody to enter that rose, a jar of relish, or dare I say, the Man Cake.

The Toodyay Agricultural Society thanks all those individuals, community groups and businesses who supported the Show this year through either major sponsorship or the donation of trophies and prizes.

Without this sponsorship we are unable to organise the events we do.

Many community groups assist prior to, or on Show Day and we are very grateful to them as they help the day run smoothly.

Our thanks also go to the Toodyay and Northam Bendigo Community Bank for the sponsorship of our fireworks display.

This year was one of the best displays I have seen for a long time.

We are grateful for their three-year support so we can end the Show with a bang

Heartfelt thanks also to our other major sponsors this year including Chalice Mining, CSBP Fertilisers, Dunnings, Shire of Toodyay, Rio Tinto, Morgan Feed Supplies, Makit and the Toodyay Op Shop.

The Show is not possible without their financial backing and in-kind support.

Thanks to the helpers, stewards, judges, community groups, Curtin volunteer students and our wonderful committee.

The committee now looks to organising the Toodyay Agricultural Show in 2025 after a short Christmas break.

If you are keen to help please come to the AGM in February as there might be a few seats we would love to fill.

You might have a new idea or skill set the committee have been looking for.

The President and committee sincerely hope you all enjoyed the Show this year and it would not have been the same without you being there.

Kaya (hello)

Duidee Dreaming
Rob Miles

THANK you, Toodyay Ag Show committee, for the opportunity in welcoming everyone to the traditional, ancient and custodial lands of the Yued people for which we are all gathered today.

Nitja noongar yued boodja noonuk nitting / noonuk yaakiny (this is Yued country you are sitting / standing).

I do want to acknowledge 'His Excellency Honourable Chris Dawson – Governor of Western Australia' and Karen Dore president of the Toodyay Ag Show committee.

As you may know Karen, Welcome to Country's are a bit tricky at the moment with so much indifference in the community, but I commend you and the committee for reaching out in the spirit of reconciliation and goodwill.

Especially on the 170th anniversary of the show.

You see, we are surrounded by an ancient world and culture of over 45,000 years of existence, and it's simply a good thing to recognise this in some official capacity like today.

Mr Dawson, you would have left Boorloo (Perth) at some point and crossed the Darling Range and travelled through Gidgegannup (place of spears) past Morangup (place of black footed wallaby) and possibly saw a sign to Goomalling (place of possums) crossed over the Goguljar (Avon River) and ended here in Toodyay (place of mist)

In doing so you crossed three native title groups of the Noongar nation: Whadjuk to the south, Ballardong to the east, Yued to the west

These three groups fall within the boundaries of the shire of Toodyay, making this a pretty unique location.

Can I reiterate that a long time ago Aboriginal people walked this land and up and down the Goguljar (Avon River), trading fishing, hunting, and gathering food from this beautiful place we call Duidee (Toodyay).

This land and waterways have significant value to many Aboriginal families who have come and gone but are still connected to this land and its spirit

Our stories are contained in the physical world around us, including plants, birds, animals, and waterways.

We don't own the land; we belong to the land.

It's important to educate ourselves about our shared histories and to acknowledge our struggles and achievements, as Australians. So, without further ado

My name is Robert Miles representing the Yued people of Noongar country and I call on the spirits of my ancestors for peace and safe passage to one and all.

Ngyn waaking mooditj wirn kooling noonak boodja

Stay safe and have a moorditj (great) day. Boodawon – see you later.



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The candidate with a Toodyay connection

Sean Hefferon

MATT Moran the Liberal candidate for the new Federal seat of Bullwinkel has a connection with the Toodyay area.

This connection goes back to 1993 when his parents Francis and Barbara purchased a property in Julimar where they built up an olive and lavender farm called Oliomio.

At that time, he was living in Perth with his brother where they were both attending university; however, the family home became Toodyay.

The family moved to a property in Toodyay town itself several years ago as his parents finished up the farm business.

Mr Moran said even before these moves, he had been "going to Toodyay for as long as he can remember".

Apart from his family's connection to Toodyay he was born in Kalamunda and raised in the Boya and Helena Valley area and says he has a genuine connection to the broader Hills region.



Photograph taken at the 2024 Toodyay Cup showing (L to R) Francis Moran, Audrey Moran, Peter Moran, Kama Connolly, Matt Moran Liberal candidate for Bullwinkel and Lawley Stafford.

After graduating from university, he moved into journalism and as a reporter covered numerous Avon Descents.

His roles in journalism were varied

including regional reporting stints, as well as being a Canberra based political reporter.

He was a media adviser for Prime Minister Turnbull and is a current member

of the Australian Defence Forces previously deployed to Afghanistan and East Timor.

He is also a board member of the Returned Services League WA.

Roasted Bardi is crispy on the outside and soft on the inside

Dudja Waangkinj
(Toodyay Yarning)



Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal Corporation

THIS month we highlight some bush foods traditionally used by Noongar moort (families) across the Toodyay Valley.

Contrary to colonial misconceptions that Noongar people relied mainly on large djaat (game), about 80 per cent of their traditional diet came from mereny (plant foods) and small djaat (small game).

Including vegetable roots like yanget (bulrush), warrany (yam), and djubak (orchid tuber), as well as yerenburt (fruits/berries), kwolak (grains/seeds).

Included also were animals like yerderap (duck), djidong (small lizards), kaarda (goanna), noorn (snakes), kwenda (bandicoot), and minga (insects/larvae).

KAARDA (Goanna)

Kaarda is valued for its taste and nutritional benefits and after removing the internal organs and cleaning, it is cooked in the ashes of a kaarla (campfire).

The oil from kaarda is also used to treat skin ailments and though difficult to catch kaarda are often found in burrows.

Noongar people have used rock slabs on granite outcrops to create kaarda-mia (goanna shelters) designed to trap them.

Many of these shelters once common across Noongar country, have been removed or damaged due to various factors, including land development and the use of granite slabs for gardens and construction.

BARDI (Witjuti Grub)

Bardi, a moth larvae, were a staple of the Noongar diet and is rich in protein and

abundant in the roots of Balga (Grass Tree) as well as Acacia wattle.

Bardi were harvested throughout the year based on their larval cycles.

Noongar people located them by identifying signs like decaying Balga trees or small holes in the ground at the base.

Bardi were eaten raw or lightly roasted in hot ashes, making the outside crispy while keeping the inside soft and creamy.

The decline in the number of Balga trees due to land clearing and changes in fire management practices has impacted the availability of this important food source.

NYINGARN (Echidna)

Nyingarn are an egg-laying mammal and were a favoured Noongar food source.

Their fatty meat, often compared to pork, was roasted whole in hot ashes, causing the spikes to fall out as they cooked.

Nyingarn held cultural significance, as their behaviour was interpreted as a sign of environmental changes..

For instance, unusual digging activity could warn of shifting weather patterns.

Today, habitat destruction has contributed to a decline in nyingarn populations, affecting both their numbers and their cultural significance.

DJUBAK (Bush Potato)

These tubers, from a Leek Orchid, were dug up and formed a nutritious food source and significant part of the diet.

Yorga (women) would dig up the tubers using wanna (digging sticks), tools made from wood or bone.

Careful digging was required to avoid damaging them and broken tubers would be replanted to ensure sustainability for the following year's harvest.

They could be eaten raw or baked in the coals. The disruption of native flora from historical land use and grazing practices has reduced the availability of djubak.

DJIRAP (Kangaroo Grass)

DJIRAP seeds, along with other kwolak

(grains) like edible acacia seed, were staple foods for Noongar families.

Harvested during the warmer seasons of Birak and Bunuru, the seeds were dried and ground with a muller (traditional grinding stone) to create fine flour.

This flour was mixed with kep (fresh water) to make dough, which was then cooked over hot coals to produce damper, a traditional flatbread.

Dried seeds were also stored at karlerl (family camps) for later use, ensuring a reliable food supply throughout the year.

The reduction of native grasslands due to historical agricultural expansion and invasive species has diminished the availability of djirap, threatening this once important food tradition.

A number of 'bushfoods' cultural information signs can be viewed at Noongar Trail location 10 (along the river's edge in Lloyd's Reserve).

A huge thanks to Bendigo Bank, Chalice,



Bardi (Witjuti Grub).

Dudja Dreaming, CBH Group, AYMS, and Lions Club for their support.

If you or your business would like to provide support to help us complete the Trail, please contact our volunteer Trail coordinator, Helen Shanks, at noongarkaartdijin@gmail.com.

VACANCY: ADMIN OFFICER

Are you an organised team player with community passion?

The Toodyay Agricultural Society (TAS) is looking for someone like you to keep the 2025 Show Organising Committee on track.

The duties are like those of Secretary in other organisations, however the Administration Officer is not a voting TAS Committee member. The responsibilities of the role include:

- Agendas: draft and circulate.
- Clerical Support: for the Committee, as per duties in the timeline.
- Community Groups: liaison as required.
- Correspondence and Enquiries: received via email, post or telephone, reply or redirect.
- Event Application: prepare and submit.
- Meetings: set-up and attend Annual General Meeting (second Monday, February) and monthly Committee meetings (second Monday, March to November).
- Membership Register: maintain.
- Minutes: take, prepare and circulate.
- Planning Timeline: monitor, maintain and circulate.
- Sponsors and Supporters: liaison as required.

Ideally we're looking for someone with:

- strong clerical and computer skills;
- access to the internet;
- a little spare time (approximately 10 hours per week); and
- a genuine interest in the future of the Toodyay Ag Show!

This is a fantastic opportunity to contribute to a beloved local tradition while enhancing your skills and strengthening your local network. While this is a volunteer role, we are open to discussing an honorarium for the right candidate.

For an informal chat or further details, please contact the TAS President, Karen Dore, on 0413 380 650.

Email your application, a summary of your interest and relevant experience, to toodyayagsociety@gmail.com by 30/11/24.

Help the longest continually serving community group to continue to organise the second oldest Agricultural Show in the State!

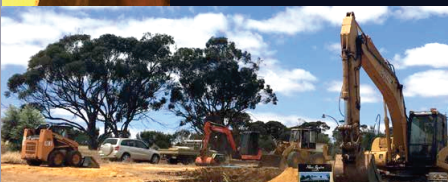
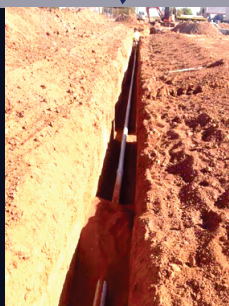
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Toodyay Dental Clinic

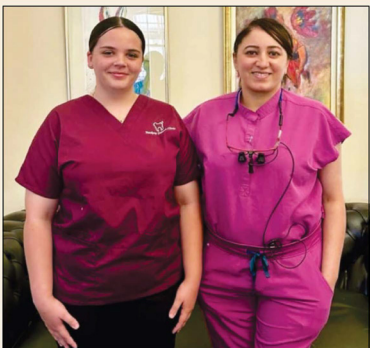
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Singing sharpens the appetite

Toodyay Music Club
 Jenny Edgecombe

LAST month's meeting was held in Ellenbrook where it was lovely to see past members, Peter, Moya and Leila.

Ellenbrook residents Jason and Melissa generously hosted the function and supplied tasty finger food throughout the afternoon.

Travelling and singing seem to sharpen the appetite so this was most welcome.

The musical program featured our usual range of songs old and new.

Former member Jay was a surprise visitor making the trip from regions south and treated us to the lovely song *Summertime*.

Moya delighted us with a demure performance of *Miss Otis Regrets*.

This song features a lady explaining "she's unable to lunch today" for an astonishing reason only revealed at the end.

An intriguing swing version of *Catch a Falling Star* was one of Brian's contributions.

Eileen presented *Walkin' After Midnight*, with nice harmonies by Maurice.

The recent death of singer-songwriter Kris Kristofferson was marked by Collette singing *Help Me Make It Through the Night* and Jenny presenting *Nobody Wins*.

Kristofferson rarely included cheerful songs in his extensive repertoire!

Maurice always searches for original song versions, so his haunting rendition of *Do You Want to Dance* was somewhat different to those that were popular in later years.

Speaking of haunting, Spencer chose *Long Black Veil*, a tragic ghost tale which brought back memories of earlier times in the old Toodyay Folk Club.

Peter's contributions to Music Club have always been special and his song, *The Cowboy and the Lady*, was moving on this thoroughly enjoyable afternoon.

Many thanks to Peter, Jason and Melissa for arranging it.

The November meeting of the club will be held in the Toodyay CWA Hall on November 9 starting at 1pm and you are welcome to join us as a performer or audience member.

For information call Joe on 0400 862 694.

No power for coffee but still plenty of chat

Toodyay Men's Shed
 Barry Keens

TOODYAY Men's Shed is all about "Blokes supporting Blokes".

We attended the Toodyay Agricultural Society Show and apologise we were not able to provide our cups of tea and coffee as the power we asked for was not available.

That did not stop people taking advantage of the seating taking the weight off their legs and chatting with us.

We were also able to meet with Sheddars from Wyalkatchem, Dongara, Nedlands and Booragoon to share stories and ideas.

Enquiries regarding membership were received from both old and new residents of Toodyay Shire and we look forward to them coming to the Shed.

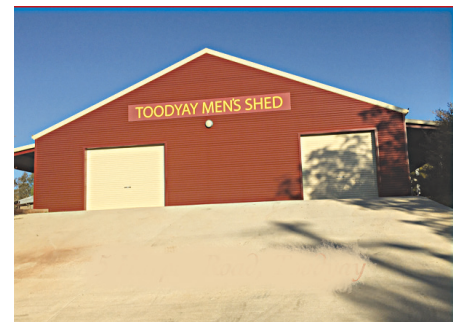
A successful AGM was held recently, and a Committee of Management formed for the next 12 months.

The Chairman's Awards were presented to

Craig Martin and Jeff Roberts. Jerry Fleming was awarded Life Membership and Barry Keens, 'Shedder of the Year'.

We meet Monday, Thursday and Saturday mornings from 8.30 to noon and our secretary can be contacted on 0499 403 830.

Visitors are always welcome.



The Toodyay Men's Shed. Source: Photogrid.

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More Show winners

Continued from Page 12

Avon Woodturners Prize Best Exhibit – Woodturning
 Winner: HAMISH DOBIE
Blue Moon Crystals Trophy & Voucher Best Exhibit – General Woodcraft
 Winner: HAMISH DOBIE

CHILDREN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER
Beth Somers Memorial Prize Best Exhibit in Section – Children 16 Years of Age and Under
 Winner: PARKER BYFIELD
Christmas 360 Prize Best Exhibit – Floriculture
 Winner: ADDISON CAREY
Toodyay CWA Trophy Best Exhibit – Cooking
 Winner:
Toodyay Fun Fitness Prize Best Exhibit – Craft
 Winner: PARKER BYFIELD
Shane Love, MLA Prize Best Exhibit – 2D

Artwork
 Winner: ANYA MALONE
Toodyay Locals Care Prize Best Exhibit – Recycled Creation
 Winner: CHARLOTTE COUTTS

CHILDREN 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER
John Lucas Prize Best Exhibit in Section – Children 13 Years of Age and Under
 Winner: AVA CANDELORO
Toodyay Garden Club Prize Best Exhibit – Floriculture
 Winner: AMY ZIMMERMANN
Christmas 360 Prize Best Exhibit – Cooking
 Winner: AVA CANDELORO
Mary Donegan-Guthrie Prize – Best Exhibit – Craft
 Winner: IVY SOMMERS
Shane Love MLA Prize – Best Exhibit – Artwork
 Winner: ALEXANDER NICHOLS
Geoff and Megan Ebdon Prize – Best Exhibit – Recycled Creation

Winner: AVA CANDELORO
CHILDREN 10 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER
Beth Somers Memorial Prize – Best Exhibit in Section – Children 10 Years of Age and Under
 Winner: ZANE WALLIS
Christmas 360 Prize – Best Exhibit – Floriculture
 Winner: LEAH SYRED
Christmas 360 Prize – Best Exhibit – Cooking
 Winner: LEAH SYRED
Christmas 360 Prize – Best Exhibit – Craft
 Winner: ZAHARA JAKOVICH
Toodyay Real Estate – Best Exhibit – Artwork
 Winner: ZAHARA JAKOVICH

CHILDREN 7 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER
Christmas 360 Prize – Best Exhibit in Section – Children 7 Years of Age and Under
 Winner: HALLE JAKOVICH
Toodyay Garden Club Prize – Best Exhibit –

Floriculture
 Winner: HALLE JAKOVICH
Toodyay Real Estate Prize – Best Exhibit – Cooking
 Winner: TELISSA BLENKINSOP
Kerry Gregory Prize – Best Exhibit – Craft
 Winner: MATILDA WILLIAMS
Mary Donegan-Guthrie Prize – Best Exhibit – Artwork
 Winner: VIOLET SHARPLES

CHILDREN SCHOOL YEARS KINDERGARTEN TO PRE-PRIMARY
Toodyay Real Estate Prize – Most Points in Section – Children School Years Kindergarten to Pre-Primary
 Winner: ZARA WENSING
Fletcher Family Prize – Best Exhibit in Section – Children School Years Kindergarten to Pre-Primary
 Winner: ZARA WENSING

The trials, tribulations and triumphs of the Moondyne Men

Moondyne Men
 Graham Hill

WELCOME to the trials, tribulations and triumphs of the Moondyne Men.

The Moondyne Men is a not-for-profit incorporated men's group that meets at the Community Resource Centre building in Stirling Terrace.

At our recent AGM Owen Webb was elected as our new chairman.

Peter Phillips was elected vice chairman, and secretary Colin and treasurer Barry were elected unopposed.

As the immediate past chairman, I have stepped into the role of communications officer for the Moondyne Men.

The group has participated in several recent events.

These included supporting the International Food Festival / Avon Descent and the Toodyay Agricultural Society 170th Show.

We also look forward to assisting at the annual Toodyay Christmas Street Party to be held on Friday December 13.

In supporting the local community, the Moondyne Men recently donated \$2500 to be divided equally among the five volunteer

fire brigades.

On the medical front we welcome back secretary Colin and vice chairman Peter both recovering from a knee replacement.

We trust you are both on the mend. Our thoughts are with Dave Barlow, a Moondyne Men member, as he battles his recent illness.

On a brighter front, the Moondyne Men welcome you to our free breakfast held on the first Saturday of each month.

It is a chance to meet and mingle with like-minded men who enjoy the social interaction and participating in the local community.

On October 12 we were joined for breakfast by new Shire CEO Aaron Bowman who told us of his mission to visit all social and sports clubs within the Toodyay Shire.

The Moondyne Men is the largest, proactive and progressive men's group in Toodyay and have the mantra "Men Looking after Men and the Community".

Why not come and join the team at the CRC Building, 67 Stirling Terrace, Toodyay?

We meet every Monday and Thursday from 8.30am or join us at our monthly breakfast.

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

ADVERTORIAL

Toodyay Theatre Group's new production "Game of Tiara's"

Toodyay Theatre Group
 David Mitchell

THE CAST of Toodyay Theatre Group's new production "Game of Tiara's" has been busily rehearsing for the upcoming performances.

Some familiar faces and some new faces are in the cast of this exciting and hilarious play and are excited to bring the show to life.

When the aging King of a Magical Kingdom decides to split his empire between his three daughters, Cinderella, Belle and the Snow Queen (who in no way resembles a copyrighted character) terrible tragedy ensues.

Terrible, hilarious tragedy.

Combining the gut-wrenching plot twists of *Game of Thrones* and the soul-numbing despair of Shakespearean tragedy, this adaptation of *King Lear* will leave you dying with laughter as the body count mounts.

When you play the *Game of Tiara's*, you win or you die.

Performances dates are in November on Saturday 16 and Friday 22, and matinees on Sundays 17 and 24.

Doors open at 7pm for the Saturday and Friday performances and 1:30pm for the matinees.

Tickets are available at www.trybooking.com/CWDPE.

Tickets will also be available at the door on performances days.



Some of the cast of "Game of Tiara's" during rehearsals.

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Patchwork and quilting at the 170th Show

Ragbags Quilting Group
Kerry Gregory

WHAT A tremendous celebration of the 170th Toodyay Agricultural Show we had this year.

We had great weather, bumper exhibitor entries, terrific attendance and wonderful feedback from all our visitors.

The Patchwork and Quilting Section had a record number of entries.

The two judges took quite a while to complete their evaluation of the excellent work submitted by our very skilful quilting community.

Overall, we could have used a bit more hanging space for our colourful quilted spectacles and regrettably a few items had to be folded on the bench.

However, the result was an interesting display and the envy (I heard) of other regional show communities.

The prizes for this year were shared around by some truly beautiful work.

The prize winners include Danelle Stewart from Kambalda, Noleen Stewart, Lynlee Chitty and Karen Lakeman.

Gabrielle Johnson received the Best Exhibit for her stunning hexagon quilt.

Congratulations to all the winners and to everyone who exhibited this year.

It always makes me stand a little taller in front of the judges when I see the wonderful quality of entries at our Show.

I know the talent and skill contained in the entries and the judges are sometimes quite surprised to find such excellence.

I must make mention of the excellent endeavours of the local quilting community with the presentation of the fantastic 170th Toodyay Agricultural Show commemorative quilt which was completed during the year.

Well done to the organisers and participants and congratulations to all involved with this project.

Ladies, there is now plenty of time to get your creativity flowing and pull out some of the fabulous fabrics in your stashes with designs you have been itching to tackle.

It is time to get started on something stunning for next year's show.

I have to confess that my resolve last month to get onto finishing my half-started quilting articles for the Show before I commenced anything else has fallen by the wayside.

This is only because it is time to be hand-making those essential Chris Kringle gifts and family treats for the festive season over the next month.

New members are very welcome to join the Ragbags Group regular gathering.

A cuppa and a chat are assured.

Bring along your blocks and sewing machine, some handwork or any craft activity being undertaken.

We would love to see your creativity and share your enthusiasm.

The Ragbags Group meet at the St Stephen's Anglican Church Hall, Stirling Terrace, Toodyay on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month between 10am and 2pm.

Bring your lunch – we use the back door.



Best Exhibit Quilt 2024, hexagons - Gabrielle Johnson.

Halloween glow disco a scary success

Toodyay District High School P&C
Dani Xuereb

OUR LAST Term of '24.

How quickly has that gone?

Our School Open Night was held on Wednesday October 16. The night enabled parents to meet with the teachers, view their child's progress and catch up with other parents.

Parents also enjoyed a sausage sizzle and a wander through the classrooms.

The last P&C meeting for the year was held on Wednesday which enabled us all to have an informal chat while organising the last events for the year.

The Halloween Glow Disco held on Friday November 1 at the Memorial Hall was again enjoyed by all.

There were plenty of goodies to buy

including hotdogs, hot chips and glow sticks.

Profits from the disco go towards the Year 10 leadership event next year.

A massive thankyou goes out to those businesses who have helped us to cover expenses and start raising some much-needed funds.

Friday November 29 sees us bursting into the Colour Fun Run.

The Year 10s are organising this event to help cover the cost of their graduation ceremony.

Lots of fun, mess and shenanigans are sure to be had.

It's all go, go, go.

If anyone would like to help out or find out more regarding the P&C, please don't hesitate to contact Dani Xuereb, Tash Hoff or Heather McGlasson.

Term 4 - Student first aid training

Toodyay District High School
Tonia Demeu

WE RECENTLY welcomed our students and staff back for Term 4, starting the term off with our annual Open Night.

It was lovely to see many parents enjoying the fantastic work their children have been doing throughout the year.

It was wonderful to see the pride on the students faces as they showed their work to their parents.

Our P&C were busy on the night providing our families with food and drinks.

We have many exciting things this term.

Over sixty students will be attending the upcoming Cadet Camp at Busselton.

Other exciting events include Tafe Open Day, Year 10 White Card Training, Colour Fun Run, Health Expo, Year 6 Milestone Ceremony and End of Year Awards Assembly.

The school choir performed at the Toodyay Show and their performance was a testament to their dedication and brought enthusiastic applause from the crowd.

Also impressive were the class displays at the Show with a variety of projects and artworks created by students featured.

The display included science experiments and artistic creations reflecting the diverse talents and interests of the students.

The participation of the school choir and the class display at the Show highlighted the students talents and strengthened the bond between the school and the community.

The Year 10 High School students recently participated in first aid training as part of their cadet training program.

The training aims to equip students with essential lifesaving skills and foster a sense of responsibility and community service.

The Year 10 students have demonstrated they are ready take on the responsibility of being first responders in their community.

Their dedication and newly acquired skills demonstrate the effectiveness of the cadet training program.



Toodyay DHS Cadets 1st Aid training.

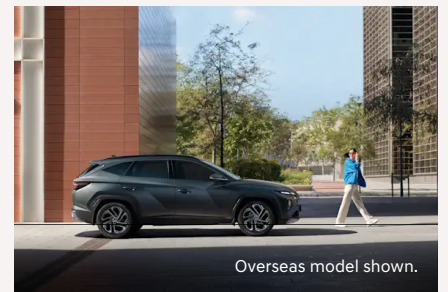
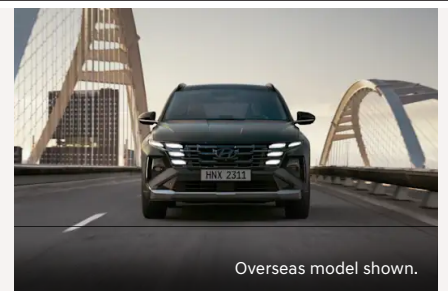
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170th Anniversary quilt

The Crooked Needle

Jean Melhuish-Hill

ON BEHALF of the quilting women of the district, I had the pleasure of presenting the 170th Anniversary quilt at the opening of the Toodyay Agricultural Show.

The ladies who put this quilt together came from varying backgrounds and three different craft groups.

Jean Melhuish-Hill took on the coordination role. The ladies had to design, purchase materials and put it together.

This required bringing the various groups together to work out who would do what and how the quilt would come together.

The collaboration between the three groups was great.

Gabrielle Johnson is a member of all three groups and five of us are members of two of the groups.

Lynlee Chitty who undertook the final quilting of the article was an interested and very capable Toodyay member.

Four of the nineteen ladies who crafted this quilt were also involved 20 years ago when the 150th Anniversary quilt was created.

Comfort Quilts Against Cancer in Northam were commissioned to undertake the embroidery of the logos and the historic register on the back of the quilt.

While many people were taking photos, the WA Governor Chris Dawson had his own taken with the ladies who had contributed to this beautiful work.

The completed quilt was a surprise for the Show Committee.

They had not seen the work after providing us with a brief 18 months ago.

From the excitement and commentary, I think we had managed to fulfil their expectations.

Thank you to the ladies of The Crooked Needle, Ragbags, Wednesday Craft Groups and Lynlee Chitty for their contributions.

A number of our craft women received firsts, seconds and Best Exhibits in the craft sections and also in the cookery, preserves and fresh produce sections.

Congratulations to the Show Committee, volunteers and others involved in putting on a brilliant 170th Anniversary Show.

The weather was great, and we all went home very happy ladies.

If you are new in town or find yourself with some free time, pop along on any Friday.

We meet from 9.30 am to noon.

We may be able to interest you in a new craft or you may share one with us.

For contact information please see the Where and When Section of *The Herald*.



The 170th Anniversary Quilt.

Another rolling pin for Joan?

Avon Woodturners

Hamish Dobie

THE 170th Toodyay Agricultural Show was a great success with a huge crowd attending.

Avon Woodturners members also won seven first prizes in the Woodcraft Section.

Congratulations to one of our lady members who won a first prize in her first year of woodturning.

This shows that you can quickly begin to produce quality items admired by others and rewarded by judges.

As for the Max and Dave competition, Max held his crown for another year.

Well done, Max, but now you'll have to be wary of the 'female factor' in 2025.

Christmas is pending and it's a time when members make gifts for family and friends.

If you have been doing this for a few years you can run into problems remembering what type of gifts you have given already.

After all, what would Cousin Joan do with another rolling pin, or Auntie Ellen with two sets of salt and pepper grinders?

I find that pens are a safe bet as people are always happy to get a pen, no matter how many they already have.

So, the next few weeks will be spent on the lathes, turning, shaping, sanding and polishing and producing wood shavings.

It amazes me how much sawdust and shavings come out of one piece of wood.

This is a good time to learn more and perhaps try your hand at wood turning.

Come along and join the boys and girls at the Woodturning Shed.

The shed is at the Council depot on Railway Road, Toodyay and we are there on Wednesday and Sunday 9am until noon.

If you have any concerns that may be holding you back, or if you require more information, email: hamishd2701@gmail.com or call: 0423 115 204.



The display of work by members of Avon Woodturners at the Toodyay Show.

The old coach road leads to Toodyay

Toodyay Historical Society

Robyn Taylor, Vice President

TIME is travelling fast these days and soon it will be Christmas when we can pause and enjoy life in this delightful historic town.

It is interesting to reflect on times past and on a different pace of life, back when horses and carriages travelled along the old Coach (Toodyay) Road.

As we drive in comfort and speed to Perth knowing we can return home on the same day it may be hard to comprehend how the early settlers achieved this distance.

The Avon region farmers supported the introduction of convicts to the Swan River Colony in 1850.

It was then that a new road was eventually completed linking the town of Newcastle (today's Toodyay) and Guildford.

These roads were built with convict labour supervised by the Royal Engineers.

One engineer was Lieutenant Edmund DuCane who was superintendent of convict works in the Greenmount / Toodyay area.

Teams of convicts were housed at outstations established along the road.

In 2008, local historian Wally Chitty led us to an outstation on Strahan Road.

Through her diligent research in the State Archives one of our members Alison Cromb was able to identify the site as the Toodyay Outstation No.1.

Her research led to the publication 'The Road to Toodyay: A history of the early settlement of Toodyay and the Avon Valley of Western Australia' (2016).

Strahan Road crosses Toodyay Road with a gravel road leading down a gully to the remains of Gabidine Bridge.

The bridge also had evidence of convict connections before being washed away by floods and replaced in 1880.

The bridge was rebuilt with strong stone abutments.

The timbers were destroyed by a bushfire in January 2020.

Further down Red Hill there is another large outstation site; a short distance from a parking bay on the right-hand side.

The remains are evident to those who knew where to look.

While thinking about this column I happened upon a catalogue sent to me by Anna Gray the curator at the National Gallery in Canberra.

Anna was preparing an exhibition for 2011 on WA art from the 1830s to 1930s.

Inside her catalogue is an extraordinary watercolour by Edmund DuCane dated 1854 titled "Toodyay, Greenmount Road".

Like many Royal Engineers such as Edmund Henderson, DuCane was an amateur artist with an eye for detail.

The art piece shows two riders making their way up the road to Toodyay with the hills and views of Perth in the distance.

It was a thrill to be taken back to that time and place with its Spring wildflowers, grass trees and rugged granite outcrops.

On Sunday November 24 from 11am we are hosting our Rica Erickson exhibition at the Newcastle Gaol Museum.

The exhibition is a tribute to Rica our former patron and author of our Shire's history "Old Toodyay & Newcastle".

The exhibition follows our successful History Forum in August where guest speakers shared their memories of Rica.

The exhibition will bring together Rica's publications on history, natural history, and her life as a botanical artist.

On November 30 from 5pm, we will be celebrating our 44th Anniversary Sundowner at Bideford House, the home of Bob and Beth Frayne, in Drummond Street, Toodyay.

Monthly meetings are every 3rd Wednesday at 7pm in St Stephen's Church Hall

Contacts: See Where and When.



Some members inspecting the remains of a convict road working camp in Strahan Road. Photo: Beth Frayne, 2008.

Gardening for the benefit of the local community

Toodyay Community Garden

Rosemary Madacsi, Secretary

THE TOODYAY Community Garden has been busy since first meeting on May 28 and membership continues to grow.

Professional concept designs have been completed, money pledged and alternative sites considered by the membership.

The last hurdle is to find a site with location central to meet our objectives - *To create a harmonious environment in which to bring community together; to garden and share knowledge and skills of sustainable food production.*

A central location with level and disabled

access and basic amenities is critical to achieve inclusion of children and our seniors.

The aim of this project is not just gardening but a place to socialise, support physical activity and community connections

The garden will provide opportunities to learn sustainable living skills and acquire local knowledge and lived experiences by being accessible and inclusive.

The vacated Fiennes Street tennis courts are the first choice due to its central location and existing infrastructure.

The group submitted an interest in this site on May 30 following council's April resolution to seek expressions of interest.

The resolution to consider the site use and

any expressions of interest at the August 28 council meeting was delayed until a Facilities and Building review was completed.

Huge thanks to Fiona and Rory Davin of Stirling House for their generosity in providing the rear of their property as a place to store needed resources.

We also thank others who have offered help.

Unfortunately, the delay in finding a site has meant the winter and spring opportunity to start the gardens was lost as was community garden funding on offer.

Our focus is now on moving forward and how to provide activities and a range of learning opportunities for the community, while we wait for a home.

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SHIRE NEWS



Fire Break Notice

Property preparation in line with the Shire's Fire-break Notice is now due and inspections have commenced. Requirements must be maintained until April 30th.

Cobbler Pool

No camping is allowed at Cobbler Pool during the prohibited burning period. Please refer to the website for more information regarding the closure. <https://www.toodyay.wa.gov.au/>

Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI)

Proposed relocation of Transportable/ Demountable building on the corner of Fiennes Street & Templar Lane Toodyay. The building is currently attached to the Administration & Council Chambers (Reserve 2281), Recreation (Reserve 21797). Reserve 2281 occupied as a public government building by the Shire of Toodyay. Site inspections site visit will be arranged with interested parties. Issued: 25 October 2024. **Closing Time is 5.00pm, Thursday 28 November 2024**



Form 5
(reg. 75)
Local Government Act 1995
Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

Notice pursuant to Schedule 6.3 of the Local Government Act 1995 of sale of land for non payment of outstanding rates or service charges

Notice is hereby given that, under section 6.64 of the Local Government Act 1995, as rates charges have been owing for a period of at least 3 years the Shire of Toodyay is to offer for sale by public auction at 117 Stirling Terrace, Toodyay WA 6566 on the **30th November, 2024** at 10.30am, on the land described below.

Signed for and on behalf of the Shire of Toodyay this 28th day of October, 2024

Aaron Bowman
Chief Executive Officer

Description of Land etc.

Description of land and lot or location number	Lot 17 Toodyay Road, Toodyay WA 6566
Plan or Diagram Number	DP Avon Location 220
Land Parcel Number	102668
Land ID	1821883
Landgate Polygon Number	MB6/894
Dola Pin	459239
Area	10.047 Acres
Street Name	Toodyay Road, Toodyay WA 6566
Enrolment Number	112 Book V1 135 Memorial Number 894
Name of Owner	Mary Macknoe
Name of other personas appearing to have an estate or interest	Nil
Rates/Service Charges outstanding	86,069.39
Other Charges Due on land	Nil



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Funding for Black Spot Program

The Shire of Toodyay was successful with funding for two Black Spot Program projects covering approximately four kilometres of the Toodyay Bindi Bindi Road for 2024/25. The section of road is approximately between the intersections with Balgaling Road and Dewars Pool Bindoon Road. Over the period from September 2024 to January 2025 at various times there will be road safety improvement works carried out including vegetation clearing, earthworks, road pavement reconstruction, shoulder improvements, line marking, drainage, and asphalt work. The site works will be carried out under traffic management to maintain safe conditions for the travelling public. Drivers are urged to exercise caution and observe all traffic signage and directions from site staff.

The Shire of Toodyay apologises for any temporary inconvenience during the construction period.

