

The Toodyay Herald

**Your locally owned
community newspaper
Est. 1902**

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

**August 2026
Edition 459**



Caption

Rashelle Predovnik

AN UNUSED and neglected bowling green is set to be transformed into a thriving community garden after the Toodyay Community Garden (TCG) committee and the Toodyay Club signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the project.

The idea to create a community garden has grown from a desire to create a space where residents can connect, learn, socialise, share knowledge and reap the social benefits of a community garden.

The freshly signed MOU has also revived hopes for a project that has failed to take root for over a decade.

Community garden chair Gary Nelmes said the MOU was a temporary measure and the committee had not given up on its dream to have a permanent home for the garden.

But that project would need council approval. It would also need the committee and council to agree on which site could be used.

Discussions about a suitable location has spanned over a decade, with various sites considered.

Including the old works depot, 14 Fiennes St (behind the tennis courts, opposite the shire administration), 33 Telegraph St, a site on 32 Hammersley St and also 1 Duke St.

But despite the committee's efforts, the project failed to establish a permanent location and stalled.

The original committee eventually folded but in 2024, a new committee (TGG) reformed to again champion the creation of a permanent garden site and to seek council's support.

To date, Mr Nelmes said those discussions were ongoing.

Last year, an old works depot on Harper Rd that had been unused for more than 15 years surfaced as a possible site.

The option of using 4000m2 on a 20 year lease was discussed and professional concept plans for the depot were sent to the shire as

requested.

Council considered leasing a portion of the old works depot until 2037 at peppercorn rent of \$300 per annum to the Toodyay Community Garden Club.

The proposal was put out for public comment in August 2025 and it drew 13 formal submissions with eight opposing and five in support.

The majority of those in support represented community groups.

The eight submissions that opposed the lease disagreed with the location, but were generally supportive of the concept of a community garden.

In response, the majority of council (5-2) voted to withdraw support for the garden to be created on the old works depot in October 2025.

Council also invited the TCG committee to draft and submit a practical brief detailing

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CHRISTMAS IN JULY



XMAS cheer came early with a fun-filled Christmas in July quiz night at the Memorial Hall, thanks to a festive collaboration: see page 12.

The Toodyay Herald

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

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THANK YOU

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NEXT TOODYAY HERALD EDITION

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Noon Thursday
August 27

STORY DEADLINE

Noon Friday
August 21

DISTRIBUTED

Thursday
September 10



Photo: Rashelle Predovnik

Paddles, puddles and trolley troubles

Rashelle Predovnik

AVON Descent race competitors, who struggled to find enough water to keep their boats afloat on the Toodyay leg of the Avon Descent, were forced to dodge shopping trolleys dumped in their path, sparking safety concerns.

The amount of weeds in the trolley baskets suggested the trolleys had been in the river for a while.

The Herald asked event organisers who was responsible for hazard and safety checks before competitors entered the water.

Northam Avon Descent Association event manager Deborah Boxall said sections of the river were surveyed before the event, where and when possible, and they relied on volunteers.

“Those volunteers did sweep sections of the river before this event and they were not made aware of trolleys in the river.”

Ms Boxall said international marathon racing rules stated that competitors were required to take the course as they found it.

“Often obstacles will be removed by competitors during the practice weekend,” she said.

“Competitors are made aware that the open river system, and environment along the 124km course, may change and risks may arise.

“They are required to traverse the course

in a safe manner.”

So what changes will be made before next year’s event to ensure the Toodyay section of the course is thoroughly inspected and cleared of potential hazards?

Ms Boxall said every year the association did an assessment after the race.

“Northam’s Avon Descent Association will work with local government authorities and volunteers to review the river course before the event, assess issues and remove obstacles if safe and reasonable to do so.

Toodyay Shire acting chief executive officer Alan Hart said the event organisers only engaged with the shire to get the permits necessary to use Cobblers Pool as an overnight staging post.

He also confirmed the Avon River was not controlled by the Shire of Toodyay.

“We have no authority over the maintenance of the river, which includes removing foreign objects from the waterway.”



A descent into barriers

Rashelle Predovnik

TOODYAY’S Avon Descent weekend has gone from a crowd-drawing festival to parts of the town barricaded, with fencing and ‘no parking’ signs, which residents say makes the town look more like a ‘move on notice.’

In contrast, the eve of the Avon Descent race was celebrated in Northam through its Bilya festival, which ran from 4pm until 9pm on the Friday 7 August.

Supported by the WA Government through Lotterywest, the Bilya Festival included a street parade and a community celebration.

The restricted access during what had traditionally been a busy weekend in Toodyay prompted a complaint to the shire by resident Laurie James.

He said he was disgusted by the barriers and he told *The Herald* he wanted the Lions breakfast event at Duidgee Park on the first day of the Avon Descent to be better supported.

Mr James said although there was restricted access at an event during the Avon Descent at Newcastle Park last year it was difficult to understand the shire’s decision.

He said it made him think the current council was not supportive of local community events.

In his response to Mr James’s complaint Toodyay Shire President Mick Mckeowan said the shire provided grants that supported many community events.

Including the Toodyay Agricultural Society Show, the Moondyne Festival, the Toodyay

Race Club Cup, and Arts Toodyay for their arts trail and community workshops.

“In addition, the shire provides other funding to community groups including to the Noongar Kaartdjin Aboriginal Corporation for their Boyagerring Learning Space and the Toodyay Naturalists Club for its upcoming Julimar wildflower brochure.”

He said the shire also provided support for community events at the library and the Community Resource Centre

But Mr Laurie said grant funding was not the issue as the breakfast event was not supported by the shire financially.

He said the shire could have better supported the event by putting up signage to promote the breakfast at Duidgee Park on the riverfront, which had a good vantage point for the race.

Or put up signs that directed people where to park, instead of just putting up ‘no parking’ signs.

“That would also have created a more welcoming environment,” he said.

Fencing that restricted parking on a space that was once used for the International Food Festival – and was still used every month by trucks and food vans for the farmers market – also raised eye-brows.

Mr James said that level of restricted access was not there when there was a market or during the Moondyne Festival.

“The shire needs to open it up and create a more welcoming sight that advertises their support of the Avon Descent.”



Bird flu monitoring online

A NEW interactive dashboard that shows where H5 bird flu has been detected and what testing activity has been done across the state has now launched.

The bird flu website will provide weekly public updates and be a source of information, advice and resources for poultry producers, vets, wildlife rehabilitators and the community.

It will map confirmed H5 bird flu detections in Western Australia, as well as where birds have tested negative.

According to a statement by the WA Department of Environment, the threat of bird flu is evolving.

It has been detected in WA, in a small number of wild sea birds but to date there has been no detections of H5 bird flu in poultry.

The State Government has increased its surveillance and there has also been a new bird flu advisory group created to strengthen collaboration with the wildlife sector.

The risk to human health is low, but people are reminded not to handle sick or dead wildlife.

Anyone who sees sick or dead birds or other wildlife should avoid contact, record the location and what they see, and report it to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888.

Access to the dashboard is available through www.wa.gov.au/birdflu.

Your local voice
for Toodyay!

Here to help!

✉ lachlan.hunter@mp.wa.gov.au

Northam Office

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📍 185 Fitzgerald St, Northam
(Next to the Commonwealth Bank)

LACHLAN HUNTER MP
MEMBER FOR CENTRAL WHEATBELT

Authorised by L. Hunter, Northam Boulevard, Fitzgerald St, Northam WA 6401

The Toodyay Herald

From the editor's desk

SOME of the best community projects take time to grow and Toodyay's community garden is no exception.

For over a decade, volunteers have worked towards finding a permanent home for a garden that ultimately is all about people, participation and belonging.

A place where people grow friendships, share skills and cultivate a stronger sense of community.

So, the new agreement with the Toodyay Club to use an old bowling green is a big win and a welcomed reprieve for the committee.

It gives them a chance to finally put down roots as they continue to work towards finding a permanent home.

Transforming a neglected bowling green into a thriving community space is a great example of making the most of what we already have - and after years of discussions and setbacks, this is definitely a positive step forward.

Quizmas spirit

Another terrific example of local groups working together is the Christmas in July quiz night, held in the Toodyay townsite.

Festive, fun and full of laughs is the only way to describe the event, that drew a full house in the Memorial Hall.

The long list of sponsors who donated prizes to support and help make the event a success is an impressive one.

The evening shows what can happen when a simple suggestion is embraced and local organisations work together to make it happen.

Judging by the colourful costumes, festive decorations and good fun had by all, Christmas in July may well become another much-loved Toodyay tradition.

These stories are particularly worth celebrating at a time when, as reported in this edition, some residents are frustrated about parts of the town being closed off and less welcoming than the town used to look during the Avon Descent weekend.

But our community clearly has the ideas, energy and enthusiasm to bring spaces to life and we will be watching this space.

River roulette

The determination of those competing in the Avon Descent was awe-inspiring.

The water levels were so low you could stand in the middle of the river bed to watch the race as competitors ran past pulling boats.

But watching them having to dodge two shopping trolleys embedded in the course made for uncomfortable viewing.

Members of the public eventually stepped in to pull the trolleys out but the unexpected obstacles raise serious questions about what could have happened if a competitor hit a trolley, or a powerboat engine or propeller had struck a trolley submerged in deeper water.

Maybe next year, Toodyay locals could lend a hand and volunteer to help monitor hazards on the course before the race as event organisers rely on volunteers and there is no shortage of people in this community willing to roll up their sleeves and help.

Rashelle Predovnik
Editor



LETTERS

Questions deserve answers

I REFER to Geoff Appleby's letters in the June and July editions of the *Toodyay Herald*.

Answering public questions is part of the shire president's role. It is perhaps worth remembering that Mr Appleby was a frequent questioner at meetings over a number of years and that he and his cohorts asked repetitive questions of the then shire president and chief executive officer continuously.

Other points worth noting: answering 20 questions in an hour is around three minutes per question.

This includes the time taken for questioners to move to and from the microphone, to ask the question and to receive the response – hardly arduous, especially when answers are often supplied by staff.

Public question time is the only opportunity for residents/ratepayers to ask questions face-to-face.

Incidentally, it now appears that questions sent in by email (e.g. from someone who cannot attend for any reason) are completely ignored, in the same way as media enquiries from *The Herald* have been.

Mr Appleby's letter in the July *Herald* appears to be more of a criticism of *The Herald* for reporting on some of the council/administration's shortcomings, and an attack on those pointing out and seeking clarity and transparency about finances and compliance with the Local Government Act.

A small glimmer of hope – Mr Appleby acknowledged an 'error' made by the administration, and also that it would be helpful if the 'missing' CEO made his intentions known.

Jo Hart
Morangup

Grateful

I WRITE with a sense of gratitude for the community that surrounds us here in Toodyay.

Like many residents, I have witnessed the generosity that quietly unfolds every day in our town.

It is seen in volunteers who give their time, community groups that work tirelessly to improve local life, neighbours who lend a hand when needed and the many people who contribute to causes larger than themselves.

These acts of giving are not just kind gestures – they are the reason Toodyay remains such a welcoming place to live.

As I have become more involved in community life, I have come to appreciate the importance of creating opportunities for local generosity to have a lasting impact.

That is why I am pleased to introduce readers to the Toodyay Community Fund.

The fund is built on a simple but powerful idea: tax-deductible donations are invested for the long term, creating a lasting community asset.

The earnings are then directed to local projects and initiatives, ensuring that a gift made today can continue benefiting Toodyay for generations to come.

We often speak about leaving a legacy for our children and grandchildren.

The Toodyay Community Fund provides a practical way to do exactly that.

Whether through a modest donation today or a gift in a will, every contribution helps build a stronger future for our community.

The future of Toodyay will be shaped by local people who care deeply about this place and choose to invest in it.

The Toodyay Community Fund offers a way for today's generosity to become tomorrow's opportunity, creating a lasting legacy and helping ensure that the community we cherish continues to thrive for generations to come.

Sean Hefferon
Chair, Toodyay Community Fund

Natures drama on display in Toodyay

WE RECENTLY spent a wonderful couple of days and a night in terrific Toodyay. We stayed at the marvellous Toodyay Homestead Motel.

I enjoy photography and in particular capturing images of birds.

I had just finished reading Desrae Clarke's article on the Grey Butcherbird in the *Toodyay Herald*, prior to taking a wander to see what I might sight in the way of birds.

A Pied Butcherbird was flitting around the bush with me following to endeavour to capture a couple of images.

I was able to get in an image of the bird perched on a metal rail but wanted something a bit more natural.

As I observed the bird, it dived down into some grass and emerged with a mouse in its bill.

The mouse was quickly despatched by being beaten against a branch before making a large meal which was swallowed whole.

A truly memorable moment for a city slicker like me.

Gary Tate
Greenwood

Crossing the blame bridge

I READ with interest the article on the Slaughterhouse Bridge and the too and frow between Toodyay Shire and Main Roads *Bridge blame game: Main Roads rejects shire's claim over closure* (*Toodyay Herald*, June 2026).

Both had a completely different story and when pushed to take some responsibility blamed the other.

It was a similar experience for us in Dumbarton who woke on June 18 to find the Dumbarton bridge closed with no warning.

When the Shire of Toodyay was contacted to ask how long the bridge was closed for they said to talk to Main Roads.

But when Main Roads were contacted they said to talk to the shire.

It was a circus with neither organisation actually taking the situation seriously, while we were forced into a last minute detour to get to work and school.

Andrew Tasker
Dumbarton

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

Toodyay Rainfall													
Recording and average commenced on 1 January 1907													
YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
2020	0	31.6	9.8	6.4	38.2	48.9	43.7	61.8	30.2	5.9	48.8	3.5	328.8
2021	0.03	17.3	137.3	11.1	121.7	30.4	154.2	70.3	39	61.6	2.2	0	645.13
2022	31.7	4.5	14	30.9	36.8	43	42.7	151.1	44	15.6	12	5.1	431.4
2023	0.1	0	54.9	29	21.8	74.3	42.4	19.8	32.3	2.9	7.4	2.0	286.9
2024	9.8	4.5	0	7.8	43.5	53.2	77	85.3	18.7	21.6	22	1.9	345.3
2025	3.7	0	27	47.6	15.2	23.8	65.7	118.9	28.3	43.4	2.5	0	183
2026	1.6	0.63	34.2	24.2	7.6	76.5		25.3					
Average	6.7	8.36	39.6	22.4	40.6	49.9	45.2	84.5	32	25.2	15.8	2.0	370



The State’s Regional Road Safety Program has invested around \$1 billion to upgrade 10,000 kilometres of the regional road network.

Funding windfall paves the way for safer roads

Rashelle Predovnik

THE shires of Toodyay, Northam and Victoria Plains have secured a multimillion-dollar funding boost to improve safety on local roads.

The funding stream has flown into local governments through the State Government’s Regional Road Safety Program (RRSP) which aims to deliver safety improvements on major roads.

Nearly \$34 million has been allocated to deliver safety upgrades on regional roads. A total of 24 new projects, and more than 430 kilometres of local roads, including across the Wheatbelt, will be upgraded.

The upgrades will mainly be delivered by local governments and include the sealing of road shoulders and the installation of audible edge and centre lines to reduce the risk of run-off or head-on collisions.

The Shire of Toodyay has welcomed more than \$7.5 million in funding, including over

\$3.5 million for Toodyay-Bindi Bindi Rd and over \$3.9m for Julimar Rd.

The Shire of Northam was given over \$1m for works on Southern Brook Rd and \$60,000 for Mitchell Ave.

The Shire of Victoria Plains was given more than \$1.9m for Wongan Hill-Waddington Rd.

The latest round of funding announced last month is the second tranche of local government road projects to get funds under a program that was expanded last year to include local government roads.

The expansion was backed by a \$125 million investment from the State Government over five years, with the government continuing to seek matching funding from the Federal Government for the program.

The first tranche of funding released last year allocated more than \$39 million across 27 projects to upgrade 428 kilometres of regional roads, with works currently underway across the state.

Northam successfully secured \$950,000

during the first round of funding for works on Coates Rd in that funding round last year.

The Shire of Victoria Plain also successfully secured \$2.4 million for works on Toodyay Bindi Bindi Rd last year.

The Regional Road Safety Program was established in 2020 to address run-off and head-on road crashes, one of the leading causes of serious injuries and fatalities on regional roads.

Since the program launched, around \$1 billion has been invested to upgrade 10,000 kilometres of the regional road network with treatments such as sealed shoulders and audible edge and centre lines.

Transport Minister Rita Saffioti said the investment was part of the State Government’s commitment to improving safety on Western Australia’s regional road network.

“Local governments play a critical role in maintaining our state’s vast road network, which is why we’re delivering \$125 million

Road Safety Commission statistics 2020 - 2024

THERE were 2,357 reported crashes on roads in the Wheatbelt region between 2020 and 2024. Of these, 26 percent resulted in at least one person being killed or seriously injured. A total of 781 people were killed or seriously injured in reported crashes. Including 153 fatalities and 628 people seriously injured.

Of those:

781 people killed or seriously injured between 2020 and 2024:

- ➔ 85 percent were occupants of motor vehicles
- ➔ 13 percent were motorcyclists
- ➔ Two percent were pedestrians
- ➔ One percent were cyclists

Approximately two-thirds (66 percent) of people killed or seriously injured were male, 33 percent were female and less than one percent had no gender recorded.

The three most common age groups were:

- ➔ 20-29 years old (22 percent)
- ➔ 30-39 years old (15 percent)
- ➔ 50-59 years old (14 percent)
- ➔ 40-49 years old (13 percent)

over five years to help them deliver vital safety upgrades,” she said.

“With work already underway on the first tranche of local government road projects, this additional funding will help even more councils deliver cost effective road treatments that make a life-saving difference.”

Championing Wheatbelt Minds

Since 2023, Chalice has partnered with AusEarthEd to deliver free science curriculum to hundreds of students across the Wheatbelt.

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Contact us
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community@chalicemining.com

Moon phase modelling and geology experiments, St Joseph's School, Northam.



Your thoughts on the Avon Descent

TOURISM WA is inviting residents, visitors and anyone involved in the Avon Descent to share their feedback on the event and how it went.

Toodyay resident Liz Hughes who was involved in the breakfast held at Duidgee Park on Saturday 8 August said the survey offered an opportunity to provide suggestions.

"If you have an opinion on this, please complete the survey so we can gain feedback on how we went and how we can do things better in the future," she said.

"We appreciate your perspective and the six minutes you will give of your time to do the survey."

A Tourism WA spokesperson said the organisation was keen to capture data from spectators who attended the Toodyay event.

The survey will be open until Sunday, 23 August.

The online survey includes generic questions and Tourism WA is also seeking feedback on event satisfaction and a survey link is here: <https://tinyurl.com/3yb2c32t>



Take the survey

metrixsurveys.com.au/survey/selfserve/5ad/260702?list=5



Photo by Rashelle Predovnik

Digging in *continued from pg1...*
their ideal requirements, which would then trigger further council workshops.

Committee member Michael Noonan said after a lot of diligence and input from the committee there were sites offered by the shire that clearly didn't meet the matrix that the shire and community group had adopted.

"The sites offered were demonstrably unsuitable."

Mr Noonan said the idea to use the neglected bowling green was originally floated over a beer at the Toodyay Club and fruitful discussions soon followed.

"If it works well, the garden will become a big part of the club."

Toodyay Club manager Tad Ochman said he was happy to help.

"I know they were struggling to find a place to establish a garden."

Mr Ochman said there was an opportunity for the garden to bring families to the club.

The club is also expanding its operations to include bocce and mini golf, with both activities expected to be available by December.

The community garden committee holds regular fundraising events, which have included plant sales, Devonshire tea and cake stalls.

For more information follow Toodyay Community Garden on Facebook.

Building on shaky ground

Rashelle Predovnik

CONSUMER Protection is urging residents to do their homework before buying prefabricated 'do-it-yourself' pods and buildings, warning claims they are 'permit-free' may be false.

Depending on the structure and how it is installed, work by a registered builder and council approval may be required.

Residents who rely on false advertising risk breaching building compliance laws.

Council approval is also not guaranteed.

Last month, a property owner, who put two sea containers on his property without the necessary approvals, had to seek retrospective approval from council.

Residents turned up in force at the July council meeting to oppose the outbuilding on Sesselis Rd in Toodyay and they raised a raft of concerns.

Including its impact on neighbouring properties and its failure to meet the minimum 30 metre boundary setback required under the shire's local planning scheme.

The two joined-up sea containers were positioned just 1.5 metres from the boundary on a property slightly larger than one hectare.

It was also noted that the owner's attempt at screening the sea containers with plantings had not been successful, as the non-native plants failed to establish.

The report to council recommended refusal and council unanimously agreed.

The warning to homeowners from Consumer Protection comes in response to an increase in suppliers who are advertising prefabricated pods, tiny homes and other outbuildings as DIY projects that can be done quickly with 'no permit required.'

Commissioner for Consumer Protection Trish Blake said consumers may be misled into believing they could simply buy and erect these structures themselves.

She said homeowners could end up installing unsafe structures or breaching building compliance or planning laws.

"Consumers should contact their local government for advice on any approvals

that may be required," she said.

"In many cases, if these structures are used as a building, or part of a building, they will require a building permit."

"There are no specific exemptions for prefabricated buildings, and local councils may take enforcement action if these structures are erected without all the necessary approvals."

According to Consumer Protection, if a building permit is required, larger or more expensive buildings must be installed by a registered builder or an approved owner-builder.

Ms Blake said the builder named on the permit was responsible for ensuring the building complied with applicable building standards when completed.

"It is an offence for a trader to make false or misleading representations about the goods they supply, under Australian Consumer Law."

Building Commissioner Phil Payne said considerations for installation included distance from property boundaries, height restrictions and access to underground infrastructure.

"Building laws, including building permits and registration requirements, ensure structures are installed safely and their components and construction meet applicable codes and standards," he said.

"Any associated electrical and plumbing work must also be carried out by licensed electricians and plumbers."

Both Consumer Protection and the department of Building and Energy are encouraging consumers to check what planning and building approvals are required with their local council.

They also advise homeowners to get assurances from suppliers about compliance obligations in writing.

Complaints about misleading information can be lodged with Consumer Protection and more information can be found here: www.consumerprotection.wa.gov.au.

Complaints can also be lodged with the department of Building and Energy via email: be.info@lgirs.wa.gov.au or call 1300 489 099.

TOODYAY MRB 10905

Tyre Service

New 4X4, Truck,
Motorbikes &
Tractor

Repairs
Exhausts
Balancing
Suspensions
Wheel Alignment

Lot 20
Stirling Tce
9574 4499
tyres1@inet.net.au



Sending out our best: a brave team of 46 firefighters and emergency services personel flew out from Perth Airport this week to help out in the United States.

Julimar’s fire captain takes the heat overseas

A JULIMAR volunteer firefighter is taking his skills from Toodyay to the international frontline, joining a 46-strong Western Australian contingent deployed to help battle more than 80 wildfires burning across the United States.

Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Captain Wes Sutton was the only bush fire brigade volunteer selected for the deployment and he joined a team of firefighters and incident management specialists who flew out this week to help.

The WA taskforce represents all corners of the state, from Kununurra to Albany.

The team comprises 21 personnel from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) and 25 from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) Parks and Wildlife Service.

This team will join a 187-strong national contingent deploying from across Australia and New Zealand.

During their 35-day deployment, they

will undertake a range of critical frontline firefighting and incident management roles based across the US.

Including leading strike teams and analysing fire behaviour, before returning home in early September.

This is the third deployment of WA emergency services specialists to North America this year, with seven personnel deployed to the US in July and two sent to Canada last week.

Currently, there are more than 29,000 firefighters and support personnel working tirelessly on the ground to fight fires in the US.

The WA team was formally farewelled at Perth Airport by Department of Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner Darren Klemm, Superintendent State Coordination Noel Buckland, and Minister for Police and Emergency Services Reece Whitby MLA.

Emergency Services Minister Reece Whitby said not matter when they were called

on, firefighters and incident management specialists stepped up at a moment’s notice to help communities when they needed it most.

He said the latest deployment reflected a long-standing commitment from the State Government to support North America during its challenging wildfire season with more than 200 personnel deployed since 2021.

“All Western Australian’s should be proud of these selfless men and women who will make a huge difference relieving exhausted crews on the front line, he said.

“I wish our personnel all the best for their deployment and I look forward to welcoming them home safely.”

The Emergency Minister said the state government would continue to provide extra resources to help battle the overseas fires for as long as they were needed.”

Environment Minister Matthew Swinbourn

said the task force’s expertise, courage and willingness to help reflected the very best of WA.

“The State Government is incredibly proud of this team and we thank them for answering the call to help in the United States.”

Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner Darren Klemm said 15 of the personnel deployed as part of this contingent were DFES volunteers who were putting their own careers on hold to help communities in crisis.

“Crews in the US are facing extreme heat, strong winds and erratic fire behaviour and so far this year more than two million hectares have been burnt across the country.

“Our US counterparts have requested experienced personnel capable of operating firefighting appliances in tough terrain, as well as skilled leaders and experts in fire behaviour.

“And that’s exactly what we are delivering with this highly capable WA cohort.”



Julimar VBFB Captain Wes Sutton with DFES Commissioner Karren Klemm.

Avon Valley Property Maintenance

Services:



Mowing
Whipper Snipping
Weeding
Property Clean Up
Gardening
Fire Break Maintenance
Bobcat
Clean Up
Post Hole



Aaron Short
Owner Operator

0437 862 839
a.short@inet.net.au
Timber Creek Crescent Coondle
PO Box 50 Toodyay WA 6566

Down to Earth and Affordable

Bolgart volunteers answer the call

St John Ambulance Toodyay
Michael Black

TOODYAY and Bolgart have shared a rich and varied history and it's the same with St John. The connection for St John goes back decades and it still exists today. The tiny town of Bolgart have their own ambulance that supports the people of Bolgart and surrounds, and they need volunteers. Bolgart resident Jenny King is a stalwart of St John. She is a well-known and much loved member of the Bolgart community. Jenny moved to Australia in 1998 from New Zealand and after sampling Goomalling and Toodyay she moved to Bolgart. That was 22 years ago and she has no plan to leave. Jenny was teaching at Bolgart Primary School when St John visited the school to show an ambulance to the students. Jenny's interest was piqued and she applied to volunteer. That was a little over 12 years ago and Jen has volunteered many hours since that time to help our community. These things are seldom done in isolation so together with Bridget Ralph she has kept the St John wheels turning in Bolgart. Jenny enjoys a long family history with St John as her parents and many cousins are on road volunteers. Now retired, Jenny has more time to keep the wheels turning at St John, taking on many tasks including driving an ambulance and

taking care of people. Bolgart needs volunteers and a recent gathering in Bejoording resulted in Bolgart St John's newest member Andrea joining them team. Nevertheless, Andrea, Bridget and Jenny need your help and they are wondering if you could spare some time to help the people of Bolgart and learn to be a volunteer ambulance officer? If you feel you would like to find out more please drop into the St John shop on Stirling Terrace in Toodyay or you can head to the St John web page, stjohnwa.com.au/changelives. There is no doubt St John attracts the most caring and dedicated people. Back in April the Wheatbelt North Awards Recognition team asked for nominations for volunteers that celebrate the dedication, passion, and outstanding contributions of our amazing volunteers and subcentres across the region. The call was answered and a couple of Toodyay's amazing volunteers were nominated. The North Wheatbelt Volunteer Recognition Awards were held a couple of weeks ago and Brian Warrener and Pamela Tennant were nominated. Pam was nominated for her contribution to community transport service and Brian for his contribution to volunteering at the subcentre. A big thank you to Brian and Pam for their outstanding work; we are all very proud of you.



Jenny, Bridget and Andrea at Bolgart Sub Branch. Photo Michael Black.



Volunteers Kevin and Brian from Toodyay Central and Aurelie from Coondle Nunile.

Ready for the heat

VBFB Coondle Nunile
Aurelie Zimmermann

SINCE the last edition, Coondle-Nunile Brigade has responded to three callouts, all involving structure fires. While these incidents did not involve bushfires, they demonstrate the diverse range of emergencies our volunteers attend. Brigade members responded alongside local brigades, DFES career firefighters and other emergency services to help in protecting lives and property. Members also turned out with other brigades, highlighting the strong support and cooperation between local emergency services. Winter also provides an opportunity to reflect on the previous fire season as we compile the brigade's operational statistics. During the 2025-26 financial year, brigade members responded to 57 incidents. These ranged from small roadside fires through to more complex incidents. These incidents required a coordinated multi-agency response. Coondle volunteers responded to every callout during the year, demonstrating a tremendous commitment to serving the community. The colder weather hasn't slowed the brigade down. Throughout winter, members have continued with training and vehicle checks to ensure we remain operationally ready. Last month's training was our annual 'busy bee', where members removed all equipment from the trucks to give the vehicles a thorough clean while inspecting and servicing equipment. Although these checks form part of our weekly routine, the busy bee allows a more

detailed inspection ensuring our appliances and equipment remain in excellent condition. With spring just around the corner and warmer, longer days ahead, it is a timely reminder that fire prevention starts well before the bushfire season begins. As vegetation dries out and outdoor activities increase, now is the time for residents to prepare their properties and reduce potential fire risks. Simple actions such as clearing gutters, removing excess vegetation around homes and ensuring firebreaks are compliant can make a big difference. The brigade encourages everyone to start preparing early and familiarise themselves with their bushfire responsibilities. Being prepared before a fire starts gives residents and emergency services the best chance of keeping everyone safe. Coondle-Nunile Bush Fire Brigade is always pleased to welcome new members. Whether you're interested in firefighting, supporting brigade activities, or simply becoming more involved in your local community, there is a place for you within the brigade. Joining is a great opportunity to learn new skills, meet like-minded people and contribute to the safety and resilience of our community. If you're unsure whether volunteering is right for you, come along, meet the team and see what we're all about. We are always happy to have a chat and show you around. We meet every Friday from 5pm at the fire station, located at 775 Bindi Bindi-Toodyay Road, near the old wheat bins. If you would like to learn more, please contact coondle.nunilebfb@gmail.com.



Upcoming first aid courses

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

Price: \$180.00
When: Wednesday 20 May - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Saturday 11 July - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Monday 21 September - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Saturday 21 November - 8:30AM - 4:30PM

Where: Morangup Sub Centre, 48 Wallaby Way, Morangup WA 6083



Understand first aid
Learn about first aid theory and action plans



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



Injury management
Treat and manage injuries in interactive training scenarios.



Ready to make a difference?

Book a first aid course with us

 **St John First Aid Training**

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

Firing up Christmas in July

VBFB Julimar
Andy Cameron, aka 'Sarge'

JULIMAR Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade recently held its annual Christmas in July celebration, with another excellent member turnout.

It was particularly pleasing to see several new members join in the festivities and become part of the brigade's strong sense of community.

The evening began with pre-dinner drinks and nibbles, followed by five team-based activities designed to reflect the camaraderie, teamwork and enjoyment that are so important during the fire season.

The games included *Pictionary* on a whiteboard, guessing random mystery items hidden in a sealed bag, building a cup tower using string and elastic bands, bean bag tossing and a human horse race fuelled by a very large dice.

The games generated plenty of laughter

and encouraged members to work together in a relaxed and social setting.

Following the activities, members enjoyed a traditional Christmas dinner.

Attendees contributed a variety of dishes to ensure a well-balanced menu, complete with festive trimmings.

An impressive selection of desserts rounded out the meal and may have challenged a few waistlines along the way.

The night culminated in some great prizes for the lucky winners and a door prize, which went to a very special attendee.

My partner-in-planning, Reuben Campbell, and I received a rousing round of applause for organising the event.

After a long day, we were grateful to all the members who assisted with cleaning up and packing away.

The brigade is already looking forward to its next major event (watch this space) as preparations continue for the upcoming fire season.

Fires, friends and a few false alarms

Toodyay Central Bush Fire Brigade
Peter Brennan

CALLOUTS have more than doubled this year, with eight responses recorded between June 3 and July 21 compared with just three during the same period last year.

Of the eight callouts we were stood down as not required from four.

As the daylight hours become longer, the new leadership team headed by Captain Will Hort will discuss and shape a new pre-season training program which will be managed by our training officer, Brian Clarkson.

Furthermore, on Sunday, July 19, we undertook the annual deep clean of both our station (Toodyay co-located emergency facility), as well as all our appliances.

This involved the scrubbing and washing of the station appliance bay floors, tidying up storerooms, removing all the kit from our truck lockers and cleaning and detailing both them and the insides of cabs.

At the same time, the Toodyay VFRS joined us to help with the cleaning of the station, while also giving their own appliances a good going over.

Once again, it was a terrific effort by both brigades.

The activity was then followed by a well-deserved BBQ lunch organised by our social secretary, Heather Brennan and cooked by Kevin Sullivan, Dan Mason and Shane MacGregor, with some nice desserts from Desare Clarke and Heather Brennan.

Many thanks goes to the Toodyay Bakery

for the donation of buns and their ongoing support to the brigade.

Well done team: it was terrific to see the great camaraderie and effort put in to complete all jobs before lunchtime.

At this time of the year members take the time to consider future courses they can take to both improve individual knowledge and skill, as well as progress themselves within the brigade, should they wish.

Congratulations to Brian Clarkson, Nadine Beins and Chris Stothers for completing the Incident Reporting System (IRS) course.

Additionally, it is usually this time of the year that we encourage anyone from our Toodyay Community who is interested in joining a bush fire brigade to make contact and ask questions about what training is required to become a volunteer.

The basic requirement, once a member is accepted, is to complete two foundation courses before they can deploy on an appliance.

Those courses are Bushfire Safety Awareness and Firefighting Skills, with both held over a weekend (two days).

Those courses available in the Toodyay Shire during the remainder of the year are Bushfire Safety Awareness on October 31 and November 1.

Firefighting Skills will be held on August 29 and 30, and November 14 and 15.

If you are thinking of joining us, come along to the co-located emergency facility at 67 Stirling Terrace on a Friday evening at 5pm, or leave a message for Captain Will Hort on 0427 421 233.



The inaugural Bullwinkel Nursing Awards are being sponsored by registered nurse and Bullwinkel MP, Trish Cook.

Paging outstanding nurses

THE vital work of nurses and midwives in the Federal electorate of Bullwinkel will now be recognised with the launch of a new nursing award, open to registered nurses, enrolled nurses and midwives who live or work in the electorate.

The Bullwinkel electorate is named in honour of World War II heroine Lieutenant Colonel Vivian Bullwinkel, an Australian nurse remembered for her courage and service as the sole survivor of the Bangka Island Massacre.

The inaugural awards are being sponsored by registered nurse and Bullwinkel MP, Trish

Cook.

The awards will be presented across six categories: Excellence in Enrolled Nursing Care, Registered Nursing Care, Residential/ Aged Care Nursing, Aboriginal Health Nursing, Community Care Nursing and Midwifery Care.

Patients, colleagues and community members are encouraged to nominate nurses and midwives who have gone above and beyond in caring for others.

Nominations will close on August 28 and more information can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/yxcsfj24>



Picture attached shows from left Chris Stothers, Nadine Beins and Brian Clarkson

**St John**

Upcoming first aid courses

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

Price: \$180.00
When: Saturday 20 June - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Thursday 20 August - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Saturday 17 October - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Thursday 3 December - 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Where: St John Ambulance Toodyay, 120D Stirling Terrace, Toodyay WA 6566



Understand first aid
Learn about first aid theory and action plans



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



Injury management
Treat and manage injuries in interactive training scenarios.



Ready to make a difference?

Book a first aid course with us



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

St John Ambulance Western Australia Ltd - ACN 165 969 406; ABN 55 028 468 715





Community Bank - Toodyay and Northam are **painting it blue** for mental health.

**On 22nd August 2026, during Transend Trail's annual event,
the Bendigo Bank Toodyay & Northam - 12km Mental Health Hike & Run
will hit the Avon Valley trails for it's inaugural event.**

Hikers and runners will wear dedicated mental health awareness wristbands, and finishers will come together to paint a blue tree — a powerful symbol that sparks open conversations and reminds us that no one has to walk through dark times alone.

We are committed to supporting local communities.

Yes, it's time to feel good about who you bank with.

Our Community Bank branches give up to 80% of profits back to the community.

We aim to develop long-term prosperity by supporting programs that help empower local individuals and groups within the local community.

Join the bank that's bigger for you

**Community Bank
Toodyay and Northam**

B Bendigo Bank

Almost a century of CWA care

CWA

Elizabeth Mansom, Secretary

LAST month we welcomed members from surrounding branches to celebrate 99 years of CWA in Toodyay.

It was a fun day with raffles galore and chocolates for winners of the quizzes.

A week later we hosted 12 ladies from the South Perth Soroptimist club at a Christmas-in-July morning tea.

Soroptimist International is a global movement working to advance the status of women and girls which works to ensure their full participation in creating strong, peaceful communities.

An on-going initiative of the group is the Orange Cafe held on the 25th of each month.

The Orange Cafe is recognised by the United Nations UNITE campaign, a global initiative working to end violence against women and girls by 2030.

If you would like to know more, an online search is sure to answer your questions.

The State Conference of CWA of WA was held during June and representatives of 100 branches out of 118 across the state attended.

During the conference our own Evelyn Oliver was recognised for fifty years of service to CWA.

Ev couldn't attend conference this year, but Toodyay branch president Val Byron was thrilled to present Ev with her certificate at the July meeting.

We reported in the last edition that Ev had

been awarded Branch Legend status.

We noted in applying for Ev's awards that Branch Legend implies someone admired for their ability in a particular area.

In the citation for her 50 years of service award, we said she was our branch treasure with connotations of precious and valuable.

Every year CWA has a country of study.

This year it is Belgium and at the July meeting we were given a quick glimpse of the food and drink of that country.

As branches try to showcase food from the country of study at any function over the ensuing twelve months, we are sure to be served frits (chips) and chocolate.

Do note Saturday August 22 on your calendar when we will be holding our annual jumble sale in the hall.

It has been advertised on social media and flyers will be found around town.

You can donate to CWA or book your own table by contacting Kathy on 0439 975 296.

Light refreshments will be available so call in for a cuppa and browse among the bargains.

Our hall is air-conditioned and accessible for walkers and gophers via Charcoal Lane.

We do ask, if you come on a gopher that you leave it on the verandah as they can become a hazard inside the hall.

Margot takes the hall bookings and can be reached on 0405 067 591.

We look forward to welcoming you.



Residents Ian and Raye say they are so happy they live in a Butterfly Cottage unit.

Butterly Cottages has plenty to celebrate

Butterly Cottages

Cheryl Jean

BUTTERLY Cottages have village units in Harper Road, Henry Street and Rosedale Street and over the past 12 months there has been ongoing general maintenance in all units.

We currently have a local, Aaron, taking care of all the Butterly complexes.

Tree roots have caused havoc for some of our units with blockages again this year.

It was a massive job for one of our local plumbers, Ben, at our Harper Road site and a local electrician, Barry, gave a safety check.

Our Father's Day stall is scheduled for Friday 4 and Saturday 5 September outside IGA and any donation of suitable raffle prizes would be welcome.

Contact us and we can arrange pickup.

Butterly Cottages is unique in that it is run by a volunteer elected committee.

This keeps down the costs which in turn makes the rentals affordable for our tenants.

The standout milestone reached in June was the payment of the final instalment of a loan from Bendigo Bank to help fund the 2018 construction of nine independent living units in Rosedale Street.

The balance of the funds for this project was provided by Royalty for Regions and the Shire of Toodyay.

All 21 units are occupied and with a large waiting list, there is an urgent and ongoing need for additional independent living units for elderly Toodyay residents.

The committee is now concentrating on working toward building nine more units on the remainder of the Rosedale Street land.

Realistically this will not happen without grant funding and to this end the committee have met with several MPs, the Shire of Toodyay, consultants and others.

Moving forward, Butterly Cottages Association needs a strong membership to ensure a continuing functional committee and to fulfill our legislative obligations.

Please consider joining the association and perhaps encourage others to come on board.

"It doesn't matter whether you are a long-serving member, the incoming president or the newest Lion.

"Your contribution over the coming year is what will define your success."

With a growing membership, renewed enthusiasm and a dedicated leadership team, the Toodyay Lions Club is well positioned for another rewarding year of making a difference.

As the Toodyay Lions Club approaches its 50th Anniversary celebrations in September, members are looking forward to building on the club's proud history of service while continuing to support the Toodyay community through volunteering, fundraising and fun.

If you were once a Lion, one of our charter members or have volunteered alongside us, then we would be honoured to have you as part of this evening, celebrating our collective achievement.

Please contact:
Heather 0436 019 991
or toodyay.wa@lions.org.au.



(L-R) Val Byron, Elizabeth Mansom, Dixie Mackenzie, Kathy Haynes, Margaret Sullivan, Maureen Woods and sitting is Evelyn Oliver who was awarded a Branch Legend status.

Lions change over but service carries on

Lions Club of Toodyay

Heather McNamara

THE Toodyay Lions Club has officially welcomed its new board of directors for the 2026-2027 at our Changeover and Installation Ceremony

The club has celebrated another successful year of service while looking ahead.

John Pearce reflected on the importance of Changeover Night, describing it as an opportunity not only to acknowledge the achievements of the past 12 months but also to set fresh goals for the year ahead.

The club has enjoyed an exceptionally busy year, supporting many community events.

These include gate management for the Avon Valley Vintage Vehicle Association Swap Meet.

Catering the Anzac Day Gunfire Breakfast and Poets Breakfast and taking the popular Wiggly Worm to the Toodyay Street Party and Moondyne Festival.

Selling Christmas cakes and operating the merchandise stall at the Toodyay Race Club and for the first time, helping with parking and the Wiggly Worm at the Northam Agricultural Show.

A highlight of the year was the record-breaking Lions Community Auction, another

successful fundraiser made possible through the generosity of the Toodyay community and the dedication of club members and volunteers.

Nine new members joined during the past Lions year – the largest single-year intake since the club received its Charter in 1976.

The newest Lions have embraced community service, quickly becoming involved in projects, meetings and decision-making, bringing fresh ideas and enthusiasm to the organisation.

During the ceremony, members were formally installed into their Board positions, each accepting the responsibility of guiding the club through the coming year.

The 2026-2027 leadership team includes: president and service chairperson Steele Williams, first vice president and public relations chairperson Heather McNamara, second vice president Arlene Foley, secretary Clint Fricker and treasurer Michelle Scott.

Director and membership chairperson John Pearce and tail twister Margot Nichols are also part of the leadership team.

Addressing members, John, reminded everyone that changeover represents a fresh beginning.

"Every Lion starts the new year on equal footing," he said.

Our membership fees remain at \$10 per year.

If you are a member and not a tenant of Butterly Cottages, please consider nominating to join the management committee.

Your nomination needs to be submitted before our next annual general meeting around November this year, allowing you to vote on decisions.

To keep this volunteer association running, we need members prepared to roll up their sleeves.

We are always looking for persons who are interested in becoming a committee member.

If you wish to help Butterly Cottages in any way, contact on mobile 0492 595 670.

A post from one of our residents, as follows:

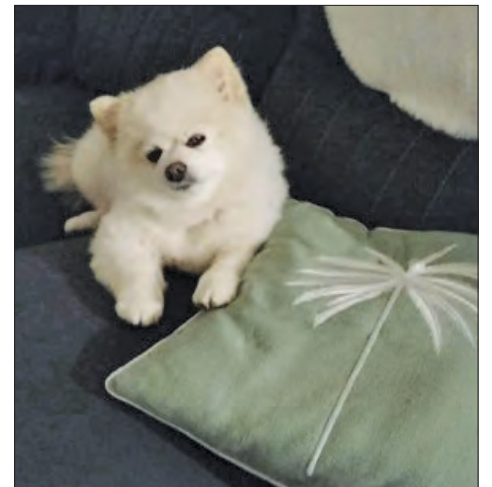
Ian, I (Raye) and our beautiful boy Kyro (our dog) would just like to say a big thank you to the Butterly Cottages Association for giving us the opportunity to reside in one of their units.

It is more than we could ever have wished for and we are so happy here.

The committee and neighbours have made us feel so welcome.

Finally, we have found our forever home. Feeling very blessed

Thank you, Committee of Management Butterly Cottages Association Inc..



Kyro relaxing in his new unit.

Sing out if you want to join in

Toodyay Community Singers

Anne Millar

HOW fast has this year gone?

The singers are still rehearsing on Mondays at 4pm to 5.30pm at the CWA hall on Stirling terrace.

We are still hoping for new voices to join us.

If you would like to be part of community events like Moondyne Festival, Anzac Day, the Toodyay Ag Show and the Christmas street party it would be great to see you at the CWA hall.

If anybody has any musical background and would like to help out that would be a great.

The event was a collaboration between the Toodyay Library and the Toodyay Theatre Group (TTG) and it was supported by a

The idea for the festive quiz night began with a simple suggestion left in the Toodyay Public Library's suggestion box.

To find out more, contact Leisha on 0407 632 806.

Winter chills can't stop the music

Jenny Edgecombe

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



Toodyay Theatre Group members get into the spirit. Front: Bobbi Allen and Leisha Smith. Back: Lyunda de Router, Amy Coulman, Danni Grundy, David Mitchell, Chantell Bates

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YOUR WAY



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A Toodyay chapter closes

Toodyay Historical Society
Dr Robyn Taylor

WE WERE saddened to lose two more valuable members, wanting to have closer contact with their families.

It did give us the opportunity to have another farewell celebration with excellent tucker and merry cheer.

Peter Robinson is well known throughout Toodyay, not just as an excellent tradesman in the tiling department, but for his big cheery smile and white bushy beard.

Dressed up in his black top hat and tails he regularly played the distinguished gent at the annual Moondyne Festivals and in recent years with wife Karen Wilson on his arm looking gorgeous in her period costume.

Both served on the committee, Peter twice as president, and Karen as secretary.

Peter undertook valuable genealogical research for us with his *Toodyay Families 1836-1900* and always volunteered his time for our Society and the town.

In 2015 he was called 'Litter Legend Peter' after collecting over 1250 bags of rubbish along 100 km of road.

I recall Peter once saying about driving home that the best view along the Toodyay



The historical society celebrated committee members Peter and Karen Robinson at a special farewell last month. (Photo: by Carolyn Elphick).

Road was in the rearview mirror.

I think many of us can relate to that after battling the city traffic.

Another July highlight was a visit to member Ian Stannard's property 'Newgain' on the Dumbarton Road.

The land was acquired by James Allen Twine (1813-1905) who arrived in the colony as a labourer in 1833 with a group of Methodists.

In c.1860 Twine employed ticket-of-leave labourers to construct buildings at 'Newgain' and fence his 1400-acre property.

He was to have one of the biggest farms in the Toodyay district.

The granary, built in two sections, one single storey the other two storey, are landmark features while driving along Dumbarton Road.

A major event planned for Sunday August

2 following our AGM is a History Forum 'Saving archives digitally'.

There will be three expert speakers.

This should be of interest to many who have collections of photos and documents and want to know how to store them as digital records.

There will be a report in the September edition of the *Toodyay Herald*.



All systems go for the Toodyay Agricultural Show

Toodyay Agricultural Society
Noelene Stewart

THE Toodyay Agricultural Show is steadily coming together and encouraging progress is being made across the showgrounds in the lead-up to this year's event.

One of the key updates is the completion of works at the Lee Steere Pavilion, an important hub for exhibits and displays.

A big acknowledgement goes to Lorraine and Leanne for their efforts in seeing these improvements through, helping to ensure the space is ready to showcase the best of our community's entries.

Visitors and locals will notice our signage appearing throughout the town for the show.

A big thanks to Kate and those involved in getting these updated and put up around town.

Membership for this year's Toodyay Agricultural Show will close at the end of August.

If you wish to receive the benefits, the committee is encouraging anyone interested to join before the deadline.

Becoming a member is a great way to support the show, stay informed, and be involved in this long-standing community event.

Those wishing to take part can easily sign up by visiting the show's website and completing the online membership process.

With preparations well underway, the focus is now shifting towards exhibitors and competition entries.

The much-anticipated show schedule is expected to be released shortly and community members are encouraged to start thinking about what they might like to enter this year.

From homegrown produce and creative crafts to livestock and specialty categories, there is something for everyone to be involved in.

As always, the success of the Toodyay Agricultural Show relies on strong community participation and early planning can make all the difference.

Keep an eye out for the official schedule release and start preparing your entries to be part of another fantastic celebration of local talent, agriculture, and community spirit.



They said "any knitted item"...

Helping hands keep the meals coming

Toodyay Locals Care
Jacquie Lucas'

DURING the recent cold weather, we have seen a significant increase in the number of meals going out to people in need.

In addition to our regular Thursday morning 'carrots' cooking session, which prepares around 100 meals each week, other wonderful volunteers have stepped in to help us keep up with the growing demand.

We would like to sincerely thank everyone who has donated groceries to support this effort, as well as those who have contributed through our Cash for Cans number.

Every donation, no matter how small, helps us provide meals to those who need them most.

Roz and Jaffa recently delivered a collection of knitted and crocheted beanies and blankets to the Gidgegannup CWA.

From there, they are passed on to King Edward Memorial Hospital for babies and families in need.

If you enjoy knitting or crocheting and would like to make beanies or blankets, please contact Roz.

We may even be able to help with supplies of yarn.

With the colder weather, we have also experienced a high demand for blankets,

tents and sleeping bags.

If you have any spare polar fleece blankets of any size, they would be very gratefully received.

Polar fleece is ideal because it is lightweight, easy to carry and dries quickly.

We also receive frequent requests for fitted single sheets.

Please keep us in mind the next time you are sorting through your linen cupboard.

A special thank you goes to Sarah from Binneburra Eggs in Kellerberrin, who has been incredibly generous in travelling all the way to Toodyay to donate fresh eggs.

We also receive 'wild eggs' from Little Creek – eggs that are either too large or too small to meet supermarket specifications but are still perfectly good to eat.

These are repacked into half-dozen cartons and placed in the 24-7 community refrigerator on the front veranda at 20 Fiennes Street, Toodyay.

Don't forget that thanks to the ongoing support of Woolworths and SecondBite, fresh fruit and vegetables are available free of charge from the community house from around 1pm every Monday afternoon.

We are still looking for volunteer gardeners and drivers.

If you are interested, please send a text to either Roz on 0427 744 352 or Jacquie on 0427 147 548.



Volunteer Dawn Diane-Haysom displays some generously donated crocheted goodies.



Easing cost-of-living pressures for WA families and drivers

The State Government is offering the third round of the WA Student Assistance Payment and a one-off \$100 Fuel Support Payment.

The WA Student Assistance Payment

\$150

For each Kindergarten and primary school student

\$250

For each secondary school student

Available to parents and carers of school aged children to help you get the things your kids need for school including stationery, excursions, backpacks and other education-related expenses.

\$100 Fuel Support Payment

\$100

For anyone with a valid WA driver's licence

Available to anyone with a valid WA driver's licence, including learners and P platers. You can also choose to donate your one-off \$100 Fuel Support Payment to charity in the ServiceWA app.

Foster carers and grand carers

The Foster and Grand Carer Gold Card provides a range of discounts, credits and benefits to help eligible carers with everyday expenses.



How to claim

The fastest and most convenient way to claim your support payments is through the ServiceWA app. You'll find guides on the ServiceWA website plus alternative ways to claim.

Learn more at wa.gov.au/servicewaoffers

Claim on the ServiceWA app



Garden gala brings plenty of buzz

Toodyay Garden Club
Judy Rowston

OUR July garden visit was a Gala Day at the Toodyay Pavilion and we extended this invitation to the Toodyay community and surrounding towns to join us.

Way exceeding our expectations, we welcomed 99 members and visitors, offering them a delicious morning tea, four guest speakers and lunch.

Our first speaker was the Bee Boys, Greg and Wim giving a 30-minute talk on native bees and how important they are to the ecology.

With their love of any blue flowering plant, you will find these tiny insects throughout your garden.

Bee houses were on offer for sale or you could make your own using raw materials like bamboo or nuts with holes as long as you covered the back to prevent wasps from invading.

Ben from Bunnings in Midland then educated us on gardening tools, how best to use them and the importance of cleaning them.

We then drew out spot prizes from a table of amazing gifts that Bunnings had donated to us with lots of happy recipients taking

home a prize.

Brian from Neutrog fertiliser joined us after lunch.

They use chicken manure to make palletised fertilisers, exporting 6000 ton per year to Vietnam.

The chicken manure is stored in a shed for 90 days with bedding material in a process called thermophilic composting.

These products are available at the Toodyay Garden Centre, Bunnings and Mitre 10.

Terry from Utopia Nursery in Bullsbrook had arrived at 8.30am and enjoyed the day listening to our guest speakers before he had Peter, who drew the lucky number, join him in making a succulent bowl which Peter got to take home.

Terry had a massive array of succulents for sale and explained how they use Good Earth fertiliser at \$6.50 a bag, along with a slow-release fertiliser to propagate all of their succulents.

The process takes 10 to 16 weeks before they are ready for sale.

The Toodyay Garden Club thank Guildford, Zanthorrea and Dawsons nurseries for the gift vouchers, Toodyay Crafters Emporium, Bunnings, Bee Boys, Neutrog and Utopia Nursery for their donations on the day.

The garden club committee are a great



Peter made the succulent bowl

team that worked tirelessly in the lead up to organise this very successful event and must be congratulated on its success.

The Toodyay Agricultural Society approached the Garden club re tidying up, planting and fertilising in front of the Youth Hall, to make this look presentable for show day in October 10.

Our Christmas luncheon will be held at the Jennacubbine Tavern.

We need an indication on who might like to go by bus so that we can organise bus hire and a driver.

Please call Stephanie to register your interest.

Our September Garden visit is to Jenni Page's Katrine Steading.

For more information on the club please email toodyaygardenclub@gmail.com or call Stephanie on 0429 088 314.

A shed-load of community spirit

Toodyay Men's Shed
Barry Keens

WE WELCOMED two new members to the Shed this month, Grant and Gaige and we look forward to their ongoing attendance.

With this additional manpower we have been able to start on some of the maintenance work needed at the Shed, particularly with sorting and storing tools and equipment.

We continue with three jobs for community members and the last of the benches for the shire.

We have hosted visits to the Shed by members of the York and Beverley Men's Sheds but have had to say goodbye to Alan from the Falcon Men's Shed as his house-sitting duties have come to an end.

Thank you to them all for their company and insights into how other sheds interact with their communities.

Craig and Paul were our nominees for a supervisor's course conducted by Men's Shed WA, (MSWA), at Cunderdin Men's Shed.

We will be implementing additional safety measures for the use of woodworking machinery.

We will also have representatives at the MWSA Zone meeting to be held at Wongan Hills in August.

Our shed is open Monday, Thursday and Saturday from 8.30am until noon each week.

All enquiries to our secretary on 0499 403 830.



All the raffle winners on the day..

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Wood raffles warm up the community



Splitting logs for the community has become a lot easier thanks to grant from Bendigo Bank.

Moondyne Men Graham Hill

WELCOME to the meandering, mayhem and magnitude of the magnificent Moondyne Men.

After a seven week holiday it's great to bring you up to date with the efforts and satisfaction the Moondyne Men gain from helping the community.

Over the last month our fundraising was mainly from our annual wood raffles.

On June 5 and 6 we saw red ticket A79 (Mr G) win a trailer load of cut and split firewood and red ticket B23 (Leanne) win the food hamper.

On July 17 and 18 the winner of the cut and split firewood was blue ticket B86 (Marcus) and the food hamper was won by green ticket B21 (Angus).

We wish to thank everyone who helped make our fund raising a success which allows us to contribute to helping the community.

Our firewood has been easier to prepare this year with a grant from Bendigo Bank Toodyay that allowed us to buy a hydraulic log splitter.

With the help of a team of Moondyne Men we were able to prepare the firewood for the raffles and some was also delivered to others in the Toodyay community.

Recently I was the recipient of the Toodyay community in action.

The trailer we were going to deliver the firewood in had a flat tyre and was taken for repair to the Toodyay Tyre Service.

When returned to pick up the tyre it was repaired at no charge.

Steve at Toodyay Tyre Service did not know who I was but it does show the community spirit in the Toodyay business community.

But, it's not all work and no play; we also have some social events.

On July 9 we held our Christmas in July lunch at The Rec Hotel, Toodyay, with not only a lot of social interaction but also good food and service.

The Moondyne Men are grateful for the support of the community and appreciate the fact we are the biggest and most proactive men's group in Toodyay and are proud of our mantra 'Men Looking After Men and The Community.'

If you would like to join us on any Monday and Thursday from 8.30am at the CRC building, 67 Stirling Terrace, Toodyay and our free breakfast and committee meeting held on the first Saturday of each month come along or ring our Secretary Colin on 0424 19 5003.

A memorable performance from the heart

RSL Toodyay Subbranch Max Howard

THE big event for August was the play performed by Theatre 180 called the *21 Hearts* and The Toodyay RSL Sub-branch was proud to bring this event to the Memorial Hall.

The production on Saturday August 8 featured two sessions: one commencing at 2pm, and the evening session commencing at 7pm.

Both of these sessions were sold out several weeks ago and 300 people enjoyed the memorable event.

The play is based on a true-life incident of the murder of 21 nurses on Bangka Island Indonesia in World War II by the Japanese military.

Our own Alma Beard was a causality.

This performance has been conducted in a number of places in Western Australia and in the eastern states to rave reviews.

To date we are the only RSL club in Australia which has promoted and paid for this event.

We would also like to thank our sponsors Bendigo Bank, Toodyay Op Shop, Moondyne Men and a number of local individuals.

There was also a free performance on the Friday for the students of Toodyay District High School, and a small memorial service at the Alma Beard Memorial near the doctor's surgery on Sunday morning at 11am.

The community was invited to attend this service.

Work is progressing at a rapid rate on the new building and everything is on track for completion by the end of this month.

Work will still continue on drainage of water runoff, completing parking bays, erecting flag poles and having a brick patio installed at the front of the building.

We are hopeful we will be able to hold our first annual general meeting in the building in September.

We would like as many members as possible to attend the occasion, which has been 107 years in the making.

Hopefully in 2027 we may be able to start working on the plan for our current shed to be utilised as a small museum.



The new RSL building nears completion and the community is invited to our AGM.



Beautiful artwork brings bird hide to life

Dudja Waangkiny (Toodyay Yarning)



VISITORS to Redbank Pool, just two kilometres from Toodyay along the Bilya Track, will notice a striking new addition to the John Masters Bird Hide.

Installed in June, the new artwork celebrates the rich birdlife of Redbank Pool and complements the existing cultural display already housed within the hide.

The installation occupies the right-hand wall of the structure and tells the story of the local *Djirda* (birds) that frequent this important *Kep Wari* (water place).

The bird hide has become a popular destination for birdwatchers, walkers, school groups, photographers and visitors exploring the area.

The new display features high-quality bird imagery generously donated by renowned wildlife photographer Georgina Steytler.

Many of the photographs were taken at Redbank itself, showcasing species regularly seen around the pool and surrounding wetlands.

Birds are identified using Noongar, common, and scientific names, creating an

engaging educational experience for visitors of all ages.

The Birds art project was coordinated by Helen Shanks on behalf of our corporation, working closely with Greg Warburton of Toodyay Friends of the River.

Together, they sought to create an installation that celebrates both the natural and cultural significance of this special place.

Redbank Pool is a key feature of both the Bilya Track and the Noongar Trail.

The new artwork strengthens the bird hide as a place of learning and reflection while highlighting the diversity of birdlife that depends on the waterways and wetlands of the Avon Valley.

The project was made possible through the support and contributions of many individuals and organisations.

We gratefully acknowledge members of our team, the Shire of Toodyay, Toodyay Friends of the River, Toodyay Naturalist Club, Toodyay Op Shop, Six Seasons Connect, Avon Yard Maintenance Service (AYMS), Georgina Steytler Nature Photography, Milimili Wadjela, and all those who contributed their time, knowledge, and support to bring the project to life.

Please note that following a recent discussion with the Shire, surveillance cameras are now located along the rack, including at this Redbank site.



We offer an on-farm oddment buying service with prompt payment.
Auction also available.

Lee Baird - Mob: 0429 927 995

Email: lee@wcw.com.au wcw.com.au

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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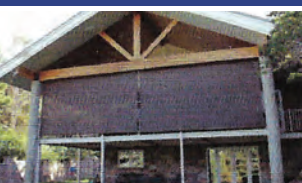
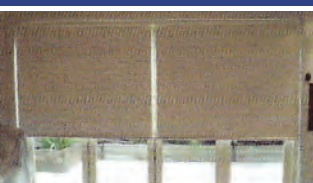
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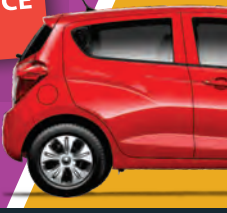
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Morangup Social Craft Group
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Pre-kindy for 3-year-olds. Toodyay DHS. Jessica Donovan 0407 128 105.
Toodyay District High School P&C
Tuesday of Week 5 each term TDHS staff room 5.30pm. ‘Toodyay DHS 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 secretarymvpbf@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 toodyaylocalmanager@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
roberts138@bigpond.com. 0499 403 830
Susan Pearce, JP
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. 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. 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.

CLASSIFIEDS

TOODYAY MEDICAL GROUP

81 STIRLING TERRACE
TOODYAY WA 6566

RECEPTIONIST VACANCY

Toodyay Medical Group is a privately owned Practice operating in Toodyay We employ and engage with General Practitioners, Practice Nurses (both Registered and Enrolled) visiting Physicians, Allied Health Professionals and administration staff

The Receptionist is a part time role, TMG is flexible to casual or part time hours for interested individuals Applicants to be familiar with Microsoft Outlook and Best Practice software would be an advantage.

Criteria Essential

- Current Police check
 - Current Working with Children check
 - Current CPR certificate, or the willingness to achieve the certificate
 - Continuing Professional development
- If you are interested please contact the Practice on 08 9545 7101 or email: practicemanager@toodyaymedicalgroup.com.au

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 groups 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.

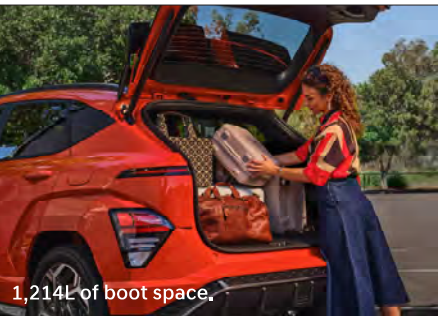
Cardiovascular disease is a major contributor to illness and mortality across Australia, highlighting the importance of continued investment in research and innovation to improve prevention, diagnosis and treatment. Treating cardiovascular disease can lead to better heart function and reduce the risk 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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In addition to the 5 Year Standard New Car Warranty, Hyundai provides an extended warranty for up to a further 2 years, when all servicing is with Hyundai, on passenger vehicles first registered from 1 June 2025. Maximum warranty is 7 years from date of first registration, on the condition that all scheduled services are completed within the specified service intervals at an authorised Hyundai dealer. Excludes Hybrid & EV drive batteries, which are warranted for 8 years/160,000km (whichever occurs first) from the date of first registration, and vehicles used for "commercial application", as detailed in the warranty policy. Terms, conditions and exclusions apply, visit hyundai.com.au/warranty.

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.

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.



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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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

Julimar 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 Drella 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



**Heartlands
Veterinary Hospital**



Heartlands Toodyay

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08 9574 5055

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For After-hours Emergencies only 0418 264 423

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.

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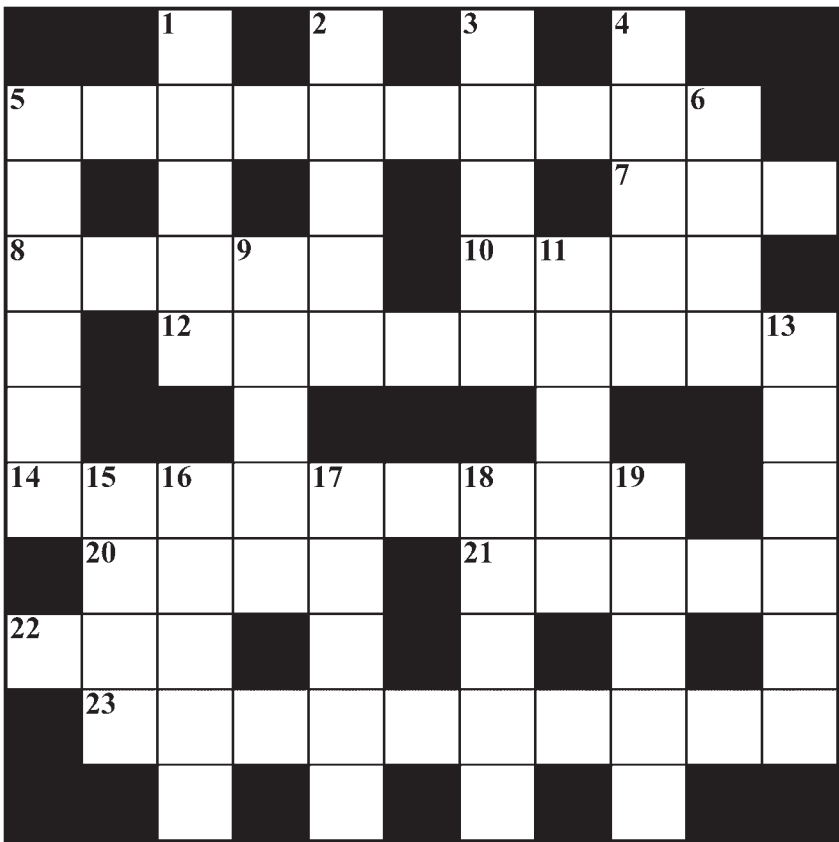
Combo Crossword

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

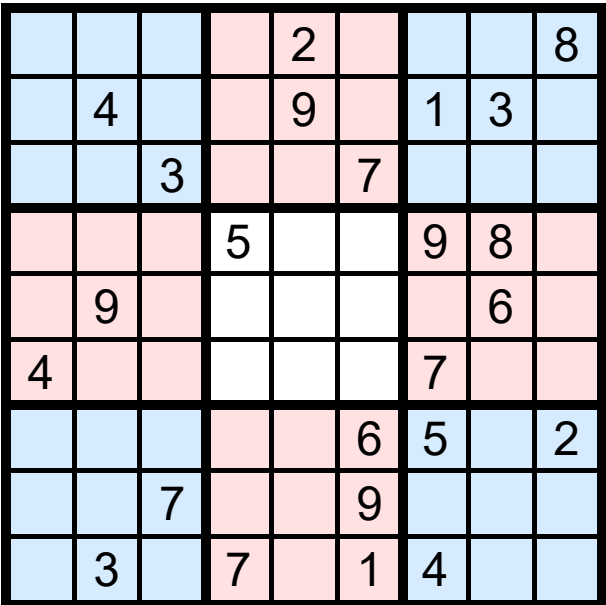
DOWN

- 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!

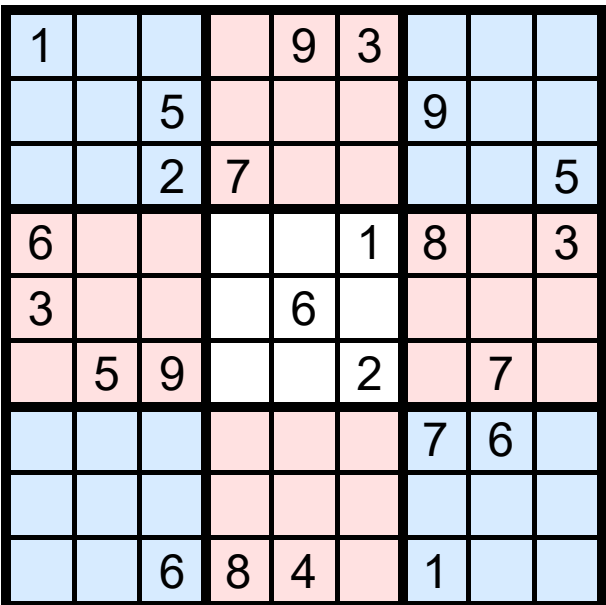
Sudoku

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

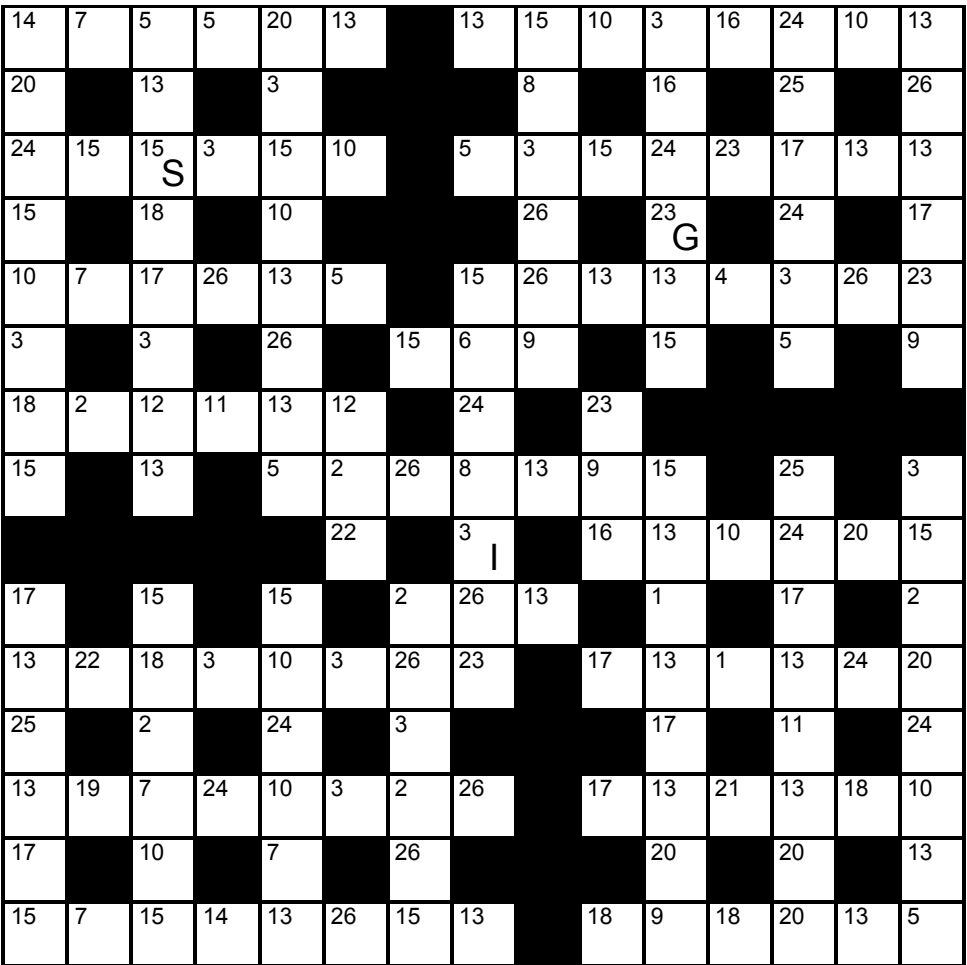


Hard



CrossCode

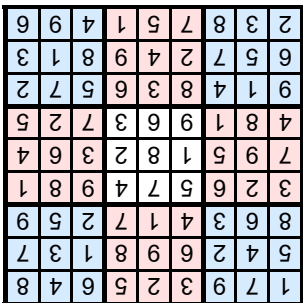
Crosscode is a logic puzzle. each letter is a number. Begin by guessing the first word and placing the additional letters into the crosscode. Keep guessing words/letters until completed.



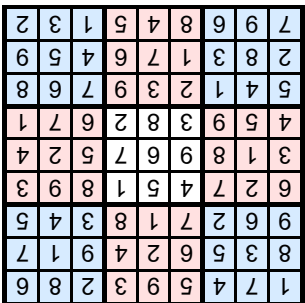
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

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

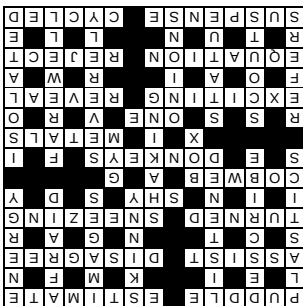
Solutions



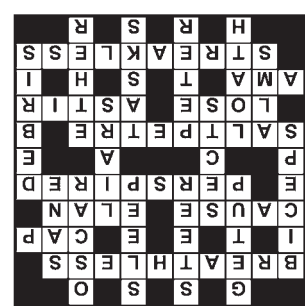
Sudoku Easy Solution



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



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130 Bindoon Dewars Pool Road, Dewars Pool, From \$1,190,000
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FOR SALE

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Thank You From the Tony Maddox real estate Team

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