

Toodyay Today

Shire of Toodyay News & Community Updates

AUGUST

Save the Dates!

Toodyay Minitaure Railway - Sunday
2 & 16 August, 10am - 2pm,
Duidgee Park.

National Youth Volunteer Week -
Monday 10-16 August.

Micro to Macro: National Science Week -
Saturday 15 August, Stem Day 1pm - 3pm,
Stargazing 6:30pm - 8pm, Toodyay
Recreation Centre.

Toodyay Farmers Market - Sunday
16 August, 9am - 1pm, Stirling Park.

Regional Governance Success Series -
Monday 17 August, 21 September, 19
October, 2 November and 23 November,
5pm - 6pm, Toodyay Community Resource
Centre.

Transcend Trails - Saturday 22 August,
6:00am - 10:00pm Cobblers Pool.

Book Week - 22-28 August, Toodyay
Library.

Ordinary Council Meeting - Thursday
3 September, 5:30pm, Shire Council
Chambers.

Toodyay Minitaure Railway - Sunday
6 & 20 September, 10am - 2pm,
Duidgee Park.

Tarmac West 2026 - Saturday 19
September, 8am - 1pm, Toodyay
Surrounds.

Toodyay Farmers Market - Sunday
20 September, 9am - 1pm, Stirling Park.

Kids Club - Every Thursday during school
term 2:30pm - 4:30pm, Toodyay
Community Resource Centre.

Thursdays during the school term
2.30 pm - 4.30 pm
At the Toodyay CRC
67 Stirling Terrace
Ages 5 - 15
\$20 per term
Canteen available

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



Shire of Toodyay Local Planning Scheme No. 5 - Amendment No. 2 Short Term Rental Accommodation

The Shire of Toodyay is inviting public comment on proposed Amendment No. 2 to Local Planning Scheme No. 5, relating to Short Term Rental Accommodation and Tourist and Visitor Accommodation land uses. The proposed amendment aligns the Scheme with recent State Government changes to the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015. The Amendment Report is available on the Shire of Toodyay website and can also be inspected at the Shire Administration Office and Toodyay Library. **Submissions close 5.00 pm, Thursday 24 September 2026.** For more information or to lodge a submission, visit the Shire's website or contact the **Shire of Toodyay Planning Department on 08 9574 9340.**

National Science Week: Saturday 15 August 2026

Toodyay Lions Club 50th Anniversary

A beautiful 3 course buffet dinner held at the Toodyay Homestead Motel will take place on 19th September from 6pm - 10pm. Bookings are essential. Please contact **Heather** on **0436 019 991** or via email toodyay.wa@lions.org.au. RSVP by **Monday 9 September**.

Library Update

There has been plenty happening at Toodyay Library recently! We hosted a wonderful Coffee and Cake Morning at our Morangup satellite library, providing a great opportunity for community members to catch up, enjoy a hot drink, and learn more about the services available through the library. We also held a special Rhyme Time session in support of SOCK week road safety initiative. We read books specific to the program, followed by morning tea and activities for families. Patrons and visitors may have noticed our new library signage, making it easier to find and access library services. Inside the library, we are currently undertaking a major collection revamp. Adult fiction books being moved into easy-to-browse genres, helping patrons discover new authors and books more easily.



Visitors Centre Update

Arts Toodyay will be showcasing in the Visitor's Centre for the month of August. Come down and see some amazing local art.



Built by Hand: The Tools that Shaped the Bush

Early rural communities had to be largely self-reliant to survive. Our newest display at the Newcastle Gaol Museum showcases hand tools used by local wood, leather, and iron workers. The jobs were varied and vital. Carpenters cleared the forests and built the first homesteads. Wheelwrights crafted the wagon wheels that travelled along unsealed bush tracks. Saddle-makers kept the heavy horse teams harnessed for agricultural work. Cobblers constantly repaired boots ruined by the harsh, rocky terrain. The local blacksmith, the anchor of any regional WA community, forged new parts for wagons and ploughs and made specialist tools whenever required.



Council Decisions

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

- Council approves the retrospective development application for works undertaken at The Rec.
- Council approves public advertising (up to 30 days) for the proposed dedication of part of Burt Parkway, Nunile, as a public road.
- Council noted property valuations for previously approved land disposals and adopted market values to enable sale processes to proceed.
- Council received the June 2026 List of Payments and Monthly Financial Statements.
- Council Adopted the 2026/27 Annual Budget.
- Council approved \$24,200 in Community Funding Program grants for 2026/27.
- Council adopted the new Activities in Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2026, replacing the 2001 local law and providing an updated regulatory framework.

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



A patchwork of possibilities

Ragbags Quilting Group
Kerry Gregory

HOW fortunate it is that quilting enables endless use of lengths, pieces and recyclable fabrics with clever designs and project outcomes.

We've all used leftover fabrics in combination with recent purchases, achieving beautiful economic patchwork projects.

I managed to purchase some beautiful floral fabrics at a market bargain price and, with a perfectly toned off-cut fabric from my stash, was able to cut out all the pattern pieces for a good-sized quilt top for a quilt-as-you-go project.

The end-of-bolt length of backing which I recently purchased to tone with the quilt would normally be sufficient for a quilt of that size.

However, I made one major error by not

reading all of the design instructions prior to cutting out the pieces, which allowed for secondary trimming of most pieces after quilting.

At most a half to three quarters of an inch was cut away to waste.

Of 16 pieces the width of the fabric saw eight inches trimmed as a half inch off each piece; eight inches by 42 inches lost to waste.

The additional pattern joining strips for the back also required a substantial amount of backing fabric.

Having never undertaken a quilt-as-you-go method before and already having backing cut for much of the design, I was seriously short of backing fabric which was no longer available.

Unlike a solid sheet of backing fabric which can be enlarged by a number of different methods for a required size, this method forms a distinct pattern on the back, and that is my conundrum.

The only solution was to draw the design on paper and assess what fabrics I could substitute on the back to form a pattern avoiding the appearance of a major gaff.

Tentatively proceeding with fingers crossed, I'm piecing the blocks together and hopeful it may work out.

New members are very welcome at the Ragbags Group, join us for a cuppa and a chat; we love to share your creativity and enthusiasm.

Bring your beautiful handiwork, we usually share a little 'show and tell' session to admire your talents, all craft projects are special.

There is plenty of room to bring your quilting blocks and sewing machine if you wish.

The Ragbags group meets at the St Stephens Anglican Church Hall, Stirling Terrace Toodyay (next door to the Cola Cafe), on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 10am to 2pm.

It is warm inside with this wintery weather.

Bring your lunch.

We enter through the door at the rear of the premises.



Quilting fabrics are really all just pieces, be they new or recycled fabrics the outcome is always pleasing says keen quilter Kerry.



Toodyay's spinners and weavers were delighted to welcome a new member at their AGM.

Spinning a yarn about a busy few months

Toodyay Spinners and Weavers
Chris Stokie

TOODYAY Spinners and Weavers have had a couple of enjoyable months.

We have welcomed our lovely new club member Franka.

Club members produced quite a few colorful pairs of golf club mitts for Comfort Quilts Northam's charity golf day.

They went down very well as prizes on the day.

Denise and Judy have combined their special talents and produced a beautiful quilt.

Denise needle felted some beautiful panels, which Judy then transformed into a gorgeous quilt.

We held our annual general meeting at the cottage in July.

It was an enjoyable catch up for a number of our members.

The executive committee have all been voted back into their roles for another year.

As president, I would like to thank them for all for their support and work last year.

I would also like to thank the committee members for everything they have done for the club in the last year.

I look forward to another year of crafting and enjoyment with all of our club members.

Toodyay Spinners and Weavers meet at Parkers Cottage at the Toodyay Oval, every Wednesday from 9am to noon and on the first and third Saturday of every month from 9am to noon.

New members are always welcome.

Please feel free to drop in and meet the group for a coffee and a chat.

Whether you wish to learn new skills or just enjoy your current wool crafts in a friendly group environment you are most welcome.





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Rolling out a recipe for success

Toodyay Community Garden

Joshua van Helsdingen

TOODYAY Community Garden ran a pasta making workshop in July and this was the third in our monthly workshop series.

We have been astounded by the local community's interest in our workshops.

Jeanelle facilitated the pasta workshop with seven attendees.

We learned the origin of pasta in Italy, where the only ingredients are flour and egg.

Participants had a crack.

Fingers slowly mixing flour into the beaten egg until the consistency was perfectly homogeneous.

The dough was then kneaded, with flour slowly added, until it becomes elastic and 'bounces back' when poked with a finger.

Next, it was rolled to the desired thickness and cut, either by hand or pasta cutter, into the required type. The options are endless.

One could make lasagna sheets, noodles and spaghetti.

One participant made a thick pappardelle pasta which produced a fabulously chewy putanesca that night.

Feedback from attendees was unanimously positive.

We are grateful to Jeanelle for facilitating the workshop and the CWA for letting us use their hall and kitchen.

Our next workshop is rose pruning followed by an IBC wicking bed workshop in September.

To stay in the loop, follow us on Facebook at Toodyay Community Garden.

Or, send an email enquiry to toodyaycg@gmail.com



Toodyay Community Garden members learning to roll out some pasta.

Turning up the heat in the woodturners shed

Avon Wood Turners

Hamish Dobie

THE Commonwealth Games were held in Glasgow in July as Melbourne couldn't afford to host.

To celebrate the occasion, we created our own 'Commonwealth' flame.

Congratulations to all the Australian competitors who, buoyed by our flame, took the most medals at the games.



The Commonwealth Flame.

Meanwhile, in the Woodturners Shed, we held our annual general meeting, with the annual resignation and then election of committee executives.

Max Heath has again been elected as the club convenor.

He was too slow to try to avoid the position but has again stated that this will be his last year.

Beatrice was re-elected as the club secretary; she has been doing such a good job.

I was re-elected as the treasurer, being someone who looks after every cent as if it were my own.

Peter Maxfield was elected as Equipment Officer and Safety Officer.

His is in a really important position, as the various equipment in the shed could cause potential injuries if not fully maintained.

Awareness of safety procedures while using the various types of equipment must be continually emphasised, especially for the newer members.

The club's membership has doubled over the last two years and it's no longer a male-dominated bastion.

In fact, there will soon be more ladies than men if things continue as they have been.

We also have a couple of junior members.

This all bodes well for the future.

In fact, there are so many people at coffee break, we had to buy a new urn.

Following my continued requests for wood in good condition and suitable for turning, I received a call with an offer of a large amount of olive that has been kept out of the elements for many years.

Olive is a great wood to turn and the finished articles can be quite spectacular.

Keep these calls coming.

Springtime is just around the corner, so if you are just coming out of your winter hibernation and are looking for a new hobby, please consider woodturning.

You'll be met with a warm welcome.

The Avon Woodturners are located at Shed 1, Community Depot, at the end of Railway Road, Toodyay.

We are there on Wednesdays and Sundays from 9am until noon.

For more information, please email me on hamishd2701@gmail.com, or call 0423 115 204.



These Cuddly Toys were hand made for the Dubbo Children's Hospital.

A tea-riffic morning for a good cause

The Crooked Needle

Jean Melhuish-Hill

OUR groups Australia's Biggest Morning Tea event was once again a huge success.

Two of our members, who had not organised one before, took on the task.

There was a large gathering with attendees all receiving a crafted gift on arrival.

With games, raffles, a sale table and of course the scrumptious morning tea everyone was kept busy and well fed.

Our total raised this year was \$2,069 which exceeded our efforts in 2025.

Thanks to Glenyce Bosnjak and Terri Watson for accepting the challenge and ensuring that another enjoyable and successful event was held.

Phyllis McDonnell has also been busy helping out not only in our community but also with children in Dubbo NSW.

When contacted by a friend regarding a need for some Bananas in Pajamas toys for the Children's ward at the Dubbo Hospital,

Phyllis created a knitting pattern and whipped up a few. She had some spare wool so also included a few teddies.

There will be some very lucky children receiving these lovable and cuddly toys.

The people of Toodyay are such a caring and resourceful group of people.

I moved here some eight years ago and find that people go out of their way to help others in need of anything.

You don't even have to ask for help.

If someone thinks you need help it is offered and given freely and without expectation of anything in return.

There are many community groups in town, and I have been involved in a few of them and have found the same sharing and caring attitude.

You will find us at the CWA Hall, each Friday from 9.30am.

Come along and join us for a cuppa, chat and craft sharing.

See Where and Found for contact details.



Get on board as Nate goes full throttle to the nationals

Rashelle Predovnik

RISING motocross star Nate Forwood will shoot for another Australian Junior Motocross National Championship title next month and he is inviting businesses to ride on the back of his success.

Nate wants sponsorship from local businesses to help cover travel, equipment and race expenses and in return he will provide valuable exposure by promoting their brands to racing fans nationwide.

Nate is offering local businesses premium marketing space, including a prominent logo placement on his race jersey and full business details displayed directly on his bike.

Businesses will also be promoted on his Instagram page.

The 11-year-old from Morangup is getting ready to take on his fifth Australian Junior Motocross National Championship event in Victoria, competing in two classes at the Goulburn Valley Motocross Club in late September.

This latest competition adds to an impressive list of national results including third place in Darwin in 2023 before taking out first place in Bunbury in 2024 and a victory in Adelaide in 2025.

His father Blake Forwood said witnessing his first Australian title victory in Bunbury was an incredibly emotional milestone for the family.

“Sharing that moment with our WA friends

and the wider motocross community made it even more special,” he said.

“It all came together, when you know exactly what your child is capable of and you finally see the reward for the countless hours of training, racing, and preparation.

“Nate entered Nationals as the favourite, and he delivered a standout performance that truly reflected his hard work and determination.”

This year Nate came first in the 65cc class and third in the 85cc class at the Sunshine State Series Championships in Queensland.

His family has focused on training and racing opportunities in Queensland in recent years to allow Nate to get experience on a wider range of technical motocross tracks.

It’s exposure they say is not as readily available within Western Australia.

But Nate does still remain committed to racing at WA events to continue building his presence across both states.

As well as support WA’s racing community.

His family has made countless sacrifices to help Nate chase his motocross dream.

Including the decision to homeschool Nate in 2024 so his training and racing schedule could be properly balanced.

Nate travels with his father to Queensland once a month from February through October and his mother Tamara Forwood said it has been a huge family commitment in every

sense.

“But watching your child pour their heart into something they love, and seeing how much joy it brings them, makes every sacrifice worthwhile.”

Nate says motocross riding makes him

happy and if he could achieve one big goal over the next five years it would be to win a world junior motocross championship.

Any businesses interested in sponsoring Nate can contact his mother Tamara on 0414 497 671 or email tamforwood@gmail.com



The text step forward for crime victims

VICTIMS of crime will now be better connected with Police and support services through a new Victim Notification Service (VNS) that launched this month.

Through this new service, victims of certain crimes will receive an automated text message from WA Police, giving them immediate confirmation of their Incident Report number and contact details for follow-up.

The message will also provide links to relevant online resources, including information about safety, security and victim support services.

The service is intended to complement direct engagement between police officers and victims and give victims an access link to support services after an incident.

A successful trial in Midland demonstrated increased victim contact rates and improved access to support services being recorded without negative feedback.

The service will be rolled out in a phased approach, initially for victims of assault, burglary, stealing and fraud, before progressing to more serious offences.

Police Minister Reece Whitby said being a victim of crime can be a distressing experience, and it was important for people

to know help was available from the very beginning of their interaction with Police.

“This new Victim Notification Service uses simple technology to keep victims informed and connect them with the advice and support they need.”

Attorney General Dr Tony Buti said The Victim Notification Service was a whole-of-government initiative that would ensure victims of crime were better informed and protected.

“This new resource is a result of the strong, ongoing and productive partnership between WA Police and the Department of Justice.”

Police Commissioner Col Blanch said using this type of technology was a priority for the Western Australian Police Force as it provided better support for victims of crime.

“The VNS aims to provide peace of mind for victims, assuring them that police are handling their case, while empowering them with access to support services.”

Commissioner for Victims of Crime Kati Kraszlan said nobody expected to become a victim of crime.

“But when it happens, they want timely information and support to navigate the justice system.”

See: <https://tinyurl.com/5n7cxhbf>

Youth Advisory Council applications now open

YOUNG Western Australians are being given a stronger voice in government, with applications now opening for a new youth advisory council.

Youth Minister Hannah Beazley announced two initiatives on International Youth Day to amplify the voices of young people and create opportunities for them to participate in their communities.

Those aged from 15 to 25 can apply to join the Ministerial Youth Advisory Council (MYAC), a group of up to 12 young people who will work directly with the Youth Minister to provide advice on issues affecting young people across the state.

MYAC will provide a platform for young people to influence government decision-making, champion priorities, and shape policies that support current and future generations.

Members will serve up to a three-year term from July 2027 and gain valuable leadership experience.

The role will also help them to develop networks, and create positive change for young people throughout WA

The Minister has also launched the updated Youth Participation Kit, which

is a suite of practical resources and tools designed to support meaningful participation in the community. This is achieved through channels such as advocacy, leadership, or volunteering.

International Youth Day is celebrated annually on 12 August. The initiatives announced by the minister this month reflects the 2026 theme, Different Contexts, Common Aspirations.

The theme recognises that while young people come from diverse backgrounds and experiences, they share common goals for connection, opportunity, inclusion, and a positive future.

Minister Beazley said International Youth Day celebrated young West Australians who make a difference every day in communities across our State.

“I also encourage all young Western Australians passionate about making positive change to apply for my Ministerial Youth Advisory Council to ensure young people have a voice on the issues important to them.”

To learn more and submit an application see here: <https://tinyurl.com/4ey6tafb>

Expressions of interest close Tuesday, 29 September 2026.

The final bell rings for Miss King

Bolgart Primary School
Sharyn Edgar

FORMER students, parents and staff were invited to join us last month, at Bolgart Primary School for a farewell retirement morning tea.

We gathered on July 3 to celebrate and honour the 27 years of dedication and contributions towards education by Miss Jennifer King.

Miss King has taught the students at Bolgart Primary School since 2004.

Over those years her dedication to the education of children has shown no bounds.

Miss King has gone above and beyond to ensure the students at Bolgart Primary School were given the best education possible to hopefully further their education as they grow.

Some of the former students have gone on to university to become successful in their achievements in their field of study.

Miss King was presented with a medallion from the Department of Education for her service to education.

There were gifts presented by staff, students and parents followed by the cutting

of a special cake to mark the occasion.

Following the formalities Miss King participated in the Bolgart Primary School traditional ringing of the bell and run through the arch of hands to conclude her time.

She was able to catch up with former students, staff, parents and community members who came to celebrate.

Everyone enjoyed their morning tea kindly supplied by parents and staff.

We all wish Miss King a joyful and relaxing retirement even though we will still see her when she comes back to our small school for relief.

Music Fest

Last term the students of Bolgart Primary attended the small schools Music Fest at Wongan Hills.

The event was attended by Bolgart, Calingiri, Goomalling, Sacred Heart, Yerecoin and Cadoux Primary Schools.

This event is held every year for small schools to come together to show their talents in music and dance.

The theme this year was *Movies and Musicals – with a sprinkle of friendship*.

The practice done by all schools culminated in a wonderful day of music and dance.

Well done everyone for a joyful day out.



Much-loved Bolgart Primary School teacher Jennifer King will be missed: pictured with former students Rowan, Bonnie, Cassandra, Josie, Alex, Harrison, Caleb, Zane and Tyler.

A+ send off for Mr B

Toodyay DHS P&C
Kayla Croeser

WE HOPE everyone enjoyed the school holidays and has returned for Term 3 feeling refreshed and ready for another exciting term.

The P&C members also enjoyed the break and have begun planning our fundraising events for Term 3.

At the end of last term, the P&C was asked by the school to coordinate the farewell morning tea for 'Mr B' who retired after many years of dedicated service to our school.

It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate his remarkable contribution and give him the send-off he truly deserved.

A huge thankyou to all of the school families who generously donated food for the event, and to our Year 10 students who did a fantastic job helping to run the morning tea.

Your support made it a memorable farewell for Mr B.

We wish him all the very best for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

Cadbury Chocolate Fundraiser

Our Cadbury Chocolate Fundraiser is still underway.

You can find chocolate boxes at various businesses around town with individual chocolates available for purchase.

All funds raised will go towards supporting

the Year 10 camp.

Thank you to everyone who has already supported this fundraiser.

Canteen Volunteers Needed

The canteen is always looking for new volunteers.

Even if you can spare just one day per term, it would make a significant difference in helping to keep our canteen running smoothly.

All volunteers are required to hold a current Working with Children Check.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact the P&C at pandctoodyaydhs@gmail.com.

Why join the Toodyay DHS P&C?

By joining the P&C and attending meetings you will be informed about upcoming projects and you can have a say on where fundraising money gets spent to improve the school.

It provides an opportunity to connect with other families and build a stronger school community.

Our next P&C meeting will be held on Monday August 3 at 5.30pm.

The meeting location will be announced soon on our Facebook page.

We would love to see new and returning members there as we continue planning activities and fundraising to improve our school.



Students form a guard of honour for Mr Bartholomeusz on his way to retirement.

Woodwork, good work and a lifetime of service: farewell Mr Bartholomeusz

Toodyay DHS
Sharon Anderson, Principal

THIRTY-eight years in one workplace is more than a career – it is a lifetime commitment.

That commitment is exemplified by Mr Shane Bartholomeusz, affectionately known as 'Mista B', who retired from Toodyay District High School at the end of Term 2.

Shane arrived in Toodyay in 1988 after spending his first two years teaching at Southern Cross DHS.

As he often joked, that experience "knocked the citiness out of me" and cemented his decision to spend his teaching career in country Western Australia.

Much has changed since then, but the qualities that made Shane such a respected educator have remained constant.

In Design and Technology, he taught woodwork, metalwork and technical drawing, while his passion for cooking also saw him teach home economics, where his famous curry puffs became legendary.

His contribution to the SES Cadets program has been equally remarkable.

Since its inception at Toodyay, Shane has played a pivotal role in its success and was recently recognised by SES and Cadets WA for his outstanding service.

More importantly, Shane consistently championed the values that matter most: safety, respect, responsibility, effort and excellence.

He fostered connection, belonging and a sense of pride among his students.

Across nearly four decades, countless students took home meticulously crafted projects which remain treasured reminders of their time in his classroom.

For 38 years, Toodyay District High School benefited from Shane's unwavering dedication.

He arrived each day with calm professionalism, high expectations and genuine care for those around him.

While educational practices, technology and society changed dramatically over the decades, Shane remained a reassuring constant, someone colleagues could rely on and students could trust.

Over the years, Shane formed enduring friendships within the community, and it was fitting to see so many former colleagues, students and friends return at the end of Term 2 to celebrate his distinguished career.

Shane often described coming to work as "just another day in paradise", and he meant it.

At his farewell, he spoke about the importance of belonging, commitment and making a meaningful difference, values reflected in both his career and family with three of his four children also becoming teachers.

Just as Toodyay left a lasting mark on Shane's life, Shane's influence will continue to be felt for generations.

As the longest-serving staff member since the school opened on its current site, he occupies a special place in the school's history.

We honour Shane and thank him for his extraordinary service to public education in Western Australia, and for his immense contribution to the young people, families and community of Toodyay.

His legacy will endure long after his retirement.

Top marks for big ideas: applications open

THE Country Education Foundation (CEF) has opened applications for the Tim Fischer Fellowship, and those passionate about making a difference in rural and regional Australia through the power of education are encouraged to apply.

The Fellowship supports a recipient with up to \$50,000 in funding, mentorship and networking opportunities to help turn their bold ideas into reality.

The proposed project must include an education element, whether through communities, workplaces, youth, students or other educational contexts to create meaningful change in regional and rural communities.

CEF chief executive officer Wendy Mason said the fellowship's first year demonstrated the power of backing

individuals with bold ideas and strong community purpose.

She said applications were now open for the second fellowship.

"This fellowship is about investing in people with the drive to create practical solutions to real challenges in country communities," she said.

"It could be someone in agriculture, education, health, science, technology or the arts.

"What matters most is a compelling idea and the commitment to turn that idea into lasting impact, through an education element."

Applications for the 2026 Tim Fischer Fellowship close on August 24.

For more information see here: <https://tinyurl.com/2djspk8h>

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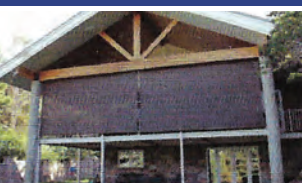
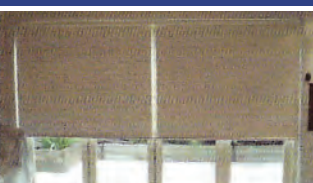


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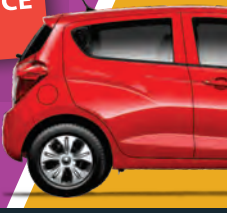
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WHERE AND WHEN

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
Vicki Haggarty, President toodyaytheatregroup@gmail.com

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
Pre-kindy for 3-year-olds. Toodyay DHS. Jessica Donovan 0407 128 105.
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 secretarymvpfb@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 Mammals and Pappas
Wildlife rescue. 0467 964 872.
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. Alison Guley 0419 955 099
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 BethanLloyd_8@msn.com

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Toodyay Agricultural Show
www.toodyayagsociety.com.au
Toodyay Farmers Market
Third Sunday monthly, 0429 984 482, toodyayfarmersmarket@gmail.com.
Toodyay Moondyne Festival
moondynecommittee@gmail.com.
The Toodyay Rose Show
will be held on Sunday, October 25 in and around St Stephen’s Church Hall. Doors open on Sunday at 10am - 5.30pm. The entry to the Hall is a gold coin donation. Entry to the competition is free and rose show schedules will be available at the end of August. For more information contact: Alison Wroth 0437 099 960 or Lynlee Chitty on 0407 468 382

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
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susanpearce740@outlook.com 0427 957 425.
Ms Jacqueline Lee Graham
Coondle WA 6566 0438 487 109

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 butterfly2J@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.
Moondyne 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 (0423226898)
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. Peepees 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. Liz Sullivan 0429 311 256. Men Fridays 3pm. Andrew Watson 0418 269 773. Mixed Winter Bowls Thursday 12.30pm. Liz Sullivan.
All welcome.
Toodyay Golf Club
Mixed comp Sundays noon; Ladies Wednesdays 1.30pm. Roma: 9574 5534. Men’s scroungers Thursdays 2pm. Bruce 0417 028 809.
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 0417 497 972

CLASSIFIEDS

Toodyay Community Garden Inc.
notifies a change of date for its Annual General Meeting, to now be held at 2 pm, Saturday, 26 September 2026 at the Community Centre, 67 Stirling Terrace Toodyay. All are welcome.

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The Annual General Meeting of Staying in Place Toodyay Districts Inc

will be held on Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at 5.30pm at the Staying in Place office 94 Stirling Tce. (Entry via rear steps.)
The agenda will include the Minutes of the 2025 AGM, President’s Report, Treasurer’s Report, Case manager’s Report, General business and Election of Committee.
The community are invited to attend. *Committee members are needed to support this innovative approach to aged care in the Toodyay community.*
Please register interest by contacting the Chairman Hamish Dobie 0423 115 204

Litter gets the boot

A RANGE community clean-up events, school activities and innovative litter prevention initiatives took place across the state this month as part of Keep Australia Beautiful Week.

This year’s theme, Beautiful Spaces, Happy Places, celebrated the positive impact communities can have by working together to keep Western Australia’s parks, beaches, waterways and neighbourhoods clean.

The Keep Australia Beautiful Council WA (KABC) runs programs that aim to inspire and support volunteers, schools, local governments and community gruops reduce litter and protect the environment.

Recent data shows Western Australia is making great progress in reducing litter, with a 38 per cent reduction since 2022.

The statics show the positive impact of co-ordinated community action with support by Keep Australia Beautiful and State Government programs such as Containers for Change.

A new addition to this year’s program is SPOGOMI, a team-based litter collection competition that originated in Japan and combines environmental action with friendly competition.

The Keep Australia Beautiful Week supports the State Government’s efforts to protect and restore the environment by reducing litter, improving recycling and creating cleaner, healthier communities.

Environment Minister Matthew Swinbourn said Western Australians cared deeply about our environment.

He said Keep Australia Beautiful Week was a fantastic opportunity for everyone to get involved in protecting the places we love. “The significant reduction in litter across our state shows what can be achieved when governments, schools, businesses, volunteers and local communities work together,” he said.

A little time goes along way

Staying in Place Toodyay Districts
Hamish Dobbie

FOG, icy cold mornings and late afternoons when the chill sets in with the departure of the sun don't help if you are already depressed.

Many of our clients have restricted mobility and feel more isolated because of the cold, short days and poor weather.

Last month's article included an appeal for more locals to come forward to be contractors and help Staying in Place Toodyay Districts (SIPTD).

The response was quite low. I think that is because people consider it will take up too much of their time and not because they would ignore the needs of the elderly.

Let me give you an example of one of our contractors, namely me.

I moved to Toodyay from Perth more than five years ago after I retired.

I wanted to get to know people in the community before a feeling of isolation set in so my wife and I joined a few clubs.

When SIPTD was in its initial stages I became a member of the inaugural committee.

I could see its intention was to get locals to help elderly citizens in the district which in turn would strengthen the community spirit that all small towns should have.

As SIPTD quickly grew, so did the need for contractors to look after the requirements of its customers.

I was asked if I would become a contractor to help out.

Since then, I have spent around three and a half hours per week providing various services to several of our customers.

I now count these people as friends and I hope the feeling is reciprocated.

As our clients have Support at Home packages provided by the Federal Government, the hours worked by the contractor are paid for from the client's package.

In a nutshell, I give three and a half hours of my time each week.

If you were unsure about how much of your time would be taken up, or if you were worried you don't have the skills, don't be.

I became a contractor and I'm sure my wife will confirm that I'm inept at most things.

If you are interested in becoming a support worker or part of the SIPTD team, then please contact our case manager Susan Burley on 04 94 085 790.

Please note: our annual general meeting is on Wednesday, September 16 at 5.30 pm at the Staying in Place office 94 Stirling Tce. (Entry via rear steps.)



Susan Burley Staying in place Case Manager

Morangup's quiz night is no trivial pursuit

Morangup Progress Association
Daryl Cooper

EXCITEMENT is growing as Saturday August 22 is the date of Morangup's third annual Quiz Night, which will raise funds for our volunteer services.

This year the night promises to be the even better than ever with the addition of sponsorship by the Toodyay and Northam Bendigo Bank allowing an extended range of prizes to be on offer.

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of local businesses, there will be a great variety of prizes to be won, and donated items to be bid for during the night.

The latter includes a \$300 cake voucher from Cakes by Dianne, several wildflower prints from Gidgegannup local artist Jan Pitman and Café vouchers from Roam

Distillery. Several tables have already been booked, with participants looking forward to a night of head-scratching, memory searching, fun and, hopefully, not too much ignorance showing.

The number of tables is limited, so if anyone would still like to book they can do so on the MPA Facebook page.

All proceeds from the event are divided equally between Morangup Volunteer services – Fire Brigade, SES, Ambulance and the Morangup Progress Association.

While we already have many great donations, more would be welcome.

If any business or individual feels they would like to reach out and donate, please email: treasurer@morangupmpa.com.au or check out the MPA Facebook page and send a message.

A heartfelt investment into research

THE Heart Foundation has welcomed a partnership with the State Government to attract and retain the best and brightest cardiovascular researchers in Western Australia.

The State Government is supporting the work of researchers to address the cardiovascular disease through a partnership between Future Health Research and Innovation (FHRI) Fund and the Heart Foundation.

Cardiovascular disease is a major contributor to illness and mortality across Australia, highlighting the importance of continued investment in research and innovation to improve prevention, diagnosis and treatment. Treating cardiovascular disease can lead to better heart function and reduce the risk of heart attacks and strokes.

Two million dollars has been committed to strengthening cardiovascular research investment through a dedicated fellowship partnership between the FHRI Fund and the National Heart Foundation of Australia.

This forms part of the suite of FHRI Fund Research Fellowships and the first to be announced under the new FHRI Fund Strategy.

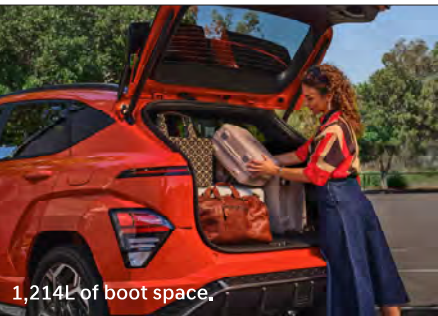
The partnership supports early and mid-career researchers, helping to keep talented researchers in WA while building our long-term research capability.

Fellowship applicants are expected to undertake research that advances understanding of cardiovascular disease and contributes to improved health outcomes for people living in our state.

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A blooming good season

Toodyay Agricultural Alliance
Andrew Thorton

FOLLOWING good rains, the season is shaping up well across the shire.

The rains have provided a timely boost to crops and lifting confidence throughout the district.

The moisture has kept paddocks looking healthy, with Canola crops beginning to flower and creating a spectacular splash of yellow across the countryside.

Local farmers have been making the most of the favourable conditions and are now busy with in-crop spraying, applying herbicides and fungicides where needed to protect yield potential.

Nitrogen applications are also continuing on cereal and canola crops as growers look to maximise the benefits of the strong growing conditions.

There is still a long way to go before

harvest but the outlook is encouraging.

Good soil moisture and healthy crop establishments have given growers every reason to remain optimistic, provided follow-up rainfall continues through the following months.

The good conditions have extended across the wheatbelt have seen canola crops flourishing and cereal crops really getting a move on.

There is still machinery moving between paddocks and farms so motorists are reminded to take extra care and be patient when travelling throughout the district.

With plenty of canola beginning to flower I would also like to remind everyone to please respect farm bio security and stay out of paddocks despite how many likes you might receive for your canola selfie.

Here's hoping the favourable conditions continue and the 2026 season delivers a safe and prosperous harvest for local growers.



A splash of canola.



Spiny-tailed Skink from near Ballidu. Photo by Brad Maryan.

A spiny survivor hangs on

Herpetofauna
Desrae Clarke

THE Western Spiny-tailed Skink was once found throughout the central wheatbelt.

With the loss of suitable habitat, its numbers have declined to the present status as a 'nationally listed endangered species'.

The skink is preyed upon by the cat and fox, birds of prey, monitors, the Carpet Python and the cunning Raven known to seek out the living area to hang about for a feed.

The Western Spiny Tailed Skink grows to a snout to vent length of 19.5cm; its relatively short, flat tail, covered in spines, tapering sharply to an abrupt point.

The Skink's ground colouring is olive-brown to reddish-brown with paler brown and scattered scales with darker brown rear edges forming transverse bars; it has a cream-white belly.

Its ear opening is a narrow vertical slit.

Gestation of the Western Spiny-tailed Skink is three to four months to give birth to live young between February and March.

It may not reproduce annually.

The diet of the juveniles tends to favour invertebrates such as grasshoppers, grubs, moths, beetles and spiders with mature creatures consuming more plant material.

Groups of related animals in the Avon Region have been found to occupy woodland patches as small as one hectare, surrounded by cleared crop paddocks and land degraded by livestock, feral goats and rabbits.

The habitat of this species is mainly in York Gum woodland but also Gimlet and Salmon Gum areas.

The preferred sites are those of fallen logs, tree stumps and minimal grazing by stock.

The skink is also known to occupy abandoned sheds and buildings with some found beneath sheets of corrugated iron.

Small groups of related animals defecate in the same place near their basking area to mark their territory.

There has been much research done in the search for this skink.

The community is encouraged to report any sightings to either the Nat's Club or the office of the Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management office, Fitzgerald Street, Northam.

Club members are grateful for any wildlife and flora information observed by the community.

Information is entered on the Toodyay Naturalists' Club database and may be reported by email to:

secretary@toodyaynats.org.au, 9574 5574 or <https://www.toodyaynats.org.au>

A sobering reminder for parents

Safer Toodyay

Desrae Clarke

ALCOHOL laws vary with each state and territory and in Western Australia they are governed by the Liquor Control Act.

On November 20, 2015, new laws came into effect regarding the secondary supply of alcohol.

Under this law it is an offence for anyone

to supply under 18s with alcohol in a private setting without parental or guardian permission.

This offence carries a maximum penalty of \$10,000.

Alcohol can increase the risk of injury and mental health problems, and cause permanent damage to young people's developing brains.

The National Health Guidelines states that children and people under 18 years of age should not drink alcohol.

Parents not wanting their children to drink alcohol are now able to stand firm in their decision.

It is one of the most positive and kindest things you'll ever do.

For detailed information on secondary supply laws please refer to the FAQs on the Alcohol Think Again website or visit the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor website.

Contact Holyoake Wheatbelt Community Alcohol and Drug Service on 9621 1055 if you would like support or counselling for alcohol or drug-related concerns for yourself, a family member or someone close to you.

If you note a situation appearing to be suspicious or 'out of the ordinary' call

Crime Stoppers	1800 333 000
Police	131 444
Toodyay Police	9574 9555
Graffiti	1800 442 255

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Cognitive Surrender

Computer Safety
Phil Hart

ARTIFICIAL Intelligence (AI) is a good servant, an uneasy equal but a terrible master.

The growth of AI has seen a corresponding growth of people using AI to make less informed decisions.

Because AI can appear to be authoritative, data-driven and evidence-based, people often put greater trust in AI than in their own reasoning and understanding (bit.ly/4sbRrIH).

This is known as 'cognitive surrender'.

This can lead to having greater confidence in wrong answers, with sometimes dangerous consequences.

AI sometimes misses important nuance in prompts.

Such nuance can also go beyond the boundaries of the Large Language Model (LLM) that the AI engine is trained on.

To put it into human terms, it is the other person missing the point of what you are saying.

That other person also may have a blind spot or be misinformed about the subject.

Autonomous self-driving vehicles depend on AI.

Such vehicles might not be able to deal with a light plane landing on the road in front of them, so it pays to remain alert as a driver.

The same sort of attention to responses from AI helps sort things out when it is wrong.

It can take time and effort to develop the mental habit of scepticism with AI.

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Michael sharing his vast knowledge.

The Nat’s are on the right track

Toodyay Naturalists Club
Desrae Clarke.

THE Toodyay Naturalists’ Club took advantage of beautiful sunny weather to hold its annual general meeting among the trees of Julimar Forest last month.

The well-attended meeting on Saturday July 25 voted Lynn Phillips as president following the three-year term of well-known community member, Greg Warburton.

Lynn brings with her a great love of the environment and especially, the Julimar Forest.

Following the AGM, member and leader for the afternoon, Michael Cook, shared his great knowledge of looking to find animal tracks within the forest.

He spoke on the art of identifying the tracks, what the animal may have been doing at that time and how old were the tracks.

Mike’s passion for bushcraft and tracking began as a youngster in bushland in Dianella.

He did his apprenticeship at King’s Park and has worked with trainees and volunteers all his working life.

He has worked for several years with the City of Swan as natural areas supervisor and

trainee mentor.

He has since moved on to Aboriginal Ranger Coordinator and is now Manager of the Tjiwarl Aboriginal Ranger program located in the goldfields.

Mike has his own business, ‘Bushcraft WA’, running workshops on bushcraft and tracking skills.

He is currently writing his first book on tracking and trailing in WA.

The weekend of August 22 and 23 will have a Toodyay visit from fungi gurus, Roz Hart and Dr Laurton McGurk.

The weekend will consist of a Saturday presentation in the Anglican Church Hall, commencing at 1pm, and a Sunday excursion to the Julimar Forest commencing 9.30am.

Roz and Laurton will have launched their new fungi book by that date and will have it available on that weekend at a cost of \$45.

For more information on the above two presentations contact the Nat’s secretary per email secretary@toodyaynats.org.au or visit Drummond House, situated next to the Bank ATM, open from 10am till noon on a Saturday.

If you have noted something of interest in the area of natural history, the Nat’s members would love to share it.



Western Silvereyes. Image courtesy Wayne Clarke.

I spy a Western Silvereye

Bird of the Month
Desrae Clarke

THE Western Silvereye is found in south-west South Australia, along the Great Australian Bight and through southwest WA.

It is also known as the Western White-eye because of the white ring which is actually tiny feathers that surround the eyes.

This small species of 10 to 12.5cm in length has an olive/green upper body, a yellow throat and grey breast with both male and female coloured alike.

It has a grey/brown bill that is curved slightly downward.

Its brush-tipped tongue is for gathering nectar, a feature common with other nectar-feeding creatures.

The Silvereye breeds from September through to February.

A tiny, dainty cup-shaped nest is built of grass, cobweb and animal fur and is lined with fine leaves and she-oak needles.

The female lays two to four pale blue eggs with both parents incubating the eggs over a 10 to 13-day period.

The young fledge in about 12 days and are fed insects by both parents. Silvereyes pair for life and may live up to 10 years.

The species visits flowering plants for nectar and preys on beetles, wasps, bugs, flies and aphids gleaned from leaves and twigs.

It feeds in small mobs, often with other bird species, moving briskly and calling constantly.

The Silvereye has several calls with the most notable a drawn out peevish whistled ‘pee’ and a wavering alarm call.

It is a delight to sit quietly to observe it preening and calling softly following a dip in a bird bath.

A wild weekend that really counts

Juliar Conservation and Forest Alliance
Melissa Adams

IN SEPTEMBER last year, a dedicated crew of nature lovers, community volunteers and experts gathered at Julimar State Forest for a BioBlitz.

This was supported by the Conservation Council of WA (CCWA) and the WA Forest Alliance (WAFA), with generous funding support from Blupa and CCWA.

Everyone teamed up to explore and capture a snapshot of the forest’s abundant species.

With local experts leading the charge, they kept everyone safe while sharing their knowledge on everything from birds and bats to fungi and insects.

Observations were recorded primarily through iNaturalist, with photographs and ID suggestions for verification.

After plenty of sorting, identifying, and double-checking, we are thrilled to announce that the report will be released next month.

While a weekend survey can’t capture every species, the numbers reported are impressive.

As of July 2026, participants logged 1997 observations across 380 species, with over 200 reaching ‘Research Grade’ status.

A few highlights from the data:

Plants & Fungi:

Flora was the most abundant group, with over 1,000 observations across 144 species, including 22 native orchids and eight types of sundews (*Drosera*).

We also spotted 50 species of fungi and lichen such as the fascinating Smooth Cage Fungus.

Birds:

Forty two bird species were spotted, including local favourites like the Rufous Treecreeper, Jacky Winter and Little Eagle.

Mammals, Reptiles & Amphibians:

The count included seven mammal species (such as the Woylie and the tiny Southern Forest Bat), seven reptiles (including the Pretty Worm-Lizard and Western Tree Dтеля gecko), and two frog species (Bleating Froglet and the Crawling Brood Frog).

Invertebrates & More:

Eighty two insect species were found, including the fascinating Velvet Worm,

and 27 arachnid species, like the colourful Variable Peacock Spider.

We even recorded the Western Galaxias fish in the brook.

Crucially, the BioBlitz recorded numerous threatened species listed on the IUCN Red List and Western Australian priority lists.

These included the key canopy trees Marri, Jarrah, and Wandoo, sensitive flora such as the Yellow China Orchid (P4) and Catkin Grevillea, Marble Hakea, Spreading Coneflower, and endangered fauna including the Woylie, Carnaby’s Black Cockatoo, and Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo.

At its heart, the BioBlitz was about two things: getting high-quality, real-world biodiversity data onto public databases like iNaturalist, and also bringing people together to learn about nature and the Forest.

Most of all, these findings reinforce the ongoing campaign to grant Julimar State Forest the full National Park protection it truly deserves.

Keep an eye out for the full report next month.

Sign up to our email: julimarcafa.org.au/subscribe/



Smooth Cage fungus - Photo by Angus Demster (iNaturalist)

Murphy bounces back to health

Marsupial Mammals and Pappas
Becky Ingram

THE good news this month is that Murphy, the joey featured on our *Facebook* page suffering from major tremors, has recovered fully.

He had been ejected from his mum’s pouch and she wouldn’t take him back.

When found he was stone cold and dehydrated.

After gradually warming him, the tremors became severe and he went to the vet as an emergency.

He was treated with intravenous fluids and vitamin B injections and after three weeks of intensive care is fully recovered. He will now be raised with other joeys of about the same age and weight and will eventually be released into the wild.

To date in Western Australia there has been no sign of the H5N1 bird flu in wildlife, although a number of migratory birds have been diagnosed with the virus.

If you do find any bird or other wildlife with neurological symptoms, avoid contact, record location, photograph if possible and report to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888.

Marsupial Mammals and Pappas will still accept injured or orphaned wildlife, including birds, if they are not displaying neurological symptoms.

To celebrate World Kangaroo Day, we will be showing the movie *Kangaroo* at the Toodyay Memorial Hall on Sunday, October 25, at 6pm.

Tickets will be available from September 1 online from [TryBooking.com](https://www.trybooking.com).

Donations to help us 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. Email treasurer@mmap.au with details.

Call 0467 964 872 any time, day or night, if you find any injured wildlife and put this number into your phone so it’s always there should you need it.



Murphy the joey

Celebrating the heart of rural healthcare

NOMINATIONS are now open for awards that celebrate the passion, professionalism and commitment of health professionals and the vital role they play in rural communities.

Formerly known as the WA Country Doctors Awards, the 2027 WA Rural Health Excellence Awards helps to shine a spotlight on outstanding healthcare professionals.

The awards are hosted by Rural Health West in partnership with the WA Country Health Service and they have been recognising excellence in rural healthcare since 2008.

Former award winner Dr Christine Jeffries-Stokes AM said the award helped to raise the profile of those working and living rurally.

The paediatrician received an award in 2009 and says it came at a time when she was balancing a demanding rural medical career with raising a young family.

Since then, Dr Jeffries-Stokes has gone on to co-lead important research into kidney disease in remote Aboriginal communities, complete a PhD and be appointed a Member of the Order of Australia.

She is now encouraging others to take a few minutes to nominate someone who has made a difference to their lives.

“Even being nominated is a great thing,” she said.

“It’s a great recognition for people and encourages them in what they’re doing in rural areas, where you don’t always get a whole lot of recognition, but you’re working really hard.”

Awards will be presented across a range of categories, including Aboriginal Health



Award winner Dr Christine Jeffries-Stokes AM

Professional of the Year, Allied Health Professional of the Year, Clinical Leader of the Year, Early Career Health Professional of the Year, GP of the Year, Health Service Contributor of the Year, Health Team of the Year, Nurse or Midwife of the Year and Specialist (Non-GP) of the Year.

Nominations close on September 2 and more information can be found here: waruralhealthexcellenceawards.com.au.

Needle free and easy does it

RESIDENTS are being urged to protect themselves against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) as respiratory illnesses continue to place pressure on the State’s health system.

More than 1,100 people have been hospitalised with RSV so far this year, with older adults, infants, and people with underlying medical conditions at greatest risk of serious illness.

Free RSV immunisation continues to be available for eligible groups including pregnant women, infants and young children, older Western Australians, and other at-risk adults.

More than 100,000 Western Australians over the age of 65 have accessed RSV vaccinations, supported by the free RSV vaccination programs introduced this year by the State Government.

But the number of infants and eligible children aged under two years of age receiving their free RSV immunisation has fallen since last year.

There has been a slight increase in influenza vaccinations for the total population in comparison to 2025, with 28.5 per cent of Western Australians receiving a free influenza vaccination.

There has been a notable boost to immunisation rates for six-month-olds to 12-year-olds, with a 33 per cent increase in vaccinations in comparison to 2025, driven by the introduction of the needle-free option FluMist.

Influenza vaccination rates for Western Australians aged over 65 are slightly down on last year. Health Minister Meredith Hammat thanked families who chose the free needle-free FluMist option for their children.

“Almost half the children who received FluMist this year had not received an influenza vaccine in 2025, making FluMist a game changer for WA families this year.

For information on where to receive your free RSV vaccination and hospital demand visit: access.health.wa.gov.au/winter-watch

Don’t rein in your horse’s dental care

Heartlands Veterinary Hospital
Dr Paige Ludbey

DOES your horse need a dental check?

The answer is a resounding ‘yes.’

Most horses should have a full oral exam and dental float (of their teeth) at least once a year.

Horses have hypsodont teeth which means they continue to grow about 2–3 mm per year throughout their lifetime.

As they chew the teeth wear unevenly, creating sharp edges and points that can injure the cheeks and tongue, causing pain and ulcers.

Without regular annual dental care horses may develop severe mouth pain, tooth loss, an abnormal bite and, in severe cases, may struggle to eat.

If your horse is ‘quidding’ – dropping balls of chewed food from his/her mouth – this is a sign that there he/she has significant dental disease that urgently needs attention.

A proper dental exam uses sedation, a speculum (to open their mouth), good lighting and a mirror to detect issues like fractures, gum disease and decay.

This is why it’s important that your horse’s dental examination is performed by a veterinarian trained in this area.

Book your horse in today.



A gut feeling worth listening to

Warrior Wellbeing

THE bowel is an important part of our digestive system, but what is it and what should we be aware of when weighing up our overall bowel health?

The bowel is made up of 3 parts: the *small intestine* is around 6 metres in length and is the narrower (small) section of the bowel.

It absorbs the nutrients in the food we digest.

The *colon* and rectum make up the larger intestine, it is much shorter but thicker.

Its role is to reabsorb fluid and process the waste material.

Finally, the *rectum* is where the waste material is stored until we go and drop a log so to speak.

What comes out and the frequency of our bowel movement is something else we should take note of.

Our stool should be soft, sausage shaped and should not require too much effort to pass.

The frequency can depend on individual habits and changes to our diet.

The main thing to remember is a sudden change in your toilet routine could indicate other issues.

What’s *not* normal?

Signs of Blood: Bright or fresh signs of blood on the toilet paper could be the result of haemorrhoids.

This is usually a result of constipation or straining too hard.

Wiping too hard and frequently can cause small cuts/tears on the anus.

Blood in the poo (especially darker blood) could mean bleeding further up the bowel and should be discussed with a doctor immediately.

Constipation: Dry or hard poo is sometimes associated with cramping or bloating in our lower abdomen.

This is something we have all probably experienced and can often be resolved with some lifestyle changes, i.e. drinking plenty of water, eating a diet high in soluble fibre (fruit/vegies/oat bran/lentils/beans) and an increase in physical activity.

Diarrhoea: We have all probably had a mean curry that has caused us to frequent the loo.

Diarrhoea is usually caused by our intestine becoming inflamed and irritated affecting the reabsorption of water from the waste material.

This can be caused by numerous factors such as illness/infection, food poisoning, drinking contaminated water, ulcers, stress and certain food intolerances.

Leakage: Accidental leakage or incontinence can be associated with severe diarrhoea but can also be caused by weakness or damage to the muscles around our bowel and anus.

The Continence Foundation of Australia is a great resource to get assistance, advice and support.

If any of these issues are having an effect for more than 2-3 days, a visit to the doctor is recommended.

Participate in the free bowel cancer screening test from the age 45 onwards – it saves lives.

Remember good bowel health and our digestive system are often said to be just as important as brain function, just at the other end of the body.

For more information contact The Regional Men’s Health Initiative on 6314 1436.

Or email: menshealth@4blokes.com.au



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SPORT

Toodyay Triathlon Club recognised at WA Awards

Toodyay Triathlon Club
Kelly-Anne Murray

ON SATURDAY July 25, members of the Toodyay Triathlon Club proudly represented the club at the Triathlon WA Annual Awards, celebrating 40 years of triathlon in WA.

Toodyay Triathlon Club was nominated as a finalist for the Club Initiative of the Year Award for the inaugural Toodyay Triathlon held on March 8, 2026.

Among the glitz and glamour at the Westin Perth Grant Ballroom, club members Dianne Griffin and Brenton Walsh received

individual awards in their age groups.

Brenton was awarded second place Multisport Athlete of the Year, and Dianne received third place Triathlete of the Year.

Both are outstanding achievements.

Let Dianne's story inspire you to give it a go.

"It's never too late and it's never impossible. I am incredibly proud, humbled, and thrilled to share that I placed third in the Female 50-54 category for the WA Triathlon State Triathlete of the Year.

"In 2022, I set a personal goal. "I wanted to complete a triathlon after

turning 50.

"I officially started my triathlon journey in March 2023 and, looking back now, I can hardly believe how far this path has taken me.

"Since March 2023, I have competed in 32 triathlons, four open water swims, four aquabike races, three multisport events, and most recently, a 60km gravel bike race.

"This trophy isn't about a single race. "It's the result of showing up on the days when it was freezing or stifling hot, when the alarm went off too early, and when my body wanted to quit.

"It represents every moment of choosing to never give up.

"I didn't podium once for any of the State Series races during the 2025/26 season, but I showed up, tried my best, and accumulated enough points to place third overall.

"Here's what I want you to remember today. Age is just a number; your limits are only defined by your mind.

"Consistency beats talent; keep putting in

the work when no one is watching.

"The results will come.

"Trust your training and your journey."

Club members congratulate Dianne and Brenton on their commitment to the sport, to their training and to always challenging themselves to take that next step.

While the club didn't win the 2026 award, selection as a finalist for Club Initiative of the Year is significant recognition of the club's contribution to bringing triathlon to Toodyay the region.

The Club will celebrate all achievements following the Annual General Meeting to be held on Thursday August 13 at 6pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend the AGM. Come and meet the crew.

If you'd like to know more about the Toodyay Triathlon Club please:

Email: toodyaytriathlonclub@gmail.com
Web: toodyaytriathlonclub.com
Fb: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/3844356975786575>, or call Kelly-Anne on 0406 585 716.

Bringing home a silver medal

Avon Valley Shotokan
Nat Kielbasa

ONCE upon a time, in an idyllic little town stretch out your muscles, iron your uniform and get ready for a new term of karate.

This term three is going to be very interesting at Avon Valley Shotokan.

There are lots of changes ahead.

Before we get into what is new at the club it is time to celebrate the success of one of our very own members, Rayna.

Rayna travelled to Tasmania during the school holidays as part of the state team to represent WA in the National Karate Championships.

We watched with bated breath as Rayna's kumite event was streamed live online.

We cheered as she won her first round with three clean head kicks and her second fight was equally as impressive.

Rayna brought home a silver medal, and we are so proud of her efforts, not only on the day, but in her commitment to training in the lead up to the event.

Congratulations Rayna.

Our team of sensei and adult students visited Japan over the holidays also to learn about the methods and techniques of coaching and instructing in Japan.

On their return, there was a committee meeting held to discuss what they had learned and what we could change or introduce to improve the club and benefit students.

The overall aim was to standardise our training with USKU Japan to make it easier for our students to train or grade in Japan in the future.

One major change students have seen is the introduction of training booklets.

This allows each student to see the requirements and skills required to pass each belt level and records their progress.

There are also some exciting new changes to classes.

On Friday evenings at Hombu, the open

class will now start at 6pm to allow for another class for instructors and senior students starting at 7pm.

Sensei Kylie now offers a new class on Saturdays at 9.30am at the Morangup Community Hall and we would love to see you there.

The Monday classes at Hombu in Clackline and the Wednesday classes at the Toodyay Youth Hall remain the same.

For students, this means your enrolment fees cover all four classes and you are welcome to attend as many as you would like.

For anyone who wants more information or is interested in trying karate, please contact Sensei Kylie at avonvalleyshotokan@gmail.com.

Until next month, keep practising and watch this space as there are many more exciting events for students in the pipeline.



Rayna looking radiant with her silver medal.



Female Triathlete of the Year 50-54 Age Group recipients (Dianne far right).



Club members Dianne Griffin and Brenton Walsh at the Triathlon WA Annual Awards.



Rayna (left) smiling with her fellow competitors represented WA in Tasmania.

Agents for BONAIRE

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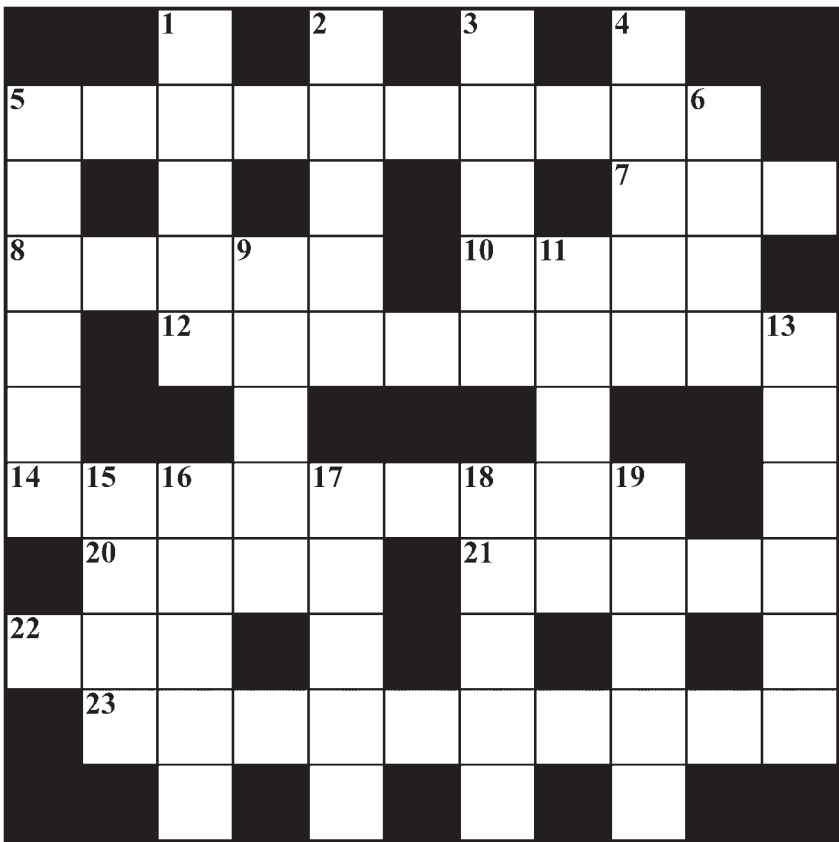
Combo Crossword

ACROSS

- 5. Gasping
- 7. Head covering
- 8. Bring about
- 10. Dash
- 12. Sweated
- 14. Potassium nitrate
- 20. Mislaid
- 21. On the move
- 22. Doctor's union (abb)
- 23. Without long thin stripes

DOWN

- 1. Rise from one's bed (3,2)
- 2. Drive a car
- 3. Become dormant
- 4. Academy award
- 5. Upper arm muscle
- 6. Of sound mind
- 9. Denominations
- 11. Perjurers
- 13. Rubbish
- 15. Charity
- 16. Unwilling
- 17. Diminish gradually
- 18. Jobs
- 19. Anaesthetic



Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

- 5. Panting when on tenterhooks
- 7. Incapacitated headwear
- 8. Give rise to justification
- 10. Impetuous ardour of some Icelanders
- 12. Elsewhere, red pipers sweltered
- 14. At last Peter changed nitre
- 20. Be defeated a little closely
- 21. Up and about a prison, informally
- 22. A degree for the Australian Medical Association, initially
- 23. Run naked through a public place to a smaller extent, without stripes

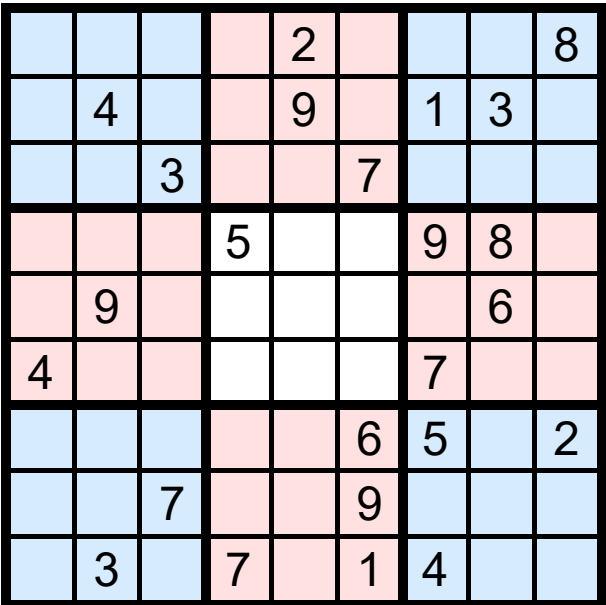
DOWN

- 1. Arise in a style of dress (3,2)
- 2. Direct the course of a bullock
- 3. A bookie, in general, may slumber
- 4. A statuette for Mr Wilde
- 5. Second class epics produce a muscle having two heads
- 6. To be compos mentis is anecdotal within
- 9. Splinter groups of topless insects
- 11. Those who manipulate the truth become story-tellers
- 13. Fragments found outside Brisbane
- 15. What beggars seek, in calm situations
- 16. Athol turned out to be reluctant
- 17. A little hope terrified one of the twelve apostles
- 18. At last, questions duties
- 19. A definite article without hesitation - Heavens!

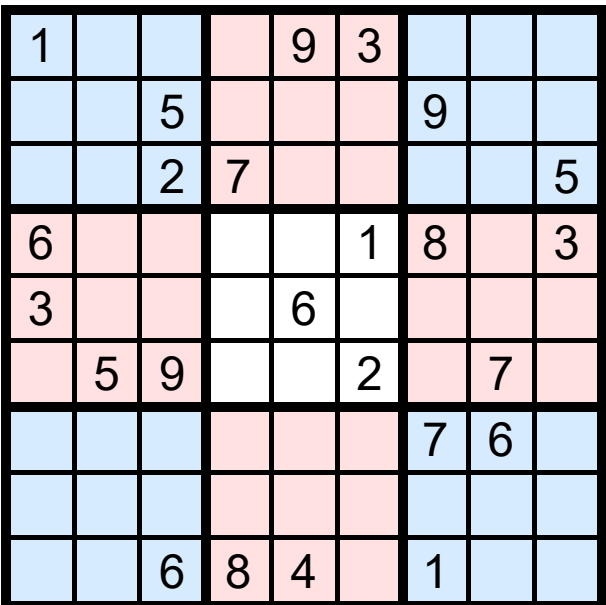
Sudoku

Sudoku is based on the logical placement of numbers. Sudoku doesn't require any calculation nor special math skills; all that is needed are brains and concentration. Every number from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine columns, nine rows and nine 3x3 boxes.

Easy

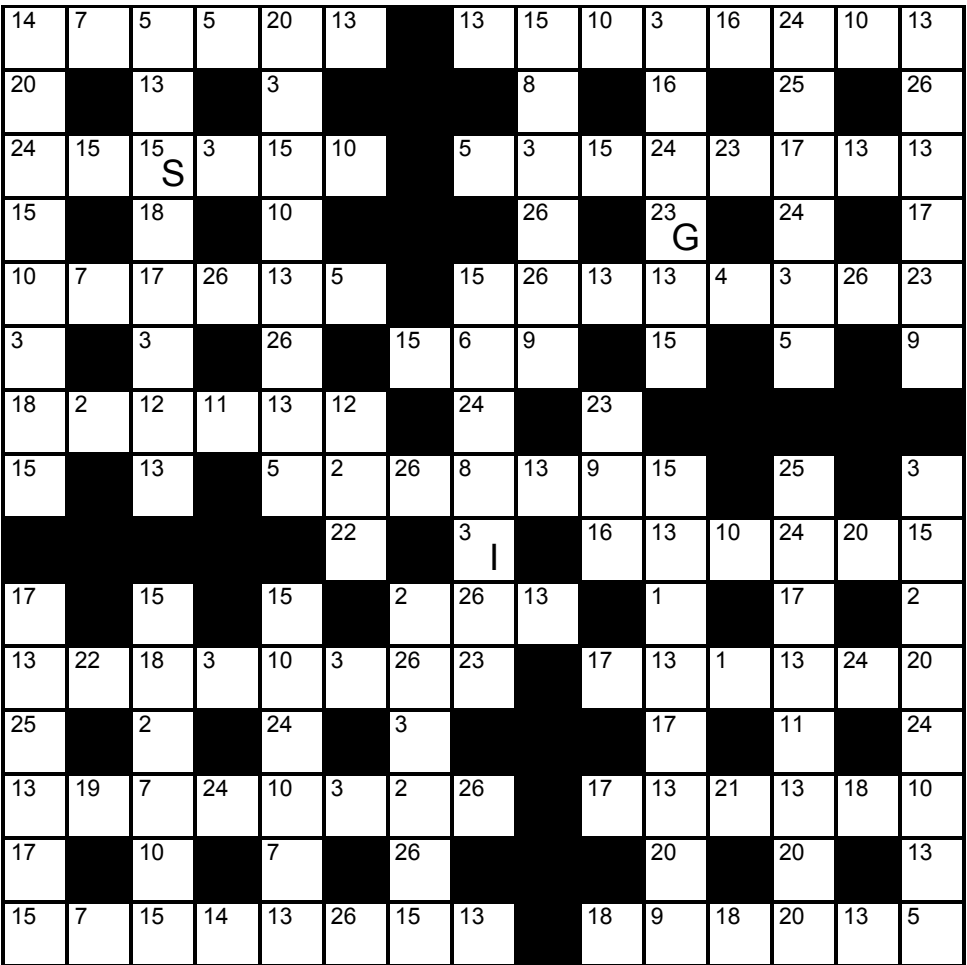


Hard



CrossCode

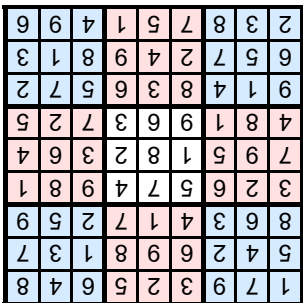
Crosscode is a logic puzzle. each letter is a number. Begin by guessing the first word and placing the additional letters into the crosscode. Keep guessing words/letters until completed.



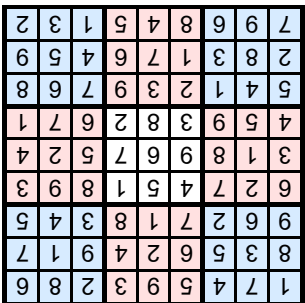
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

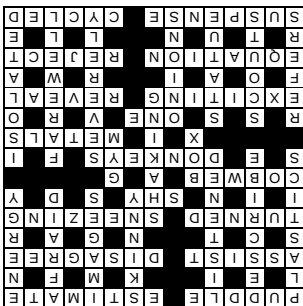
Solutions



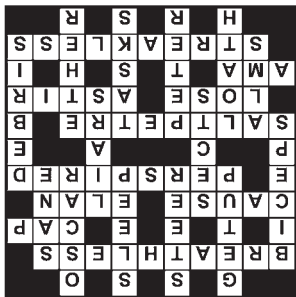
Sudoku Easy Solution



Sudoku Hard Solution



Crosscode Solution



Combo Solution





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This month, the team enjoyed a well-deserved team bonding day, putting our problem-solving skills to the test in an escape room before heading out for lunch. It was a fantastic opportunity to step away from the office, have a few laughs, and spend some quality time together.

We also have some exciting updates from the office.
A huge congratulations to Zonelle, who is now officially a qualified Property Manager and Sales Representative. She has completed her course (much to her relief—and the boss’s) and has thrown herself headfirst into all things Property Management with confidence and enthusiasm. We are incredibly proud of everything she has achieved and can’t wait to see what this next chapter holds for her. We’ve also welcomed a new Sales Administrator to the team! As a Toodyay local, she’ll already be a familiar face to many, having previously worked within our community. We’re thrilled to have her on board and know she’ll be a fantastic addition to the team. We’ll introduce her properly in next month’s newsletter, so stay tuned.

- In the office this month:
- **Breanna** got a new puppy and is incredibly excited about it.
 - **Zonelle** need we say more? She’s officially a qualified Property Manager and Sales Representative—woohoo. We’re so proud of everything she’s achieved and can’t wait to watch her continue to thrive.
 - **Jemma** attended the Lightscape show in Kings Park & also did a pottery painting class with friends.
 - **Kayleen** celebrated a special milestone this month—nine years with her hubby and three years of married life. Congratulations to them both.
 - **Sam** has been making the most of having family over from New Zealand, spending quality time with them while somehow still finding time to sell real estate. We think he deserves a medal.

On a personal note, I’ve officially stepped back from day-to-day Property Management, with our incredible team now taking the reins. Watching them step up and embrace their new responsibilities with confidence has made this transition so much easier, and I couldn’t be prouder of everything they’ve achieved.

As I prepare to commence maternity leave in the coming weeks, I feel incredibly fortunate to have such a dedicated and capable team supporting both our clients and me through this next chapter. While I’ll be taking some time away, I’ll still be working behind the scenes to support the team and ensure everything continues to run smoothly.

Until next month,
Faith Kelly



FOR SALE

130 Bindoon Dewars Pool Road, Dewars Pool, From \$1,190,000
Private country escape on 20 acres with a 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom home plus workshop & arable land.



FOR SALE

209 Coondle Drive, Coondle, From \$770,000
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Thank You From the Tony Maddox real estate Team

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