



Save the Dates!

Youth Week - 10-16 April

APR 13	LASER TAG DEPARTING TOODYAY AT 8.30AM, RETURNING AT 2.30PM LUNCH INCLUDED	FREE
APR 14 & 16	POTTERY WORKSHOP 9.30AM - 2.30PM 23 FRANCIS ST, WEST TOODYAY LIGHT LUNCH INCLUDED	AGES 10+
APR 15	GINGIN CONNECTING YOUTH EXPO DEPARTING TOODYAY AT 9.30AM, RETURNING AT 2PM	

Mega Splash Finale - Sunday 12 April, 12pm - 3pm, Toodyay Aquatic Centre.

Lions Jumbo Auction - Saturday 18 April, 8am - 5pm, Toodyay Showgrounds.

Tea & Tech - Friday 24 April, 10:30am - 12:30pm, Toodyay Library.

FREE DIGITAL LEARNING

Friday 24 April
10.30am - 12pm
At the Library

Learn how to activate your IGA Rewards Card and enjoy a free morning tea!

DIGITAL GROUP LESSON FOR OVER 55's

IGA Rewards

ANZAC Day Gunfire Breakfast - Saturday 25 April, 6am - 12pm, War Memorial, Anzac Ave.

Toodyay Railway Walk - 29 April - 15 May, 13.30am - 11:15am, Toodyay Visitor Centre.

Toodyay's Railway Walk

Explore what was lost and what was gained when the standard gauge railway came through 60 years ago. The route includes a visit to the new Newcastle Gaol Museum exhibition "Toodyay Railways: A Tale of Two Lines".

WED 29 APR
FRI 1 MAY
WED 6 MAY
FRI 8 MAY
WED 13 MAY
FRI 15 MAY

Arts Toodyay Annual Exhibition - Friday 1 May, 6pm - 10pm, Memorial Hall.

Moondyne Festival - Sunday 3 May, 9am - 4pm, Stirling Terrace, Duidgee & Stirling Park.

Creating Country Together - Sunday 3 May, 9am - 4pm, Duidgee Park.

Ordinary Council Meeting - Thursday 7 May, 5:30pm, Shire Council Chambers.

For more details please visit the 'Events' page on the Shire's website toodyay.wa.gov.au.



Welcome to the New Look Newsletter!

We are happy to announce that the Shire has taken a fresh look at how we share our news and information each month. We hope you like it!

Community Funding Program 2026/2027

This program supports the Shire's Community Funding Policy, which provides grants for community organisations and activities. To apply, visit the Shire's website and search for "Community Funding Application" to download the Policy and Application Form. Contact the Community Development Officer on **9574 9392** before submission. **Applications close 20 April.**

COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM OPEN 09 March 2026

Funding is available for activities from 01 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.

The Avon Valley: Your Perfect Weekend Escape

Toodyay showcased life in the Avon Valley at the Caravan and Camping Expo on 19-22 March in Claremont, joining the Shires of the Avon Valley Alliance to promote the region. Despite the heat, crowds were strong and interest high, with the Valley proving popular for short getaways and new caravan adventures. The Alliance's next stop is the Beverley Airshow in early April, promoting easy, relaxing holidays close to home.

CARAVAN & CAMPING EXPO

Avon Valley VINTAGE AND VIBRANT

Toodyay Triathlon

On Sunday 8 March, 129 competitors aged 7 to 79 braved the heat to take part in Toodyay's first triathlon. After registering, participants racked their bikes and received a briefing before racing, with every athlete finishing to cheers from spectators. The event was proudly supported by the Shire of Toodyay through the 2025/26 Community Funding Program.



New Event Application Form!

Have you got an event you would like to plan in the Shire of Toodyay? The Community Development Team has updated our event application process. To access, please visit 'Planning an Event?' section on the Shire's website toodyay.wa.gov.au.

Do You Have a Community Event to Promote?

If so, why not share it with us! Email your flyer/advertisement to: community@toodyay.wa.gov.au and we will share it on our Shire's Facebook page, Events Calendar and here in the Shire's monthly newsletter.

Library Update

Easter Rhyme Time was a fun-filled session of singing, stories, biscuit decorating and Easter egg hunting, followed by a relaxed morning tea for families. Thanks to the Crooked Needle for donating Button Art, raising \$165 for children's craft supplies, with one piece now on display at the library. Special thanks to Jean and Phyllis for running a craft session. Our Community Jigsaw Puzzle is complete thanks to Barry Keens, with a new puzzle now available—puzzles and games can be borrowed, returned or donated anytime.



Shire of Toodyay Repeal Local Law 2025

The Shire of Toodyay gives notice that the Shire of Toodyay *Repeal Local Law 2025* was published in the Government Gazette on **13 March 2026** and will come into operation **14 days after gazettal**. The purpose and effect of this local law are to repeal the Extractive Industries Local Law published in the Government Gazette on 1 November 1999. The local law is available on the Shire's website toodyay.wa.gov.au. Copies may also be inspected or obtained from the Shire of Toodyay Administration Office.

Shire Facility Closures for April

The Shire Administration Office, Library and CRC will be closed on Good Friday 3 April, Easter Monday 6 April and Anzac Day 25 April. The Visitors Centre and Museum will be closed on Good Friday 3 April and Anzac Day 25 April.

Draft Local Heritage Survey and Heritage List – Public Consultation

The Shire of Toodyay is seeking community feedback on the Draft Local Heritage Survey and Draft Heritage List. The Local Heritage Survey is a document that identifies and records places within the Shire that has / may have cultural heritage significance. It provides historical information, photographs and place records which help recognise and preserve the history and character of the district. The purpose of this consultation is to provide community members, particularly owners and occupiers of properties identified within the Local Heritage Survey or Heritage List, the opportunity to review the draft documents and provide feedback. To view the draft documents, and for more information on how to make a submission, please visit the 'Public Notice' section on the Shire's website toodyay.wa.gov.au. Submissions close 4pm, **Thursday 23 April 2026**.

Council Decisions

At the March Council Meeting, the following items were considered:

- Council resolves to advertise the Heritage List and the Local Heritage Survey for a period of 42 days - *carried*.
- Council gives local public notice that it proposes to make the Shire of Toodyay Cat Local Law 2026 - *carried*.
- Council gives local public notice that it proposes to make the Shire of Toodyay Dog Local Law 2026 - *carried*.
- Council agrees to lease a shed at the Community Depot (Toodyay Junction) to Arts Toodyay Inc for a term of 5 years at a rent of \$380 per annum plus CPI - *carried*.

For all details of the items considered at this meeting, please visit the 'Council' section on the Shire's website toodyay.wa.gov.au



Toodyay District High School above the average

Toodyay District High School
Sharon Anderson, Principal

THE school was thrilled to receive data collated by a reputable internationally renowned organisation that affirms what we are doing and how.

Measured against global standards for what is required by companies and organisations to be effective and successful, Toodyay District High School is operating in the top decile (top 10 percent) in five of the nine standards, and the top quartile (top 25 percent) in the other four.

This positions us in the top decile overall. We are proud of what we do and how we do it.

We will use the data at a fine-grained level to continue to grow.

Student Leaders 2026

Our new leaders for 2026 were sworn in at a special assembly at the start of the term.

This important occasion marked the beginning of a new leadership journey for students who have shown a strong commitment to serving our school with responsibility, integrity and pride.

Our 2026 School Captains are Koen White and Rhys Hunter, supported by Holly Watkinson and Lily Andrews (Year 9), Corbin Hansord and Baden Cameron (Year 8), and Mahli White and Toby Andrews from Year 7.

We also welcomed our Year 6 Prefects: Lola Brockliss, Myla Cottam, James Cameron, and Shianne Dearing.

Our Faction Captains and Vice Captains were also sworn in:

Avon: Allie Rochford (Captain), Amelia



Student Leaders.

Boston (Vice Captain)

Drummond: Amber Groenewold (Captain), Meredith Harling (Vice Captain)

Connor: Charlie McIntosh (Captain), Maddi Johnson-Riseley (Vice Captain)

School based training and apprenticeships

We are proud to celebrate the achievement of four students who have recently commenced an ASBT (Aboriginal School-Based Training) program through Northam TAFE.

They are undertaking a Certificate I in Leadership.

This significant opportunity recognises and nurtures the strengths of our Aboriginal students, supporting them to build confidence, cultural pride and leadership skills that will benefit them well beyond their schooling years.

Their enrolment is an important milestone both for the students and for our school community, reflecting our commitment to meaningful and culturally responsive education.

Alongside this program, the school is actively working on implementing school based traineeships and apprenticeships across a variety of industries.

By partnering with local businesses, Northam TAFE and regional training organisations, we aim to create more opportunities for students to gain hands-on experience and develop valuable skills while completing their secondary education.

These initiatives are part of our long-term strategy to ensure every student can see a future that feels achievable and exciting.

High School Canteen reopens

Toodyay District High School P&C
Emma Thompson, Treasurer

IT HAS been a busy and productive start to the year for the P&C.

Much has been achieved in term one.

We are pleased to announce the successful reopening of our school canteen.

This would not have been possible without the dedication and support of our wonderful volunteers.

Our canteen is always looking for volunteers.

We are only open on Fridays.

If you would like to volunteer in our canteen please get in touch.

The annual general meeting was held on February 23 with a fantastic turnout.

All office bearer roles were successfully filled along with an increase in members on our executive committee.

We are proud to introduce our 2026 P&C team: President Haylee Guiver, Vice President Tash Karin, Secretary Kayla Croeser and Treasurer Emma Thompson.

This term, we have already run a number of successful fundraising initiatives.

Our sausage sizzle and bake sale at the swimming carnival were a great success.

We would like to thank Toodyay IGA for their generous donation of sausages.

We are also currently running our Easter raffle which includes four major prizes and twelve smaller prizes.

A huge thankyou goes to Skilltech Mechanical Services, Toodyay IGA and FeeFee Cleaning for their generous contributions towards these fantastic prizes.

Looking ahead to term two, planning is already underway for our Mother's Day stall and the much-loved second-hand book sale.

If you'd love to get involved or find out more about what we do, feel free to contact Haylee Guiver on 0400 040 583, email us at pandtoodyaydhs@gmail.com or message us on Facebook.

Exciting course for 2026

Toodyay Agricultural Society
Jess Yost - President

THE Toodyay Agricultural Show is gearing up for another fantastic year.

A new committee is in place and exciting plans are underway.

Fresh energy and enthusiasm are driving preparations as organisers work to make this year's event one of the most memorable.

With the committee now settled, attention has turned to building the 2026 program.

Entertainment is currently being sought and the team is eager to showcase a wide variety of local talent, from musicians and stage

performers to agricultural demonstrations and interactive displays.

Anyone with creative ideas or acts to offer is encouraged to reach out.

Stewards and volunteers are also being sought across all sections of the Show, from livestock and crafts to food stalls and stage coordination.

Joining the volunteer team is a great opportunity to meet new people, share skills and contribute to one of the town's most loved events.

In addition, **expressions of interest are now open** for community groups to support the show as well as fundraise for your group.

The Toodyay Show provides a perfect platform for community groups big or small to build local connections and be part of the lively atmosphere that draws visitors from across the Wheatbelt and beyond.

The new committee warmly invites everyone, past participants, new vendors, entertainers and volunteers, to get involved and help make the Toodyay Agricultural Show 2026 a true celebration of community spirit, rural life and local talent.

For more information or to register your interest, contact the Toodyay Agricultural Society through our website or Facebook page.

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Projects at the Mens Shed



The Information Bay seat with all new Jarrah wood seating.

Toodyay Mens Shed
Barry Keens, Chairman

WE THANK *The Toodyay Herald* for printing the articles we send each month because we know that they are read.

Soon after publication we start getting enquiries regarding membership, hall and kitchen hire, and requests for small projects that we can do for the community.

Last month we had a stall at the Toodyay Farmer's Market on Sunday March 15.

We were able to discuss our shed ethos with potential new members and also look at some small projects that were offered to us.

Three Shire projects, refurbishing seats at Duidgee Park and the Information Bay, have been completed.

Pictured is the Information Bay seat with all new Jarrah wood seating.

A chopping board, a sign, a wardrobe and a table are in progress for community members and Shed members have some of their own projects under way as well.

I am writing this in Brisbane where I am attending the AMSA National Men's Shed Gathering.

Toodyay has been nominated for two awards which will be announced later in the week.

The Shed is open from 8am to noon Monday, Thursday and Saturday each week and we break for tea, coffee, cake and chat at 10am.

For all enquiries, please visit the Shed during opening hours or call our secretary on 0499 403 830.

Relocation and March updates

Toodyay Local Care
Jacquie Lucas

WHAT a busy month March was.

Firstly, we must thank outgoing vice president and treasurers David and Heidi Miller for their generous time over the past twelve months.

They have left big shoes to fill.

I would also like to thank our new treasurer Lorraine Paull for stepping up.

The food boxes are going well.

We have moved the distribution point to 20 Fiennes St, still on a Monday afternoon from 1pm to 3pm.

Please get in touch with either Roz (0427 744 352, or send a text if she doesn't answer) or me on 0427 147 548 if you need food assistance outside of this time and we can arrange an alternative pick-up time from the house.

We could not offer these food boxes without the generous assistance of Woolworths, Second Bite and Foodbank.

We continue to make trips to Shalom House to support the important work they do.

Thank you to the people who donate to enable us to support their work.

We are always looking for more volunteers.

The "Carrots" down at the pavilion on Thursday mornings is well subscribed, but we would appreciate help around the community garden and our poultry yard.

Call or drop in to 20 Fiennes St if you can help us.

We are also looking for some handy people to do general maintenance and some building.

Alternatively complete our survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D5CBJGM> to let us know how you can help.

I would like to thank the people who have volunteered recently and their kind offers to help at the upcoming Moondyne Festival next month on Sunday May 3.

We need helpers on Friday and Saturday to set up and some volunteers to man the stall in the hall and cook in the kitchen on the



Toodyay Local Care's volunteers Lorraine & Roz.

Sunday.

We work hard to feed the volunteers with sandwiches and soup so your skill set can include making the sandwiches, serving soup, drinks, scones and cakes.

We also maintain the portable toilets.

If you are willing, we would appreciate your help.

This is an important fundraising event.

We are fortunate to be preparing meals for the football club on Friday nights starting mid-March.

This is a very important fundraiser.

Thank you to the generous regular donors to TLC. This helps us pay rates and amenities.

If you are able to make a donation one-off or regular, please use the following details.

Account name Toodyay Locals Care Incorporated, BSB: 633 000 and Account number: 172 668 626.

A change of scenery can be fun

Morangup Progress Association
Daryl Cooper, Chairperson

DOING what you can do at home can seem more enjoyable when you do it in different surroundings. For clarity, I'm talking about family barbecues.

Urban dwellers will often take a short trip to a park or to the beach to enjoy a family barbecue away from the familiarity of their backyards or apartment balconies.

In Morangup the need to escape the familiarity of a backyard is less pressing as properties are less confined. Finding different surroundings to have a barbecue has meant a lengthy drive.

Now, residents will have the opportunity to barbecue in the, at least somewhat different, surroundings of the Community Hall.

While it has taken some time, more than two years in fact, for the project to come to

fruition, the development of the rear of the building is now complete.

The space between the hall and the basketball court is decked out with covered tables and benches, a water tap and a barbecue.

For a change of scenery, a Morangup family can head down to the hall for a barbecue.

Younger family members have access to a playground, skateboard rink and basketball court.

Senior family members can relax and enjoy their food and even listen to their own music played through newly installed Bluetooth speakers.

On a different note, Morangup residents are reminded that the AGM of the Progress Association will be held at 4.30pm on Friday April 24.

We would love to see as many residents as possible attending.

Come to have your say or just to listen and learn.

MISSING DOG

PLEASE HELP US FIND HER



POPPY
Breed: Chihuahua
Colour: Fawn
Size: Small like a rabbit or kitten weighing only 1.8kg - 2.0kg
Distinctive Feature: Kink in her short tail
Temperament: Anxious / scared of people & dogs unknown to her
Microchipped: Yes
Desexed: Yes
Lost: Since 29th April 2025

Poppy went missing in Northam, WA during a walk around the golf course and was last seen on Katrine Road, May 1st, 2025.

Poppy had never been away from home before this, and we are from Perth. While we were preparing to travel overseas, she was in the care of family when she ran off during a walk.

If you have found Poppy or you are taking care of her, please understand we are desperately searching for her. She has a chi companion and family who love her very much.

We are offering a generous cash reward for her return or info leading to her return.

Scan the QR code to visit our 'Help Find Poppy' Facebook Page.



CALL OR TEXT ROMY WITH ANY INFORMATION
0422 479 694



On Anzac Day, we honour all who have served and continue to serve. The electorate of Bullwinkel, named after Vivian Bullwinkel, reflects the courage and valour of all who wear our nation's uniform.

Lest we forget.

Trish Cook MP
Federal member for Bullwinkel

Local Nurse

- 2/14-16 Mead Street, Kalamunda WA 6076
- (08) 7079 0480
- trish.cook.mp@aph.gov.au
- trishcookmp
- Trish Cook MP



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995

Local Government Property Local Law 2026

The Shire of Toodyay proposes to make a local law relating to Local Government Property.

Purpose: is to regulate the care, control and management of local government property within the district, in order to promote its safe, orderly and respectful use and enjoyment by the community, protect local government property from damage, misuse and inappropriate activities, and provide for the efficient management and operation of local government property, including saleyards.

Effect: is that persons using local government property within the Shire of Toodyay must do so in accordance with the provisions of the local law, any determinations made under it, and any conditions imposed by the local government, so that the property is used consistently with the good governance of the district, the safety and amenity of the community, and other applicable written laws.

A copy of the proposed Local Law may be inspected at or obtained from the Shire's Administration Centre at 15 Fiennes Street, Toodyay between 8.30am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday or at the Toodyay Public Library during normal opening hours.

The Shire invites submissions by **4.00pm on Friday 29 May 2026**.

Please address your submissions to the Chief Executive Officer:

Via Email: at submissions@toodyay.wa.gov.au

Via Post: at Shire of Toodyay, PO Box 96, Toodyay WA 6566

In Person: At Shire Office, 15 Fiennes Street, Toodyay WA 6566

If you have any queries regarding the above please contact the Shire's Governance Coordinator on (08) 9574 9300.

Paul Nuttall
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Walking with the seasons

Dudja Waangkiny
(Toodyay Yarning)



Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal Corporation

FOR thousands of years, Noongar people have lived in harmony with Boodja (Country), guided not by four seasons, but by six, known as Bonar.

These seasons are not fixed by calendar dates but shift in response to weather patterns, plant cycles and animal behaviour.

The annual cycle begins with Makuru (around June/July) the Season of Fertility and moves through Djilba (Season of Conception), Kamarang (Season of Birth), Birak (Season of the Young), Bunuru (Season of Adolescence) and Djeran (Season of Adulthood).

Each bonar reflects a stage in the cycle of life and provides important knowledge about when to move, gather food and care for Country.

During Makuru and Djilba (Seasons of Fertility and Conception, around June to September), many native animals and birds

begin pairing and nesting. By Kamarang (Season of Birth, around October), this leads to an explosion of new life with young animals, birds and insects appearing across the landscape.

Here in Dudjabup (Toodyay), these seasonal changes are still clearly visible if you know what to look for.

Recently, we have experienced Bunuru, the hottest time of the year (around February/March).

One of the most noticeable signs of Bunuru is the flowering of the Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*), known to Noongar people as the "medicine tree" for its red gum. At the beginning of the season, the trees burst into cream blossoms.

This year, they were especially abundant. Many locals would have noticed the striking display of Marri flowers along Toodyay Road.

This is also a time when many young birds, having fledged at the end of Birak, begin venturing out on their own.

These adolescent birds can often be seen learning to forage and navigate the landscape.

This reflects the nature of early Bunuru as a season of growing independence.

Now, as we transition into Djeran (April/May), those Marri blossoms have begun to dry and fall signalling the end of Bunuru and the arrival of this cooler season.

Another clear sign of early Djeran is the increase in ant activity across properties, gardens and bushland. Once you start looking, it's hard to miss.

In areas where native grasses remain, you may also notice them drying and dropping seed signalling a time of preparation.

These are just some of the many signs that have guided Noongar people for generations, reading the land, understanding its rhythms and responding with care.

In our Toodyay area, the changing seasons are all around us – if we take the time to notice.

As we move toward the winter season of Makuru in a couple of months, we will share more about how Noongar people lived during the coldest time of year.



NKAC member Robby Miles (Jnr) at the Djeran seasonal sign at location 5 of the Noongar Trail.

Career Spotlight: AgTech Specialist

Technology is transforming farming in the Great Southern and Wheatbelt, and AgTech Specialists are at the heart of this change. They help farmers grow more food using fewer resources by combining GPS, drones, sensors, automation, and data analysis.

A day in the life can be varied: installing GPS guidance systems on machinery in the morning, flying drones to monitor crop health by midday, and analysing farm data or troubleshooting software remotely in the afternoon. It's a mix of outdoor work, hands-on technology, and problem-solving.

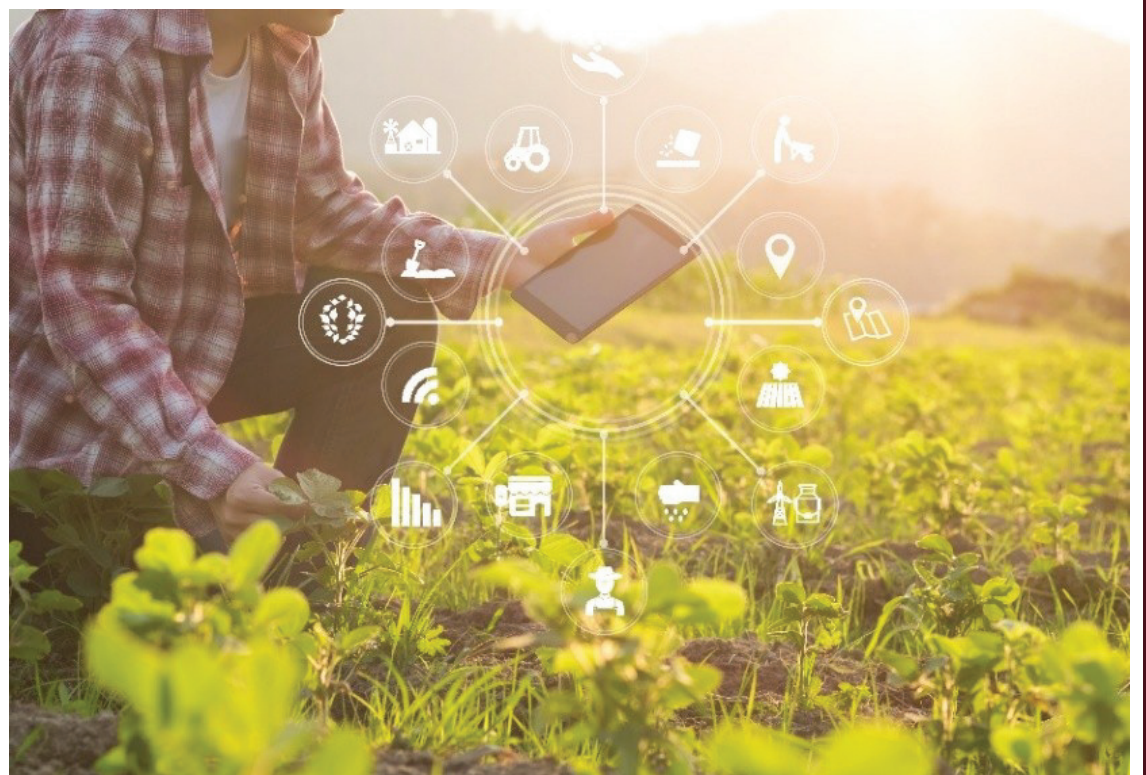
AgTech roles are growing fast in the region. Entry-level positions often begin with a Certificate II or III in Agriculture or a school-based traineeship. Progression can lead to Precision Agriculture Technician, AgTech Consultant, or Farm Technology Integration Specialist, with optional university pathways for specialised careers in Agricultural Engineering, Data Science, or Automation.

Local employers include family-owned and corporate farms, agronomy consultancies, machinery dealerships, and government research farms (DPIRD, Muresk Institute, regional TAFE programs).

For students and job seekers, AgTech offers hands-on work, career progression, and the chance to make a real difference in sustainable food production.

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Staying in Place Toodyay is all smiles

Staying in Place Toodyay Districts
Hamish Dobie, President

IT HAS been two months since Staying In Place Toodyay Districts (SIPTD) moved its office to 94 Stirling Terrace, behind the dentist.

Our Case Manager, Susan, has settled in well and is enjoying the peace and quiet of a space she can call her own.

Although Charmaine Dury has now moved away from the area, she is still a part of the SIPTD team and is Susan's back up and mentor.

The operation has grown to the point that we now need to appoint a second case manager to handle the workload.

The position is part-time for the moment and requires someone who has empathy with our customers and has a sharp mind to handle the complexities of the position.

If you think you're that person, or you know of someone that would fit, then please contact us.

The Federal Government brought in new legislation on November 1 last year replacing Home Care Packages with a Support at Home Program.

You must be aware that this new program has introduced co-payments, i.e. the recipient pays for part of the services they receive.

The former program was fully funded by the federal Government.

The Support at Home Program is subject to an asset test for each recipient, as is the aged pension. Clinical services are all fully funded.

This includes nursing, occupational therapy, restorative care, nutrition and continence.

Other services require a recipient contribution.

These amounts increase from those on full pensions to those who are self-funded.

Independence services such as personal care, respite services, social support, therapeutic services and transport services require a contribution of five percent for full pensioners grading up to 50 percent for self-funded.

Everyday living services, domestic

assistance, meal preparation, gardening, home maintenance, shopping require a contribution of between 17.5 percent and 80 percent.

As someone who worked until retirement and managed to save a little, I found it quite unfair that I had part of my aged pension taken off me because of the government's asset test.

The Support at Home Program is another dig by the Federal Government into the savings of those thrifty enough to have saved for their later years.

It's a sad fact that Australia treats its pensioners in this way, whereas most other countries reward their pensioners with equality, but it is what it is.

If you think you or your partner may be eligible for a Home Care Package, or if you are interested in becoming a Support worker or part of the SIPTD team, then please contact Susan Burley on 0494 085 790.

Birthdays in the square

Wheatbelt Squares

Gil Ackland President

MARCH was a busy month for Wheatbelt square dancers. A number of dancers attended birthday celebration dances.

Swan Valley celebrated their 13th birthday with a Black Friday dance on March 13.

The hall was decorated with witches, spiders, black cats and the music and songs reflected the 'black' theme.

Dianella Rangers celebrated their 50th birthday on March 15.

The Square Dancing Association will hold its annual National Square Dance Convention in Hobart from April 30 to May 4.

Toodyay is fortunate to have the Wheatbelt group in Goomalling and also the Gidgegannup Squares down the Perth Road.

We always welcome visitors to our small country club.

Find out more: Contact Susan on 0429 962 012 or Robert 0429 962 013

Dance is the hidden language of the soul.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995

Parking and Parking Facilities Local Law 2026

The Shire of Toodyay proposes to make a local law relating to Parking and Parking Facilities.

Purpose: The purpose of the Shire of Toodyay Parking and Parking Facilities Local Law 2026 is to regulate the stopping and parking of vehicles within the Shire to ensure public safety, accessibility, amenity and effective traffic management, while providing clear rules for the use of parking stalls, parking stations, verges, thoroughfares, and designated vehicle zones.

Effect: The effect of the local law is to create lawful requirements for parking and stopping; prescribe offences and modified penalties; enable enforcement of parking controls; provide concessions for eligible users (including properly used disability parking permits); and repeal outdated parking provisions previously in force.

A copy of the proposed Local Law may be inspected at or obtained from the Shire's Administration Centre at 15 Fiennes Street, Toodyay between 8.30am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday or at the Toodyay Public Library during normal opening hours.

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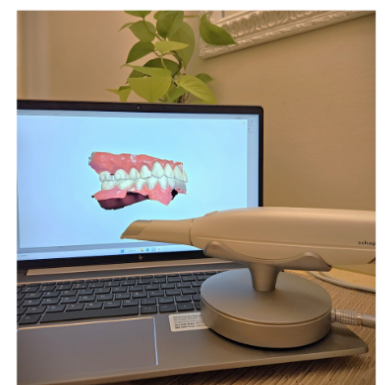
In Person: At Shire Office, 15 Fiennes Street, Toodyay WA 6566

If you have any queries regarding the above please contact the Shire's Governance Coordinator on (08) 9574 9300.

Paul Nuttall

Acting Chief Executive Officer

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Appointment
Now



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Waiting for the rain to fall

Toodyay Garden Club

Judy Rowston, Events/Media Reporter

TIME is passing quickly.

We are already into the second quarter of the year.

Farmers are looking to the clouds, waiting for much needed rain to start their cropping program.

Gardeners are waiting for the rains, so we can start planting out our winter vegetables and get our gardens pruned, fertilised and ready for new plants and eventually spring colour.

The Garden Club held its AGM on March 5 in St Stephens Hall.

Twenty-seven members attended with 28 apologies.

Amazing support from an amazing club.

Dale, our 2025 President, declared the meeting open and thanked last year's committee.

Ten positions were declared vacant.

We are delighted to say we have a full committee with three new members stepping up and seven previous members continuing on into 2026.

We warmly welcome our new leader in Mrs Alison Guley who accepted the presidency



Daphne Lee won the door prize at the AGM.

role, Mr Colin Roberts who will be our vice president and Mrs Pam Baker will join the other six members who make up the committee.

There is a full program thanks to Stephanie Bain the events coordinator and our first garden visit will be to Neville and Dale D'Antoine's garden on the April 2.

A bus trip has been organised for our May 7 visit to York.

Contact Stephanie on 0429 888 314 if you would like to secure a seat.

Please remember to bring along a picnic lunch.

We will have the urn for tea and coffee.

In June we will travel to Goomalling to visit Therese and Geoff Wise's property on the outskirts of town with amazing views of surrounding farmland.

In July we will host a huge Gala Day with four guest speakers.

This will be open to the Toodyay community as well as Garden Club members.

For further information on any of our garden visits please email the secretary Lyn at toodyaygardenclub@gmail.com or phone Stephanie on 0429 888 314.



2025 Club president, Dale D'Antoine passing club seal to 2026 club President, Alison Guley.

Using a wicking bed

Toodyay Community Garden Inc.

Joshua van Helsdingen

GROWING vegetables in Toodyay can be challenging.

Gardeners here deal with intense summer heat, poor soil and the physical effort of maintaining a garden.

Wicking beds are a simple, effective way to tackle all three.

The first challenge is heat and water loss.

Toodyay summers are hot and dry, and traditional garden beds can dry out quickly.

Wicking beds include a built-in water reservoir at the base.

Moisture moves up into the soil as plants need it.

This keeps the root zone evenly moist and reduces how often you need to water.

It also helps plants survive extreme heat. The second challenge is soil quality.

Local soils are often low in organic matter which leads to compaction, which limits root growth and reduces airflow.

It also causes poor drainage when wet, and poor water retention when dry. On top of that,

exposed soil can erode easily.

Wicking beds allow you to build your own soil mix using compost, manure and mulch.

The result is a loose, fertile soil that holds water well while still draining properly.

The third challenge is ergonomics.

Traditional gardening often involves bending, kneeling and heavy digging. This can be hard on the back and joints, especially over time.

Wicking beds are usually built at waist or hip height, making them much easier to work with.

They reduce strain and make everyday tasks like planting, weeding and harvesting more comfortable.

Wicking beds can be made from timber, metal or recycled materials.

Once set up, they are low maintenance and efficient.

With better water use, improved soil and easier access, wicking beds set gardeners up for success.

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WHERE AND WHEN

ART & CRAFT / HOBBIES / HISTORY

Arts Toodyay

Fourth Monday of each month from 5.30pm at the Toodyay Youth Hall.

Contact secretary.arts.j2@gmail.com.

Avon Valley Vintage Vehicle Association

Third Saturday Old Engineer's Quarters next to Northam Railway Museum, Fitzgerald St Northam 10.30am. 9622 5932.

Avon Woodturners Group

Every Sunday and Wednesday, Toodyay Junction, Railway Parade 9am-noon.

Hamish Dobie 0423 115 204.

Morangup Social Craft Group

First and third Tuesday monthly, Morangup Community Hall 10am-12:30pm

Ragbags Quilting Group

First and third Wednesday monthly, St Stephen's Hall 10am-2.30pm. 9574 4503. Bring your lunch.

The Crooked Needle

Friday morning craft \$3.50 CWA Hall Stirling Terrace 9.30am-noon. Jan 0407 083 079, Annette 9574 2332.

Toodyay Historical Society

Third Wednesday monthly (not Jan) St Stephen's Church Hall, Stirling Tce 7pm. Drummond House open Saturday 10am-noon (next to Bendigo Bank, Stirling Tce). Research Centre open by appt. Beth Frayne 9574 5971, secretary.2j.ths@gmail.com, www.toodyayhistoricalsociety.org.au

Toodyay Miniature Railway

Easter Saturday, thereafter first and third Sunday monthly until Nov. Mark, President 0424 281 770.

Toodyay Spinners and Weavers

Every Wednesday; and the first and third Saturdays at Parker's Cottage, Showgrounds 9am to noon. toodyayspinners@hotmail.com.

Toodyay Theatre Group

David Mitchell 0400 283 425.

CHURCHES

Anglican Church

Sundays St Stephen's Church 10am.

Catholic Church

Saturday Vigil 5pm. Wednesday Adoration 4.20pm, Benediction 4.50pm, Mass 5pm. northam@perthcatholic.org.au 9622 5411.

Bakers Hill Fellowship

Sundays Bakers Hill Primary School Music Room 10am. Pastor Peter Booth 0417 945 725.

Toodyay Baptist Church

Sundays 18 Stirling Tce 10.30am. Joy 0432 470 771.

Uniting Church

St Stephen's Church 10am.

EDUCATION / PLAYGROUPS

Bizzy Bees

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Toodyay District High School P&C

Tuesday of Week 5 each term TDHS staff room 5.30pm. 'Toodyay DHS P&C' on Facebook, write to Toodyay District High School P&C at PO Box 1624, Toodyay WA 6566.

email pandctoodyaydhs@gmail.com.

Toodyay Playgroup

Tuesdays, Thursdays 9-11am. Wednesdays Bubs

Play 10am-noon. Jessica Donovan 0407 128 105.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Bejoording VBFB

First Tuesday monthly 6pm, Bejoording Fire Shed. Lawrence 0447 253 320, Richard 0414 250 484.

Coondle-Nunile VBFB

Meet every Friday 5pm at the Coondle Fire Shed".

Morangup VBFB

Third Saturday of the month, 3 Wallaby Way, Morangup, 5.30pm Jan Drury 0474 550 544 or secretarymvbfb@gmail.com

St John Morangup Sub Centre

Volunteering, first aid kits, Benefit Fund memberships, 48 Wallaby Way, Morangup. Monday and Wednesday 8am-4pm. 0418 741 971.

St John Toodyay Sub Centre

Volunteering, first aid kits and refills, Benefit Fund memberships, general enquiries, 120B Stirling Terrace. 9574 2390. Emergency call 000.

Toodyay Central VBFB

Second Tuesday monthly Toodyay Fire and Emergency Services Centre 7pm.

Toodyay State Emergency Service

Fourth Tuesday monthly 3 Wallaby Way Morangup. Jeff Venn 0438 490 331 toodyayseslocalmanager@gmail.com.

Toodyay Volunteer Fire and Rescue

First Monday monthly, Toodyay Fire and Emergency Services Centre 7.30pm.

ENVIRONMENT

Avon Valley Environmental Society

Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Centre, 269 Fitzgerald St, Northam. Third Friday monthly, noon. Janet Wilkinson 9574 5947.

Earth Solutions - Avon Valley

Second Tuesday monthly (not Jan) Old Northam Railway Station, 425 Fitzgerald St Northam 6pm. Karen Ducat 0438 223 886.

Julimar Conservation and Forest Alliance

Julimarforest@gmail.com.

Marsupial Mamas and Pappas

Wildlife Rescue Brian Foley 0419 933 721.

Safe and Scenic Toodyay Road

Andrew St John. sastr.com.au.

Toodyay Friends of the River

Second Sunday monthly or following Monday, 9am (winter); 8am (summer). See TFOR noticeboard outside Drummond House.

Email info@toodyayfor.org.au.

Toodyay Garden Club

First Thursday monthly, 10am. Dale D'Antoine President 0448 611 292. Email toodyaygardenclub@gmail.com for venue or Stephanie Bain 0429 888 314.

Toodyay Naturalists' Club

Third Saturday monthly. 9574 5574, secretary@toodyaynats.org.au.

Website www.toodyaynats.org.au.

Toodyay Seed Group

Toodyay Junction, opposite Shire depot. Email bethan_lloyd8@msn.com.

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Toodyay Agricultural Show

www.toodyayagsociety.com.au

Toodyay Farmers Market

Third Sunday monthly, 0429 984 482, toodyayfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

Toodyay Moodyne Festival

moodynecommittee@gmail.com.

HEALTH

Australian Breastfeeding Association

Second and fourth Tuesday monthly, 3 Elizabeth Place Northam 10am-noon. Third Tuesday monthly Toodyay Playgroup noon-2pm. Louise 9574 0229.

Child Health Clinic

Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Bree Byfield. 9621 0100

Forget-Me-Not Memory Café

Second Tuesday monthly, Toodyay Bakery. 10am-noon.

Mr Perfect

Toodyay Mr Perfect BBQ second Sunday monthly from 10.30am to 12pm at Duidgee Park. mrperfect.org.au also Mr Perfect Community Group on Facebook.

Toodyay Medical Centre

Stirling Terrace. Monday-Friday 9am-4pm. 9545 7101. Pathology Mon-Fri 9am-1pm.

Toodyay Men's Shed

Monday, Thursday, Saturday Harper Rd 8.30am-noon. Secretary 0499 403 830.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Liz Boston, JP

lizboston3160@gmail.com, 0428 742 349 Leave message if no answer.

Jacquie Lacy, JP

januaryjac@gmail.com. 0429 959 179.

Jeff Roberts, JP

roberts138@bigpond.com. 0499 403 830

Susan Pearce, JP

susanpearce740@outlook.com 0427 957 425.

MUSIC

Toodyay Community Singers

Thursdays CWA Hall, Stirling Terrace Rehearsals 5pm - 6pm Anne-Marie Millar 0408 364 918.

Toodyay Music Club

Second Saturday monthly, CWA Hall 1pm. Joe 0400 862 694.

SENIORS

Autumn Club

Wednesdays, Toodyay Sports Pavilion 1-4pm. Glenyce Bosnjak 9574 4587.

Butterly Cottages Association

Secretary: Cheryl-Jean.

Contact email butterly2J@gmail.com

Fitness and Fun for the Over 55s

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays Youth Hall, Showgrounds 9am.

Ida's Hideaway

Saturdays Toodyay Baptist Church, Stirling Terrace 1-4pm. Ann Sinclair 0407 775 459.

Silver Chain Social Centre

Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays Toodyay Community Centre 78 Stirling Tce. 1300 650 803.

Staying in Place Toodyay Districts

Aged Care Support Contact Case Manager: 0494 085 790

SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Bejoording Community Group

Wednesdays Bejoording Community Centre Bejoording Rd 6pm.

Barry Grey, President 0428 742 149.

Country Women's Association

General meetings fourth Thursday monthly at 1pm, coffee mornings second Thursday monthly, 10am CWA Hall. Bookings Margot Watkins 0405 067 591 or 9574 2823.

Moodyne Men

Mondays & Thursdays CRC, 67 Stirling Terrace 8-10.30am. Breakfast 1st Saturday monthly. Colin Bird, Secretary 0424 195 003.

Morangup Progress Association

Chair Daryl Cooper chair@morangupmpa.com.au. www.morangupmpa.com.au.

RSL Toodyay Sub-Branch

Meetings at RSL shed, Clinton Street 2nd Saturday every month between February and November, at 1pm. Secretary Max Howard 0475 724 233 email: toodyayrsl@gmail.com.

Safer Toodyay Inc

Meetings announced in Herald column. 9574 5574.

Toodyay Lions Club

First Tuesday of the month Toodyay Hotel. Second Tuesday Social meeting.

Clint Fricker (0423 226 898)

Email: toodyay.wa@lions.org.au

Toodyay Masonic Lodge

Fourth Thursday monthly, Masonic Hall Fiennes St 7.30pm. Mick Tock, 9622 8990

Toodyay Red Cross

Second Monday Feb, May, Aug, Nov Anglican Hall 1.30pm.

Toodyay RoadWise Committee

Second Wednesday monthly, Community Resource Centre 9.30am.

Bob Neville 0419 853 160.

SPORT

Avon Valley Adult Riding Club

Fourth Saturday monthly Feb-Nov, Northam. Tina 0499 030 177.

Avon Valley Shotokan Karate Club

Wednesdays Youth Hall, Showgrounds. Peewees 3.45-4.30pm; Juniors 4.30-5.30pm; Seniors 6-7.30pm. avonvalleyshotokan@gmail.com.

Mortlock Pony Club

First Sunday Feb-Nov, Goomalling. Tanzi 0427 859 493.

Toodyay Bowling Club

Ladies Thursdays 8.30am.

Jenny Leitis 0438 909 721 *

Mens Wednesday 3pm Brad Watson 0499 514 738

Mixed Winter Bowls Thursday 12.30pm

Jenny Leitis - All Welcome

Toodyay Golf Club

Mixed comp Sundays noon; Ladies Wednesdays 1.30pm. Roma: 9574 5534. Men's Scroungers

Thursdays 2pm. Bruce 0417 028 089.

Toodyay Soccer Club

Mondays 4-5.30pm terms 2-3, ages 5-15yrs. toodyaysoccer@gmail.com.

Toodyay Tennis Club

Toodyay Recreation Centre, Tuesday social 9am unless raining, Wednesday night social 6.30pm October - April, Friday Night Community Tennis - October - November (Facebook for updates) or community court hire play.tennis.com.au .

Facebook @toodyaytennisclub.

Contact Jenny Ash Secretary 0417497972

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ENVIRONMENT

Research reveals life inside the Magpie's world

Bird of the Month

Desrae Clarke

THE *'Australian Magpie – Biology and Behaviour of an Unusual Songbird'* has been written by researcher Gisella Kaplan from studies over more than twenty years.

The publication includes many personal experiences that Gisella, with several of her colleagues, have enjoyed sharing, making this book so readable.

Permission to use the cover photo of the book has been kindly given by CSIRO Publishers.

Are the numbers of Australian Magpies increasing or decreasing?

The birds appear to have adjusted to living in areas of ever-increasing urban sprawl but with the removal of natural bushland, swamp areas and large nesting trees, one wonders.

This large species of 43-47cm has a life span of 20-25 yrs.

It has a preference to live in open grasslands, paddocks and parks but has adjusted to also live happily in suburbia.

It is a monogamous species having a lifelong partner.

Breeding commences in August in the southern part of our state, the female taking responsibility for nest building or refurbishing last year's home.

It commences with an untidy stick platform topped with a bowl shape lined with grass, wool, bark and feathers.

Three to five blue/green, brown spotted eggs are laid and incubated over fourteen days by the female bird.

The hatchlings, pink and featherless, are tended by both parents.

Young birds are unable to fly for the first few days after leaving the nest and may be found walking on the ground.

This is a period of risk for the youngsters with possible predation by a fox, monitor

lizard or the feral cat.

The Australian Magpie struts about probing the ground searching for prey of beetles, scorpions, flies, snails, grasshoppers, earthworms and snails.

It also takes eggs and baby birds from unprotected nests of other species, plus mice and carrion, and is known to eat grain, plant material and fruits.

Determining the sex of birds less than two years of age is impossible.

The young birds' colouring over this time is the mottled black and white resembling the adult female.

In the early months of a bird's third year the male bird's back becomes white (black in eastern Australia) but may have several tiny black feathers peeking out.

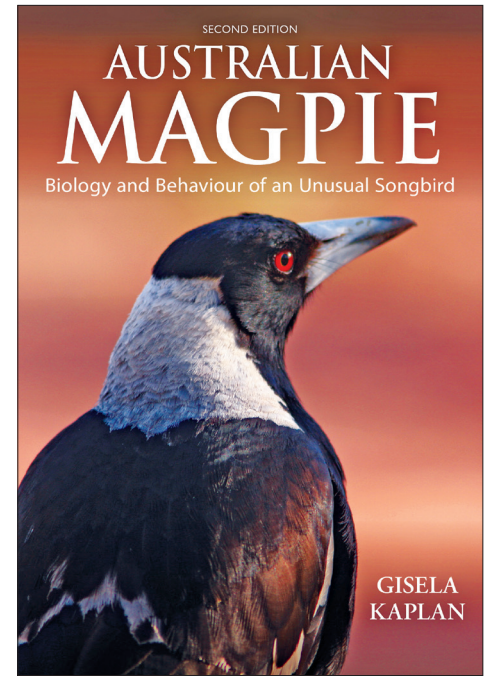
Assessing the 'year age' of the bird is by the bill colouration with a bird of up to a year-old having a leaden-grey coloured bill.

A very young bird has a red colouration of flesh joining the bill to the head that guides those that feed it.

Over the second year the bill is a lighter grey with a black tip with the adult's bill, of both male and female, a bluish white with a black tip and hook.

The Australian Magpie has many calls from the soft chattering to itself while resting to happy carolling, a strident call when in a group to a high-pitched alarm call.

It can mimic other bird calls and will duet



Read about the secret life of Magpies.

when unable to see a partner when foraging. Toodyay Naturalists' Club members are grateful to hear from the community with interesting observations by email to secretary@toodyaynats.com.au or phone 9574 5574.

Native bee surveys matter

Julimar Conservation and Forest Alliance

Melissa Adams, Secretary

DUE to rain, we had to postpone a popular Native Bee survey in Julimar State Forest at the September BioBlitz last year, led by ecologist, Dr Kit Prendergast.

We were relieved when Kit said she was keen to come back in October, supported by the Conservation Council of WA, to continue the survey.

This time, despite limited wildflowers, Kit and our team of volunteers still documented four species in three genera (Leioproctus, Lasioglossum and Lipotriches) in the vicinity of Heine Road.

"Given the high seasonal turnover in species abundance and diversity recorded over the spring and summer in other parts of SWWA (Swan Coastal Plain, Jarrah forest), it is likely that this is just a small snapshot of the diversity of native bees at Julimar," Kit explained.

When a lot of people think of bees, they tend to picture the introduced honeybee.

If you look more closely at the insects in your garden, or while walking in the bush, you'll likely start to recognise other bees pollinating the flowers.

These are those that cut leaves with their mandible (Leafcutter Bees), those building nests in small holes in wood (eg. Leafcutter Bees, Resin Bees) or in dirt or clay (eg. Blue-banded Bees), or those building hives, producing honey (Stingless Bees).

They range in size from just a few millimetres to the size of your thumb.

Australia has a huge variety of native bees. They are a vital part of our natural world.

Some native species are pollinators while others have special relationships with native flora.

Like many insects they are bioindicators of healthy ecosystems, providing insights into environmental change or land clearing.

Overall insects are on the decline.

A 2024 study estimates that 9000 insects and other native invertebrates have become extinct in Australia since European arrival,

and between one and three additional species become extinct every week.

Cleared habitat and use of harmful pesticides are drivers of this decline.

Climate change also impacts insects by altering temperature and moisture conditions, which can disrupt their seasonal life cycles.

According to Kit, there is a lot we don't know about native bees.

"There exist large knowledge gaps about their diversity, distribution, plant interactions and phenology.

"There are over 1700 described species, yet we estimate there are at least 500 undescribed species."

This is why surveys, like the one conducted in Julimar State Forest, are so important.

If we don't close the knowledge gap, there may be bees that become extinct before they are even identified.

What can you do as an individual to help conserve these wonderful insects?

Attend surveys or perform your own by uploading your sightings to iNaturalist (the more we know, the better protection we can advocate and provide).

Raise awareness about native bees. Plant native flowers, especially in the families Fabaceae and Myrtaceae.

Protect and restore native habitat. Reduce pesticide use.

Provide nesting habitat in your backyard and make well-designed bee hotels.

Follow experts like Kit on social media, and learn more about these fabulous creatures.

Facebook page: [@Kit.Prendergast](#);
Facebook group: [The Buzz on Wildbees](#)

We will be conducting more native bee surveys in Julimar State Forest toward the end of this year.

As Kit says, more discoveries await, and we can't wait to see what we find next.

Email us to register your interest in being part of future surveys, including birds, plants and other species at julimarforest@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook: [JulimarCAFA](#).

You can also join the iNaturalist project which is entitled: *Species of Julimar State Forest (All observations)* to record sightings all year round.



Leioproctus Genus Leioproctus. (Photo by Dr Kit Prendergast).

Local Carpet Python watch



The Carpet Python is very easy to identify with its markings. (Photo by Lou Kidd).

Herpetofauna

Desrae Clarke

IN THE mid 1990s a young man from the eastern states, David Pearson, moved to live in Western Australia to pursue his studies in reptiles to gain his doctorate with his choice of subject being the Carpet Python.

A call was made through natural history groups and the community asking for reports, sightings, observations and photos of these beautiful creatures.

I placed an advertisement in the *Toodyay Herald* and the *Northam Advocate* asking readers to contact me with any sightings; thus began in 1996 the first of *The Herald* articles I called Python Watch.

Community members sent me photos, letters, phone calls and emails of not only pythons but also creatures under the name of herpetofauna that includes frogs, turtles, skinks, lizards, geckos, legless lizards, blind snakes, monitors and snakes so *The Herald's* subjects expanded.

Since that time, data collected has been exciting, the obvious interest amazing and a great learning curve for everyone especially me for which I am extremely grateful.

Stories that have come to light have been incredible with a Morangup family having a python visitor popping in to say hello each December three years in succession.

On the third visit the question was asked whether a python would take a Chihuahua pup as a litter of pups were placed in a playpen in the sun on a veranda.

A ranger was asked to relocate the large female to a new location.

A 30cm long Carpet Python was brought into a house by a family cat.

Fortunately, the youngster was unharmed

and was able to be relocated away from the household feline.

A large python was found resting for several days in a trough of water lilies.

The Carpet Python is very easy to identify as it has what is known as a 'neck', a feature that is not one of most snakes.

It has a ground colouring from greenish to blackish brown with the body marked with numerous, irregular white, cream or pale brown blotches with darkened edges; the belly may be white, cream or yellow.

The Carpet Python's diet includes rats and mice so it is often found in the vicinity of a fowl run, hay shed or bird aviary; rabbits are also a source of food.

It is a proficient climber of trees and will ambush birds such as the Raven, Ring-necked Parrot and the Brown Honeyeater at bird baths.

The python's forked tongue constantly flicks to collect dust particles from its surrounds to convey messages to the highly sensitive Jacobson's Organ.

The glands in the roof of the mouth determine the presence of a threat, food or a mate.

The python houses in rabbit burrows, beneath rocky shelving, in tree hollows or hollow logs and is often found beneath roofing or coiled around piping of a water tank.

A Carpet Python cannot be taken from the wild as a pet as it is totally protected and may result in an extremely heavy fine.

The Toodyay Naturalists' Club members are grateful to receive information from community members of natural history sightings, observations of interest and photos by emailing secretary@toodyaynats.org.au or 9574 5574.



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A busy planting season ahead

Toodyay Friends of the River
Greg Warburton

DUIDGEE Park was the venue for our March general meeting.

This was followed by a lively conversation on promoting the Toodyay Friends of the River.

Some excellent ideas were put forward which included branded PPE for working bees, merchandise, community events and excursions.

The subject of funding was a timely discussion with the Shire Community Funding round currently open for applications.

Thank you to the committee members who made the effort to attend the management meeting only two days later.

On the March 20, I joined Project Officer, Kai, and Seed Orchard Coordinator, Bethan, to survey the Boyagerring Reserve precinct to identify suitable restoration sites.

The focus for this season will be on-site preparation, especially weed control, with the main plantings to occur next year.

We do have a small planting location ready for this year with seedlings propagated by our seed orchard group earmarked for the site.

This will link into the Landcare class activities that Bethan is leading with the school students.

Recent inspections of key river sites resulted in Bilya Track maintenance work, litter removal from Duidgee Park and the Pelham storm water outlet project.

I encourage users of the Bilya Walk Track to report to me any issues such as fallen branches, damage and hazards. I can ensure a swift response to getting problems fixed.

In relation to the Bilya Walk Track, volunteers have been working on getting a section of the track approved for Parkrun.

After the closure of the footbridge last year the popular Saturday morning Newcastle Park Parkrun was forced to relocate to the school car park for its start point.

Then, complete an unusual three lap course to achieve the five-kilometre requirement.

This caused a lot of confusion, especially for visitors, and also not being able to use Newcastle Park detracted from the appeal.

I'm happy to report a satisfactory outcome has resulted from negotiations with the Shire regarding the former Community Compost Facility.

We now look forward to continuing our partnership with the use of the Community Depot amenities and indeed caring for and managing our river and riparian areas.

A change to our program for April will see us meeting at Duidgee Park at 8am on Sunday April 12.

At the time of writing, it is proposed we commence work on identified remediation sites and inspect recent community developments and installations at Boyagerring Reserve.

Don't forget to visit our website toodyayfor.org.au or phone Greg on 0429 009 425 for further information.

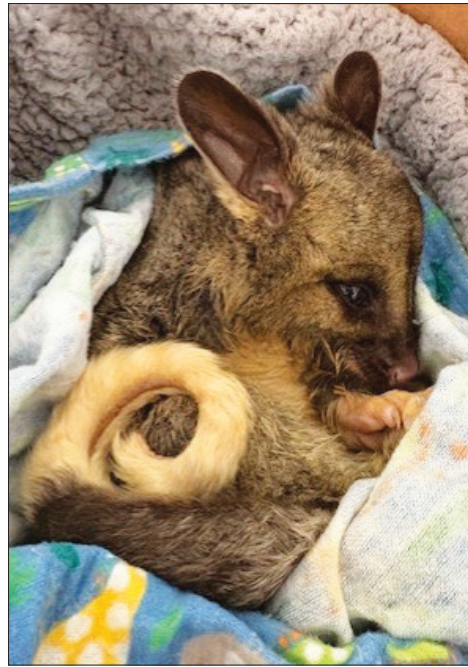
A day in the Life of Marsupial Mammals and Pappas

Marsupial Mammals and Pappas (Inc)
Becky Ingram

LONG weekends and public holidays consistently place increased pressure on wildlife response services.

With fewer animal control agents (ACA) available for euthanasia and limited capacity to dart and assess wildlife, Marsupial Mammals and Pappas is increasingly called upon to fill the gaps.

In just one day, our team responded to multiple call-outs across the region —



The ring tail possum sadly did not survive.

humanely euthanising severely injured kangaroos, coordinating care for orphaned joeys, and rushing a critically ill possum between carers in a desperate bid to save its life.

Despite our efforts, not every animal can be saved — but others, like an orphaned red kangaroo joey now in care, are given a second chance thanks to the dedication of our volunteers.

Behind every call is travel time, equipment, fuel, clinical supplies, training, emotional labour and volunteers stepping in where formal systems are unavailable or stretched beyond capacity.

Wildlife rescue groups are carrying an increasing share of frontline euthanasia and first responders in emergency situations.

We remain committed to ensuring injured wildlife is not left to suffer alone.

Sustainable wildlife response requires adequate resourcing, coordinated access and structural support.

To the wildlife rehabilitators, fellow rescue groups, the team at Wildcare Helpline, and the members of the public who stop, check pouches and make the call — you are critical to this network.

We cannot save them all, but when the phone rings, we answer.

We do what we can with what we have and where we are.

We always need funds to pay for feed and vet fees for our orphans, so donations are always welcome.

Direct deposit into our account at the Bendigo Bank (BSB 633-000 Account 175 516 319).

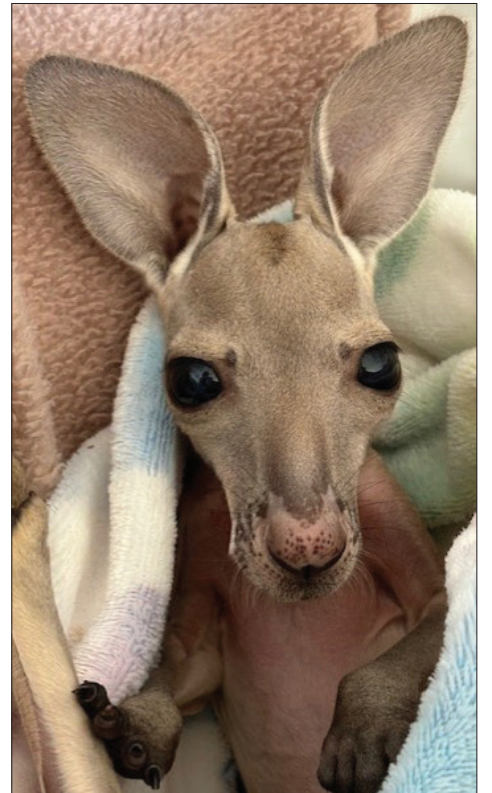
Donations over \$2 are tax deductible, and our Public Account is BSB 633 000, Account

186 438 040.

If paying into this account, please send us an email, or text with your name and contact details so we can send you a receipt.

The email is treasurer@mmap.au.

Please call 0493 642 713 any time, day or night, if you find any injured wildlife.



The Red kangaroo joey, whose mum was hit by a car near Peak Hill.

The Toodyay Community Foundation

Toodyay Naturalists Club
Greg Warburton

THE past month has seen an emphasis on funding opportunities for community groups.

On March 18, I attended the first of two shire information sessions on the Community Funding Program for 2026/27.

The session was well presented and attended, although I was the only one representing our environment and heritage.

However, it seems such groups are well positioned to meet the criteria for funding.

Members are encouraged to put forward ideas soon as the current round closes on April 20.

The Toodyay Naturalists' Club has been a recipient of Shire Community Funding in the past with one grant paying for the installation of a picnic table at the Dawn Atwell Nature Reserve.

On March 21, the club held its regular general meeting.

I had the pleasure of welcoming our guest speaker, Sean Hefferon.

Sean needed no introduction being former editor of the *Toodyay Herald* and a well-known personality around town.

After two years at the helm of our beloved local newspaper Sean is now focusing his time and energy on creating the "Toodyay Community Foundation".

Members were enthralled by Sean's presentation which was extensively researched and creatively illustrated by an expertly prepared slide show.

The foundation aims to create a funding source for Toodyay that directly benefits the community including environmental and sustainability projects.

Unlike other funding programs applying to the Toodyay Community Foundation will negate the often competitive and protracted process of meeting onerous criteria and acquittal requirements.

We were inspired to hear of the successes of other community funds in WA such as the Esperance Ag Fund and the Albany Community Foundation.

Here, investment in donations and other forms of philanthropy has enabled the launching of inspiring projects and enduring benefits for those communities and beyond.

Sharon Richards, chairperson of the Toodyay Naturalists' Club subgroup, the

Julimar Conservation and Forest Alliance (JCAFA) took the opportunity and followed on from Sean's presentation.

She introduced members to a proposed campaign budget for funding estimates going forward.

We all went away inspired and encouraged, even in the face of current depressing global events.

Our April meeting will be held on Saturday 18 commencing at 7pm as usual at the Anglican Church Hall.

The speaker will be another well-known local identity, long term resident, Max Howard.

Max is probably most well-known through his work for the Toodyay RSL but he is also a passionate amateur ornithologist.

Currently, Max, along with JCAFA and Birdlife Australia volunteers, is documenting the bird species in Julimar Forest for the production of a guidebook.

However, this time Max will be talking about his ornithological adventures in northern Australia.

For further information or to record sightings visit our website toodyaynats.org.au or call Greg on 0429 009 425.

The Middle East conflict causes uncertainty for our farmers

Toodyay Agricultural Alliance
Andrew Thornton

TOODYAY farmers are busy preparing for the seeding period.

This is amidst rapidly rising costs for fuel and fertiliser due to the war in the Middle East. Fuel supplies have been limited in regional areas.

Many farmers are worried they won't have enough fuel to complete their seeding operations.

Some farmers have resorted to using their own fuel trailers to cart fuel which has been a costly and time-consuming exercise.

Fertiliser supplies such as urea have also been severely impacted.

Urea is vitally important to the overall growth and health of a crop. Without it there is a substantial yield penalty.

The majority of urea comes out of the Middle East via the Strait of Hormuz.

The resulting shortages have farmers concerned about availability and sharp price increases with some predicting it to reach \$1500/tonne.

Despite these ongoing issues farmers are

continuing to prepare for the season ahead.

The focus has now shifted from jobs such as lime spreading and paddock preparation to servicing seeding equipment.

This includes tractors, airseeders, spray rigs and trucks to ensure everything is ready to go when the first rains arrive.

Bearing replacement, hydraulic leaks repair, airseeder hoses replacement and careful calibration of airseeder tanks are some of the jobs that need to be carried out.

Thorough maintenance at this time of year is essential to avoid any delays during the busy periods.

Anyone who has been around farming long enough knows that breakdowns are still inevitable.

Many local farmers attended an autumn update meeting in Bolgart recently.

They listened to speakers from CSBP who gave an update on the fertiliser situation.

They didn't sugarcoat the issues regarding fertiliser supplies.

They did assure everyone that they are doing everything possible to source product in these unprecedented times.

We also heard from chemical company

representatives regarding some products that are making a big impact throughout the Wheatbelt and how they would fit into individual cropping programs.

The day finished with a drone demonstration.

Drones are becoming increasingly popular in farming due to their versatility.

The drone demonstrated can be used for spraying target areas in a crop that may be too wet for traditional sprayers.

It can be fitted with a spreader that can

spread bait on areas that might be affected from mice or slug damage.

The limiting factor with drones currently is battery capacity.

Technology is rapidly advancing and longer lasting batteries are not too far away.

There will be an increase in oversize machinery movements throughout the shire and Wheatbelt over the next few weeks.

Please be patient if you encounter one.

You will still get to your destination on time.



Drone technology

HEALTH

Men and the cancer risk

Warrior Wellbeing

MEN in Australia are much more likely to be diagnosed with and die from cancer than women.

According to the Cancer Council of WA the lifetime cancer risk is one in two for men and one in three for women.

Men are over-represented in all gender shared cancers including the most common – lung, bowel and skin.

The experience of cancer in one form or another is never good and it does beg the question, why the gender disparity?

There is no simple answer, but we do know that men in general are less likely to visit their GP to report or act on any unusual symptoms or changes.

Cancer is a disease driven by changes in DNA/genes which causes a group of abnormal cells to divide and grow out of control.

It usually occurs in a specific spot but can spread to other parts of the body.

We are still some way from finding a cure, but we do know that finding cancer early improves chances of successful treatment and long-term survival.

For the average bloke, general things that warrant a chat with a GP could include:

- unusual lumps or a sore that isn't healing properly;
- unusual changes in the testicles – changes in shape, consistency or a lump;

- a persistent cough or hoarseness, coughing up blood;
- unexplained weight loss;
- moles that have changed shape, size or colour, or bleed, or an inflamed skin sore that hasn't healed;
- blood in a bowel motion;
- persistent changes in toilet habits or urinary problems or changes.

It is important to note that these symptoms are likely to be related to more common, less serious health problems.

However, we still need to discuss them to ease concerns or pick up something early rather than later.

Unfortunately, it is often only when blokes find they are progressed with cancer that they actually start to think about modifying their behaviour and making healthy changes.

What can we men do to prevent or lessen our chances of developing cancer?

- Stop smoking – lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in Australian men.
- Be SunSmart – protect yourself in the sun and take care not to burn.
- Stay in shape – aim for a healthy body weight, watch our waistlines.
- Move more – be physically active for at least 30 minutes on most or all days.
- Eat for health – a varied diet with lots of fruit/ vegetables and limit red meat.
- Limit alcohol – no more than two standard drinks a day and try to have one or two alcohol-free days a week.
- Have a chat with your GP about your prostate especially if you are over 45 years.
- Use our bowel screen kit when you get it.
- Get to know your family history of cancer. Remember it's your health.

If you have any concerns or questions, you need to go and chat with a GP.

Don't wait and leave it till it's too late.

Contact: The Regional Men's Health Initiative

P: (08) 6314 1436

E: menshealth@4blok.es.com.au

Our environment matters at the Toodyay Herald...



news@toodyayherald.com.au




Heartlands Veterinary Hospital



Heartlands Toodyay
98 Stirling Terrace TOODYAY WA 6566
08 9574 5055
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For After-hours Emergencies only 0418 264 423



Dr Rianne Van Der Aar with a Red Tailed Carnaby's Black Cockatoo.

Dealing with orphaned or injured wildlife

Heartlands Veterinary Hospital Dr Rianne Van Der Aar

AS LUCKY as we are to live in an area rich with native wildlife, it also puts us in a position where we may be confronted with injured or orphaned wild animals.

To ensure we do the right thing by them while keeping ourselves safe, please consider the following guidance.

Ask for advice: if you are unsure what to do to or where to go, please contact the Wildcare Helpline, a licensed wildlife rescue or your local vet.

The aim is to get injured or lost wildlife to a qualified person as soon as possible.

Delays can be fatal.

Prioritise safety, for yourself and our wildlife: do not try to handle potentially dangerous animals, such as snakes and bats.

This requires expertise and specialised equipment.

If you must pick up the animal to transport it, always use a thick towel and gloves to cover it.

Contain wildlife in a secure vessel that allows for ventilation, to prevent injury to yourself and the animal.

Stress can be fatal.

Minimise handling and always keep wildlife in a dark, warm and quiet place away from children and pets.

Avoid feed or water, unless advised otherwise, as this can cause more harm than good.

Do not attempt to look after injured or orphaned wildlife yourself.

They require specialised care from trained professionals to give them the best chance at recovery.

Intervention or delays, however well intended, can lead to prolonged suffering and lowers chances of survival.

Marsupial Mamas and Pappas can be contacted on 0419 933 721.

Heartlands Veterinary Hospital can be contacted on: 9641 1383.

Wildcare Helpline: 9474 9055.

WA Wildlife: 9417 7105.

Vaccinate for cold and flu

GET vaccinated now to prepare for cold and flu season

The Heart Foundation is encouraging people to get vaccinated ahead of cold and flu season to help look after their own health as well as protecting people with cardiovascular disease (CVD).

Vaccination helps limit the spread of common respiratory viruses that can cause and/or worsen CVD, including influenza, COVID-19 and RSV.

Respiratory infections and CVD are linked as follows:

People with CVD are more likely catch a respiratory infection and more likely to have serious complications from an infection.

This includes a higher risk of needing to go to hospital, and in some cases, of dying.

People with CVD can be 10 to 20 times more likely to catch RSV and up to four times more likely to end up in hospital with the infection.

Respiratory infections can lead to CVD. Viruses can cause inflammation in your

body, placing strain on your heart which can lead to heart failure or an abnormal heartbeat.

Viruses can also cause plaque (a fatty build up) in your blood vessels to be less stable and this can cause a blockage and possible heart attack or stroke.

Your chance of having a heart attack in the week following an infection is six times higher following flu, up to 11 times higher following RSV and between two to eight times higher following COVID-19.

Heart Foundation Chief Medical Adviser, Professor Garry Jennings AO, said vaccination was an easy way for people to limit the spread of these infections.

"We encourage as many people as possible to get vaccinated to help protect themselves and their loved ones from the severe cardiovascular complications these viruses can cause," Professor Jennings said.

"Please talk with your GP or pharmacist about which vaccines would be most appropriate for you."



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Eyes on the ball

Toodyay Soccer Club
Aurelie Zimmerman

THE new soccer season is here.

Excitement is building at the club.

There has been much happening behind the scenes as we prepare for another great year of soccer.

We're ready to welcome back familiar players and meet some new faces.

Over the past two years, the club has seen a steady and strong rise in registrations. We are hoping this year continues that trend.

Watching the players grow and develop each season is always a highlight.

With the Asian Women's Cup taking place in Australia last month and the Men's World Cup later this year across Canada, Mexico and the United States, there's even more excitement around soccer at all levels.

In past years, international tournaments like these have sparked extra interest and enthusiasm for the game, and we're hoping 2026 will be no different.

Soccer is more than just a game.

It's a way for kids to stay active, build friendships and to develop teamwork, resilience and confidence.

Each season, we're proud to see players grow not just in skill but also in character, making memories both on and off the field.

Our "Have a Go Day" will be held on Saturday April 11 at the Recreation Centre.

This fun, informal event is the perfect chance for kids to get a feel for soccer in a relaxed environment. Players can try out different skills and drills, participate in mini games and experience the excitement of playing with other children their age.

It's also a great opportunity for parents to meet the coaches, ask questions about the season and see how much fun the sport can be.

Uniforms will be available to swap or purchase on the day so everyone can be ready to kick off the season in style.

Training will continue on Mondays from 4.30pm at the Recreation Centre during Terms 2 and 3, with breaks over the school holidays.

We've also scheduled four friendly matches against Northam SFC hosted between the two clubs throughout the season.

In addition, we are planning some intra-club game days to give players more chances to enjoy the sport and develop their skills.

More details will be shared soon.

Be sure to keep an eye on our Facebook page for all the latest updates.

The club is always on the lookout for sponsors to help support our program and events.

If your business or organisation would like to get involved, we'd love to hear from you.

We're happy to explore ways we can promote your support while helping the club grow – a win-win for everyone.

For more information, please contact us at toodyaysoccer@gmail.com

Volunteers are the heart of our club.

We are always grateful to anyone who can help out on training or game days.

Every session and match is made possible thanks to the time and energy given by our community members.

From volunteers, coaches and committee, we can't wait to see you on the field in 2026.

Let's make this another fantastic season of soccer in Toodyay.



Eyes on the ball.

Heading to Japan for the adventure of a lifetime

Avon Valley Shotokan
Nat Kielbasa

PHONES chirp their notification tones as excited Avon Valley Shotokan students share photos and videos of an adventure of a lifetime in Japan.

The journey to the 24th Universal Shotokan Karate Union (USKU) Karate Championships has begun.

This week, the 23 students chosen to represent AVS have had a blast attending training in Japan.

They also went sightseeing, reconnected with old friends from around the world, and had the opportunity to attend a seminar by world renowned Sensei Andre Bertel.

This was described as exhausting and difficult but so much fun.

Some students have already begun their home-stay visits with local families to experience Japanese culture.

All students are busy preparing for the upcoming tournament.

This adventure would not have been possible without the generous support of our wonderful community.

We would like to extend an enormous thankyou from everyone at Avon Valley Shotokan to our amazing sponsors, Toodyay Op shop, White Rose Civil and Earthworks, Lisa and Des Biglin, Earth to AG Diesel, Arise Coffee, The Rec, Tony Maddox, Roam Distillery, ASB skip bins, Complete Building Supplies WA, EAG Electrical and Toodyay Tyre and Exhaust.

Also, a special mention and thank you to the many local superstars who have given private personal donations to support our students.

Opportunities like this are incredibly important for students of all ages but are financially often out of reach.

Your support has allowed us to double the number of students able to attend the USKU Karate Championship compared with the trip in 2024.

We are so grateful.

In other news, students had fantastic success at two tournaments held in Jolimont.

During the Shobukan Open, Casey won



Helena's Kumite event at Shobukan Open where she earned second.

bronze in kata and Helena earned second for kumite.

In the adult divisions, Jesse brought home bronze medals in both kata and kumite while Joe took out the silver in kata and the gold in kumite.

On March 22, three students competed in the WA State Karate Championships.

They brought home an amazing four medals.

Rayna performed a beautiful Jion kata which earned her the bronze medal and battled to bronze during her kumite event.

We are patiently waiting to see if this result qualifies Rayna to compete in the 2026 National Championships. We will keep everyone updated on her progress.

Also in the kumite events, Helena fought hard for silver and Victor earned his bronze medal. A fantastic result.

Congratulations everyone on your superb efforts. Our volunteers were busy making the events possible.

Chandre worked as a table official, Tiffany marshalled competitors, Ashton helped students warm up and practice techniques and Maciej and Sensei Kylie coached.

Thank you all for your time, effort and support.

If you would like to keep up to date with news from the dojo, check out Avon Valley Shotokan on Facebook or email us at avonvalleyshotokan@gmail.com if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

The inaugural Toodyay Triathlon a runaway success

Toodyay Triathlon Club
Kelly-Anne Murray, President

THE Toodyay Triathlon Club expresses our sincere gratitude to the sponsors, supporters, spectators and competitors of the inaugural Toodyay Triathlon, held on March 8 at the Toodyay Aquatic Centre.

On one of the warmest mornings, we were humbled by the incredible support that residents and visitors showed by rising to the challenge for Toodyay's first triathlon event.

We welcomed 129 competitors, from 7 to 79 years of age, to race across three course distances.

An incredible 67 competitors (51%)

participated in their first triathlon and we witnessed multi-generational families completing their first event together.

Toodyay Triathlon truly demonstrated that triathlon is a sport for everyone, regardless of age or ability.

Events such as this require a lot of planning and volunteer commitment.

Triathlon events rely heavily on grants and sponsorship to cover essential costs such as traffic management, electronic timing, equipment hire and race direction services.

On behalf of the Toodyay Triathlon Club and our community, I'd like to acknowledge and thank the business sponsors and donors that made the inaugural Toodyay Triathlon 2026 possible.



Winners are grinners.














THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Your generosity made the inaugural 2026 Toodyay Triathlon possible




















Principal's Pen

We've had a few changes in the office this month... and no, no one got fired — we've actually grown the team.

After a very busy couple of months, it was definitely time to expand, and we're so excited to welcome a new face into our little work family.

A big welcome to Kayleen, who joins us with over 7 years of property management experience — we're thrilled to have her on board.

The team also enjoyed some well-deserved downtime over Easter, spending quality time with family and friends (and probably a little too much chocolate).

In the office this month:

- **Breanna** has signed up for a business course to continue building her skills — go you.
- **Zonelle** is taking on more responsibility and really hitting her stride in all things property management.
- **Jemma** enjoyed a week in Melbourne filled with shopping and her very first massage.
- **Kayleen** has officially joined the team — be sure to pop in and say hello next time you're nearby.
- **Jess** has been on fire, selling not one but three brand new builds off-market.
- **Sam** the brand new property listed last week — now under offer.
- **Tony** is thrilled to finally have his burn-off permit approved — it's the little things.

Behind the scenes, we've been busy preparing for our new team member, reshuffling the office, and getting ready for upcoming regulatory changes. Nothing too major, but they may impact those looking to buy or sell — we'll keep you updated as things roll out.

Until next month,
Faith Kelly



THE TEAM

Who are we? What do we do? What can we do for you?

Thinking about selling your house? - Thinking about buying a home?
Thinking about buying an investment property and need efficient property managers? - If you said yes to any of these, then we can help you!



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Neat 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom on 887m2 block with rear access.



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