



Preston Press

Community News

Donnybrook, Kirup, Balingup, Mullalyup, Lowden, Mumballup, Noggerup, Yabberup

www.donnybrook.crc.net.au/preston-press

March 2024

Free, monthly

Huge contenders weigh in for giant pumpkin honours



WHAT A WHOPPER: Harper Spicer, 9, is ready with his pumpkin 'Gourd of the Jungle'. Photo: Danielle Spicer.

KIRUP'S annual giant pumpkin competition will be decided on Saturday 9 March at the weigh-in day at Jim McDonald Oval, on South Western Highway. Hosted by the Kirup Primary School P&C, the competition offers a \$1000 to the winner and many

other prizes, due to sponsorship from local businesses. The event runs from 11am to 2pm, with a crane being used to lift and weigh the pumpkin entries. Food, stalls and live music are part of the weigh-in day with the prize presentations beginning at 2pm.



Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024



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If you are connected with a community group or event, please share your news with us by sending the details to the above email address.

Deadlines for each issue are the 17th of the month for advertising and the 20th of the month for articles. Please submit anything for inclusion before these dates.

The Preston Press reserves the right to edit articles and letters submitted. The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors.

For further information contact the Preston Press at prestonpress@westnet.com.au or give us a call.

The *Preston Press* has a hard copy circulation of 2000 copies monthly and is available FREE for pick-up at these locations: Donnybrook Community Resource Centre, Donnybrook IGA, Donnybrook Newsagency, the Fruit Barn, DonnyBOOKS, Donnybrook and Balingup Visitor Centres, Donnybrook Library, Shire Office, Donnybrook Country Club, Mullalyup's Royal Gala Tours, Lowden Store, Donnybrook Red Cross Shop, Balingup General Store, and Donnybrook, Kirup and Balingup Post Offices. It is also available online at www.donnybrook.crc.net.au/pp and has a growing number of online subscribers.

ADVERTISING THAT REACHES ALL OVER THE SHIRE

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land the Preston Press covers, the Kaniyang and Wadandi people of the Noongar Country.

We give respect to their ancestors and Elders past and present, and through them, all First Nations Peoples.

Artwork: Telicia O'Dine

CRC Chat

Congratulations Amanda Walton



Amanda has completed her traineeship and Certificate III in Business Administration.

Due to her professionalism and work ethic over the last twelve months, Amanda has been offered a part-time position with us at the Donnybrook CRC. Amanda will work full time hours Wednesday to Friday.

Meet the **Carers WA** team on Monday 11 March, 2pm to 4pm. Their bus will be parked in the carpark behind CRC, opposite the post office.

Upcoming Workshops Social:

- Women Together - see page 29
- U3A Donnybrook - meets on the third Wednesday each month, see article on page 28
- Donnybrook Town Team - please contact us
- Donnybrook Mens Shed - Women's Workshop is coming, please contact us for further information.

For more information on any of the above, please contact us on 9731 2177.

Associations:

If you are needing more information on governance, committee roles, for example, just let myself, Graham or Amanda know, and we will attempt to get workshops organised for these topics.

Reminders: we are a **Services Australia** (Centrelink Agent) and we can contact them direct on your behalf to sort a problem out, hopefully without the long wait on the phone. Our contract with Services Australia is from 2pm to 4pm, Monday to Friday. If your query is likely to take longer than 15 minutes, please book ahead so as not to be kept waiting or having to come back later. We are more than willing to work around times for you, but we do have other services we are trying to provide for our community. We have three staff members and one volunteer who are approved for Centrelink, so please let them help you, as I may not always be available. If they need help, they will get me or call our help line.

Job Board: we offer free inclusion of job vacancies on our weekly job board. Just email me on the address below or message the CRC on facebook. Don't forget we can give a small amount of help for mobile-related queries but none of our staff or volunteers are trained in this area.

The CRC's opening hours are Monday to Friday, 10am - 4pm. Manager Sue Martin or assistant manager Graham Burns are available Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm on 9731 2177.

Sue Martin, Manager

MEETING ROOM HIRE

The Donnybrook CRC has a meeting room that can be hired out at \$18/ hr or \$50/day. Community groups that are CRC members can get an even better rate.

Greater job opportunities sought for local youth

THE Donnybrook-Balingup Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DBCCI) plans to increase the training and employment opportunities for young people within the region.

Newly-elected DBCCI president Iain Massey said the shire had a low number of apprenticeships and traineeships available in comparison to the number of businesses located in the area.

"We hear people say 'it is too difficult' or 'there is too much red tape' involved in offering apprenticeships and traineeships, so the Chamber is pulling together resources to help businesses overcome these obstacles," he said.

"When we employ local young people in our businesses, the benefits are enormous for the whole community.

"By offering apprenticeships and traineeships locally, we can ensure jobs are kept in the shire, along with helping to resolve the current skills shortage.

"This in turn keeps families together and helps avoid housing issues, as young people would no longer need to move away to find work," he said.

The Chamber is hosting 'The Right Staff' event, a training and apprenticeship forum for business owners, on Tuesday 29 May at Donnybrook's Soldiers Memorial Hall, in conjunction with the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup.

Mr Massey encouraged business owners to have input about the information they would like to hear to ensure the forum was tailored to their needs.

"We invite businesses to get involved in the forum by becoming guest speakers, sharing valuable insights, and contributing to the wealth of knowledge that will be exchanged during this event," he said.

The Donnybrook District High School is also running an apprenticeship and traineeship information session for Year 9 and 10 students and their parents, from 2pm to 4pm, on Wednesday 27 March.

Mr Massey said an active Chamber of Commerce was of vital importance to small to medium businesses in a regional community.

With 14 years of experience as a business advisor, Mr Massey said it was his mission as the Chamber president to support local businesses.

"In regional areas, small to medium businesses supply income for families, as deep employment markets do not exist, and small to medium businesses are the backbone of our local economy," he said.

Mr Massey said his priority is to build member numbers and broaden the base of the Chamber's membership.

"For example, we currently have a very low representation of agricultural enterprises within the Chamber, but there are many operators from this sector in this district," he said.



BUSINESS SENSE: Donnybrook-Balingup Chamber of Commerce and Industry president Iain Massey.

"I see the real role of the Chamber is to advocate at local and State government levels, on behalf of the small and medium business owners.

"We have a good working relationship with the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup, and recently met with the Minister for Agriculture and Food, Jackie Jarvis MLC, and Jodie Hanns MLA, who were both keen to hear about issues faced by Chamber members."

The 2024 DBCCI committee includes president Iain Massey, vice-president Barry Green, treasurer Leanne Wringe, Sue Martin, Rowan Lowe, Sharon Burke, Madeline Clifford, and Chamber executive officer Rachel Atkinson.

The Donnybrook-Balingup Chamber of Commerce and Industry can be contacted on 0499 018 105 or email: secretary@dbchamber.com.au

Volunteers needed for the *Preston Press*

THE *Preston Press*, as a free community publication, relies on its volunteers each month to make it to over 20 outlets spread across the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup.

Editor Shendelle Mullane said the voluntary roles include reporting, photography, proof-reading and distribution, and could be as little as one or two hours a month.

"We love our current band of volunteers and would be happy to have a few more people join them, in a variety of roles," she said.

Anyone interested in finding out more should email Shendelle at prestonpress@westnet.com.au



Donnybrook 18 Elliott Street 4 = 2 3
SPACIOUS FAMILY HOME WITH BEAUTIFUL VIEWS

This double brick residence is set on a generous 801m² block and located in a quiet cul-de-sac with lovely views, offering a spacious and comfortable lifestyle. It has four bedrooms, including the main bedroom with ensuite, heated spa and walk in robes, minor bedrooms with built in robes. Open plan kitchen, dining and living area with fireplace, reverse cycle air conditioning and ceiling fan, formal lounge and study. The drive through garage leads to a workshop space, and the gardens are fully reticulated requiring minimal maintenance, as well as a heat pump hot water system.



Angela Murphy 0438 310 315

All Offers Invited

*Approximately



Donnybrook 22 Cora Street 3 = 1 1
LOTS OF CHARM ON POPULAR CORA

Set on a sprawling 1,222m² and offering abundant space and breathtaking views, this property promises an unparalleled sense of joie de vivre. Featuring an open plan kitchen and living area with reverse cycle air conditioning, fan, and large walk in pantry. Bedrooms have built in robes and ceiling fans. It includes a theatre room, studio, balcony, deck, workshop, single garage, heat pump hot water system, 3kW Sunwise solar panels and fruit trees. Immerse yourself in the magnificent gardens, teeming with hidden surprises and cozy corners at every turn.



Angela Murphy 0438 310 315

Offers Over \$579,000

*Approximately



Pelican Point 35 Willis Cove 5 = 3 2
EXPANSIVE VIEWS AT PELICAN POINT

Nestled in prestigious Willis Cove, this modern residence exudes elegance. Featuring five bedrooms and three bathrooms, main bedroom with ensuite, bath & dressing area. Three spacious bedrooms, and a guest bedroom with ensuite and built in robes that offers direct access to the patio. Includes an open plan kitchen, living and dining area, scullery with walk in pantry, laundry with walk in linen closet, ample storage. Tile fire, reverse cycle air conditioning, solar hot water system with gas booster, 6.6kW* solar energy system with battery backup. Direct access to estuary beach and walking* distance to the golf course.



Angela Murphy 0438 310 315

Offers Over \$1,350,000

*Approximately

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Australia Day a time to reflect, respect and celebrate

FOUR localities within the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup held events to celebrate Australia Day on 26 January.

Activities got underway from 8am at the Yabberup Hall and on the Village Green in Balingup, while the shire's largest event was held at Ayers Gardens, in Donnybrook from 9am to 11am, and the day ended with a sundowner at the Noggerup Hall from 4pm.

The 2024 Community Citizen of the Year Award for the Senior Community Citizen was presented to Roz Benson at the Balingup breakfast.

The event, organised by Sonja Franks, was attended by around 130 people who enjoyed the breakfast cooked by the Balingup Bush Fire Brigade.

Shire President Vivienne MacCarthy said the Australia Day brunch organised by the Shire in Donnybrook was a memorable event for all those who attended.

"The atmosphere was both lively, yet peaceful, with plenty of community conversations, queues of people eager to get some of the delicious-smelling cooking, great music, and vintage car displays – all set in our beautiful townscape," she said.

Cr MacCarthy conferred Australian Citizenship on two new Australians, Hayley Walker and Warwick Smith, and presented the Shire's 2024 Community Citizen of the Year Award to Brenda and Gordon Hogarth, and the 2024 Active Citizenship Award to the Donnybrook Town Team.

"Australia Day continues to evolve as an inclusive event, and this year's national theme was Reflect, Respect and Celebrate," she said.

"It was interesting to learn at the Auspire Australia Day Council launch, held in Perth prior to Australia Day, that just half of all Australians celebrate Australia Day.

"It is my sincere hope that Australia Day continues to evolve as a diverse occasion where every Australian, whether they are First Nations Peoples, people



COMMUNITY MINDED (above from left): Brenda and Gordon Hogarth, Shire President Vivienne MacCarthy and Claire Connolly, representing the Donnybrook Town Team, at Ayers Garden in Donnybrook.

whose families have lived here for generations, or our newest Australians, all feel comfortable to reflect, respect and celebrate how we have all come through the best and worst times of our shared history," she said.

Cr MacCarthy said the success of the Australia Day events across the shire was due to many local clubs and organisations.



LOCAL STALWART: Roz Benson at the Balingup breakfast.

She thanked the Donnybrook Classic Auto Club and the Donnybrook branch of the Veteran and Classic Car Club of WA for displaying their vehicles, the Donnybrook Scout group for keeping the event clean, the Lions Club of Donnybrook for being wonderful chefs, the Donnybrook Community Garden members for providing refreshments, the Donnybrook CWA ladies for their fruit salad and granola cups, the Blackwood United Football Club for acting as security overnight for the equipment that was set up the day before the event, and Groove Addiction for the outstanding music.

Cr MacCarthy also recognised the efforts of the Shire's Community Development team, Corporate Services team, and the Parks and Gardens crew in pulling the whole Donnybrook event together.



BEAUT BRUNCH: Barry Green (left) chats with Alf Torrisi while cooking the eggs at Ayers Garden.

Nature thrives at Small Farm Field Day

THE theme of this year's Balingup Small Farm Field Day is 'Where Nature Thrives' and many talks and stalls related to this theme will be a focus of the event on Saturday 6 April.

Held on the Balingup town oval from 9am until 3.30pm, the field day is the largest of its kind in the area.

Due to popular demand, farm visits return to the program on both Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 April, and tickets for the farm visits are on sale through the field day's website.

Coordinator Corinne Rule said the Balingup Small Farm Field Day showcases many aspects of small farming in a local community including caring for the land and animals, growing plants and food, using natural ingredients, making crafts and clothes from natural products, well-being and the latest technology and vehicles.

"This year Wadandi-Pibulmun cultural custodian Zac Webb will share his knowledge about looking after Country by explaining the six Noongar seasons," she said.

"Troy and Pascale, from Free Range Living, will be sharing experiences tackling problem weeds with pigs and, the pros and cons of dairy goats, whilst Rod Cary from Geographe Community Landcare will talk about growing your own bush tucker and managing natural bushland on your property.

"Charles Otway will share his skills on compost, growing food and healthy soil, and Adrian Williams will speak on the critical issue of water planning and auditing for small farms," Corinne said.

Beekeeping information will be available from the WA Apiarists Society, plus demonstrations of different arts and machinery processes will occur across the oval all day.

The variety of market stalls will offer something for everyone, including food, ice creams, coffee, and wine, cider, and spirit tastings.

There is live music plus entertainment for the kids, including sheep dog demos, a climbing wall, sheep shearing, sand pit, camel rides, farm animals to pet, and livestock to view.

A series of kids' corner craft workshops are being held as a ticketed event in the Balingup Recreation Centre.

Corinne recommended visitors purchase their tickets online to avoid the queues.

"Our tickets are great value with so much on offer for a day out," she said.

Entry prices are \$20 per adult, \$15 per pensioners, children under 16 years are free if with an adult, and companion card holders are free too.

Tickets for main gates, kids' corner craft workshops and farm visits can be purchased online through www.balingupsmallfarmfieldday.com.au

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Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024

Balingup

SMALL FARM FIELD DAY

SATURDAY

April 6th

Plus

Farm visits on
6th and 7th

BALINGUP TOWN OVAL

9am - 3.30pm *2024*
Theme:

Where Nature
THRIVES

MAIN SPEAKER:

Wadandi-Pibulmun Cultural Custodian Zac Webb

Talks from prominent, skilled expert local

WA personalities and Community Groups

PLUS Various Demonstrations

ENTERTAINMENT | MARKETS | LIVESTOCK | FOOD & DRINKS

FREE PARKING *No dogs, bikes, scooters or smoking permitted at this event*

Beat the queues at the gates and buy your tickets online TODAY!

www.balingupsmallfarmfieldday.com.au

Adults \$20 Pensioner \$15 (with card) U16 FREE with parent/guardian COMPANION CARD HOLDER - Carer FREE

Tickets for farm visits (Free - \$10) All tickets/information through Website

THIS DAY OUT IS HUGE VALUE FOR MONEY WITH SO MUCH TO LEARN AND PUT TO USE AT YOUR PROPERTY

Thank you!
To our sponsors



Donnybrook-Balingup
Community Radio





70TH ANNIVERSARY

DONNYBROOK APPLE FESTIVAL

EASTER SATURDAY
30 MARCH 2024

FREE ENTRY
FREE SHUTTLE BUS

Time	Event	Map Ref	Location
10.00-12.00pm	Bubbly Brushstrokes Sip on boozy brunch drinks while unleashing your inner artist. Register on our website.	8	Gazebo (Pre-sale tickets)
1.00-2.00pm 2.00-3.00pm 3.00-4.00pm	Beads, Bites & Bling: Jewellery Making Extravaganza! Register on our website.		
10.00am-2.00pm	Donnybrook Historical Society Museum Enter the yesteryear of the Apple Festival for the 70th celebration exploring a display of memorabilia.	15	Emerald Street, Donnybrook
10.00am-4.00pm	New Sounds Youth Music Competition Cheer on these up-and-coming artists from our community.	14	Amphitheatre (Free event)
10.00am-5.00pm	Market Stalls, Food and Beverage Vans Browse a huge range of stalls and grab a bite from one of the many food options. Artists Mall Showcasing local artists with demonstrations. CWA Apple Pie Competition Prepare your best Apple Pie recipe and look out for registration details on our socials. Pomewest Industry experts will be sharing the benefits of choosing locally sourced natural products, promoting the health benefits and versatility of apples and pears. Netflix and ABC TV Muster Dogs Find Aticia and her dog Gossip Girl from the first season of Muster Dogs near the TASTE Marquee. South West Water Cartage Stay hydrated with free water bottle refills.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11	Ayers Garden, Station Square, Café Markets and surrounding public spaces
2-2.45pm	GRAND PARADE		Collins Street

Time	Event	Map Ref	Location
10.30am-4.00pm	Future Farming Pavilion Explore the future of farming in our region from a line-up of passionate experts. Brought to you by COBWA. 10.30am Barb Howard 11.00am Nardia Stacey 11.30am Jill Griffiths 12.30pm Jason Jarvis 1.00pm Gary Page 2.45pm Mark Tutman 3.30pm Helen Cripps	7	Future Farming Pavilion (Free Event)
10.00am-5.00pm	Kids Activities, Emergency Services Vehicle Rescue Demo, Vintage vehicles, Old MacDonald's Farm, More Food, Wagual on display, Dog Agility Demonstration (TBC)	11	Egan Park Oval
10.00-10.50am 11.00-11.50am 12.00-5.00pm	Freestyle Now Register for the free BMX bike, skateboard and scooter coaching sessions on our website. Register online or on the day.	12	Pump Track (Free event) Limited numbers
10.00am-6.00pm	TASTE Donnybrook Licenced Marquee Sip and savour the finest local wines and beverages from our region. (Tickets at the door)	1	Station Square
10.00am-9.00pm	Show rides, Show Bags and more!	11	Egan Park Oval
Evening	70th Anniversary Retro Ball (Presale tickets)		Donnybrook Memorial Hall
Evening	Live Band (Tickets at the door)	15	Donnybrook Hotel

www.donnybrookapplefestival.com.au



Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024

More, more and more at this year's Apple Festival

AS THIS year's iconic Donnybrook Apple Festival draws closer, on Saturday 30 March, the organisers of the popular Easter Saturday event are sure the 70th anniversary festival will be one to remember.

Apple Festival secretary Louise Wallman said the committee appreciated the feedback received from last year's festival-goers regarding food vans, parking, traffic management, and activities at Egan Park.

"We have doubled the show rides at Egan Park this year, doubled the food vans and doubled the coffee vans," she said.

"Food vans will be located at both Egan Park and near the Apple Fun Park, and the Egan Park oval will include animal displays such as Highland cows and a demonstration of dog agility."

Two parking areas at either end of town will be available for festival-goers with a free shuttle bus being donated by Royal Gala Tours.

"We encourage people not to park in the centre of Donnybrook, but instead use the shuttle bus which will stop at three or four key locations," Louise said.

"Another aspect of our traffic management for this year is changing the route of the Grand Parade, so it doesn't cause congestion on South Western Highway.

"The parade will travel along Collins Street, turn into Allnutt, Emerald and Bentley Streets, and then return

along Collins Street, and the parade will also start later, at 2pm.

"There are loads of new floats for the Grand Parade this year, including a giant Waugyl, and it is not too late for community groups or clubs to join the Grand Parade.

"Even if members just want to walk along wearing their club uniforms as part of the parade, please contact me if you would like to take part," she said.

There will be an information tent in the centre of the Apple Festival, at the Donnybrook railway station, which will include raffles and a 'guess how many apples there are in the bucket?' competition.

Regular announcements over the PA will keep visitors informed on the next activity about to start.

A number of guest speakers will be at the Future Farming pavilion and free BMX bike, skateboard and scooter coaching sessions will be held at the Pump Track.

The popular TASTE Donnybrook licenced marquee has a large outdoor area connected to it, with tables and chairs, so people are able to buy lunch at the food vans, pay for entry into the TASTE marquee for wine sampling and sit outside to enjoy their lunch.

There is more information on the 2024 Apple Festival at www.donnybrookapplefestival.com.au or email: donnybrookfestival@outlook.com



Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024

A Quick Step Back

Donnybrook Historical Society's

Celebration of 70 years of Apple Festival Balls

Glam-up or get-down ... but dress in your 50s finest to dance through the decades



Saturday 30th March at the Soldiers' Memorial Hall,
Bentley St, Donnybrook

6.30pm for a 7 o'clock start

\$35 a ticket

Tables of 6. Limited numbers so book EARLY

Tickets available from the Newsagency from 1 March

Dance til midnight with DJ Aaron spinning you the
best music of the last seven decades



BAR (beer, wine and mixers)

Free water, soft drinks, tea/coffee

Bring your own supper/nibbles

Door, outfit and spot prizes

A walk down memory lane

Entertainment

Displays from past Apple Festival Balls

Photographer

Retro fashions including ball gowns are being stocked
by the Red Cross shop so start looking now!

Gents: Get out the Brylcreem and slick back your hair.
Find your Tuxedo or try a baggy suit with narrow tie or
light-coloured sports coat (with a pink carnation?)

Ladies: Put a roller or two in your hair and have
smooth long or short bangs. Whether you choose
pencil thin dresses or full skirts, 'chic' is the word. Or
why not really let your hair down and jump into jive.



QUERIES? 0409682615 or email dbkhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

Dance recalls 70 years of Apple Festival Ball history

THIS Easter the Donnybrook Apple Festival and the Donnybrook Historical Society are recreating the community fun and atmosphere of the Apple Festival balls of the past to celebrate this year's 70th anniversary of the festival.

Historical Society president Shaun Nelson said, with the first Apple Festival ball being held in 1954, the society wanted to host a dance or ball, not only to celebrate the Apple Festival's big 70th milestone, but particularly to honour the wish of Steve Dilley who was president of the Donnybrook Historical Society from 2018 to mid-2022.

Shaun said that Mr Dilley was a big supporter of the Apple Festival and had been a judge at Apple Queen and Apple Princess competitions.

"It was Steve's idea to recreate the ball for the festival's 70th anniversary, but he sadly passed away in November 2022," he said.

"Steve was a huge fan of the ball; he loved the way it brought the community together and he loved a good reason to celebrate, so we are doing this year's dance for Steve."

Shaun said it was Steve's passion for the event that inspired the Historical Society committee to bring his unfulfilled dream to fruition.

On Saturday 30 March, the Soldiers Memorial Hall in Bentley Street Donnybrook will be decked out in vintage fashion to recreate the way the hall would have looked back in 1954.

The Historical Society has gathered lots of information, photographs and memorabilia which will be on display at the dance including crowns and sashes of past Apple Queens and Ambassadors.

There will also be guest speakers at this year's dance who will describe how the Apple Festival events were linked, as the ball was a chance for rural families to get together, and how it grew to become a 'must attend' event on the Donnybrook social calendar.

"This anniversary event will also include a quiz and spot prizes, so everyone attending the dance will need to listen to the MC for the clues to the quiz," Shaun said.

"We have a DJ who will play dance music through the ages and party-goers are encouraged to take a step back in time and dress the part in 1950s style."

Shaun said the event offered an opportunity to relive the past, and to have fun together as a community.

"Let's celebrate the fact that the apple and fruit industry still exists in the South West," he said.

Tickets are on sale at the Donnybrook Newsagency from Friday 1 March.

Further details of the 70th anniversary dance are on the page opposite.

Sarah Hornsey



CROWNING GLORY: Apple Festival Queen Robyn Roberts, nee Bode, is crowned by Miss Singapore, from the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board, at the 1967 Apple Festival Ball. Photo: Donnybrook Historical Society.

Youth music competition adds to Apple Festival

AN INAUGURAL music competition for young people will be part of the entertainment line-up at the Donnybrook Apple Festival this year.

Being held on Saturday 30 March from 10am to 3pm at the Donnybrook Amphitheatre, more than 30 performers will vie to win the first prize, which is a day in a recording studio plus a \$200 voucher.

Festival secretary Louise Wallman said the New Sounds music competition was in response to feedback from the community, and professional sound equipment was being hired for the event.

"DBCR will also interview the winning act and there will be an opportunity to play live on radio," she said.

Hon. Louise Kingston MLC
Member for the South West Region

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📍 Unit 5, The Link, St Emillie Way, Albany WA 6330

Authorised by L. Kingston, Unit 5, The Link, St Emillie Way Albany WA 6330



Better sleep, Better health

Why is good sleep so important to our health?

Sleep is as essential to our bodies as oxygen, food, and water.¹ It is vital for maintaining good mental and physical health. Sleeping helps to repair and restore our brains and bodies. That is why lack of sleep can negatively impact our health and wellbeing.²

What is insomnia, and how does it affect your health?

Insomnia is when people have difficulty falling asleep staying asleep or getting restorative sleep.² Around 1 in 3 people have mild insomnia sometimes, and about 1 in 10 people experience at least mild insomnia at any given time. It is more common in females and older people.

Factors such as stress, poor sleeping habits, mental health disorders, medication side effects, medical issues and restless legs syndrome can cause or worsen existing insomnia.³

Long-term lack of sleep can increase the risk of developing other medical problems, such as high blood pressure, heart attack, stroke, obesity, diabetes, depression, and anxiety.⁴

How is insomnia treated?

There are many treatments for insomnia. Depending on what is causing your insomnia, your **Amcal Donnybrook pharmacist** will work with you to develop a management plan, including products and lifestyle advice that best suits your needs.

Your expert **Amcal Donnybrook pharmacist** is always available to provide personalised advice and suitable treatments for your insomnia, helping you improve your sleep health. **Book a Sleep Health Consultation online or come in-store today.**

Scan the QR code to book a
Sleep Health Consultation



References:

1. Department of Health & Human Services. (2019, February 20). Sleep explained. Better Health Channel. <https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/conditionsandtreatments/sleep>
2. Sleep Health Foundation. (2024, January 12). Insomnia. <https://www.sleephealthfoundation.org.au/sleep-disorders/insomnia-2>
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4. Department of Health & Human Services. (n.d.). Sleep deprivation. Better Health Channel. <https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/conditionsandtreatments/sleep-deprivation#effects-of-sleep-deprivation>

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Opening Hours
Monday to Friday: 8.30am - 5.30pm
Saturday: 8.30am - 2.00pm
Sunday: Closed

Just ask
Amcal+

Funding for Youth Week event in Donnybrook

THE Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup is a recipient of a Department of Communities grant of \$2374 as part of the WA government's funding of Youth Week WA 2024.

Youth Week will run from Friday 5 to Friday 12 April and this year's theme is 'Head, Body, Heart'.

More than 30 community organisations and local governments across Western Australia will receive up to \$3000 each for activities that celebrate the positive contributions made by young people in the community.

The Shire is also contributing \$3000, from its youth programs budget of \$8860, to the Donnybrook event, bringing the total funding for Youth Week to \$5374.

The funding will go towards an event to be held at Donnybrook's Pump Track building, which is going to be a youth hub for Donnybrook.

The event will target youth, aged from 12 to 25 years, from the Donnybrook-Balingup community.

Input from students in the Youth Innovators group at the Donnybrook District High School has been sought for the event.

Member for Collie-Preston Jodie Hanns MLA congratulated the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup on being a successful recipient of a Youth Week grant.

"Youth Week is an important opportunity to recognise the valuable contributions that young people make to our communities," Ms Hanns said.

"Youth Week highlights the talents, leadership and volunteer efforts of young people.

"I look forward to seeing what ideas the Youth Innovators group decide upon and the grand opening of the Donnybrook Youth Hub as part of their celebrations," she said.

The Donnybrook Youth Week event will be an alcohol and smoke-free event, as well as being sun-smart and safe for young people.

Other key points that are being considered are the access and inclusion for young people to the event.

The Youth Innovators group is assisting the Shire in developing a youth reference group for ongoing projects with young people in the region.

Further details will be promoted on the Shire website and social media platforms.

Youth Week WA is a State-wide, annual celebration of young people, by young people, providing people aged 10 to 25 years with opportunities to express ideas, raise important issues, make decisions and showcase their talents and contributions.

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Balingup and Donnybrook artists feature in arts trail

THE annual Blackwood River Arts Trail has expanded to include two Donnybrook art studios along with those artists participating in the towns of Balingup, Bridgetown, Nannup and Boyup Brook.

Held over two weeks from Saturday 23 March to Sunday 7 April, the 2024 Blackwood Arts Trail highlights the diverse artistic talent nestled in the picturesque Blackwood River region.

Donnybrook artist Helen Reading will be opening her Darlimurla Gardens studio, in Cora Street, and will be joined by Frances Kilpatrick, known for her vibrant watercolors and mixed-media works that blend realism with whimsical details.

Brookhampton's Marilyn Dreaver, a passionate clay artist who specialises in wood-fired salt glazed works, will have her Salted Earth studio on Sandhills Road open for the arts trail.

This year Balingup will boast a variety of artists, including the Balingup Art Group which has seven artists exhibiting in one gallery at 22 Forrest Street, Balingup.

Other studios to visit in Balingup include Roderick Browton's studio with his paintings and sculptures on Blackwood River Drive, Christopher Redfern's Red Skippy Art Studio at 62 Bridgetown Road, and Lisa White's fibre art at Kangamia Studio/Gallery at 96 Prowse Road

The tiny location of North Greenbushes has a lone artist, Kim Gillespie, who is participating in the arts trail for the second year.



MAGIC HILLS: Donnybrook artist Frances Kilpatrick is one of 67 artists taking part in this year's Blackwood River Arts Trail.

Her beautiful ceramic work is well worth the visit.

Across the 16-day trail, visitors have the opportunity to explore the works of 67 artists across 35 venues in the Shires of Donnybrook-Balingup, Nannup, Bridgetown - Greenbushes, and Boyup Brook.

These venues range from artists' home studios and galleries to sculpture gardens, offering art for viewing and sale.

The trail also includes a film festival which is set to delight with a great lineup of Australian film, screening in Bridgetown on 23 and 24 March and in Nannup on 6 and 7 April, with three feature and eight short films.

A comprehensive guide to the Blackwood River Arts Trail trail, including details on each artist, venue maps, and information on concurrent events, as well as local business and sponsor highlights, can be found at: www.blackwoodriverartstrail.com

Save the date!

PUT the following dates in your calendar, and read the *Preston Press* for event details in future editions:

Balingup Small Farm Field Day - Saturday 6 April.

Donnybrook Begonia Society Annual Show - Saturday 20 April.

Donnybrook Community Club Expo - Saturday 18 May.

Balingup Telling Tales - Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 July.

Festival of Country Gardens' Autumn Festival including Balingup gardens - Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 May.

TASTE Long Table Lunch, Donnybrook - Saturday 12 October.

Veteran Vehicle Muster, Donnybrook - Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 October.

Event organisers of one-off annual events being held within the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup are invited to email their 'Save the date!' details to: prestonpress@westnet.com.au



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What's on

Friday 1 March - World Day of Prayer, 10am at the the Spirituality Hub, Capel St, Kirup. Phone Deborah on 0419 939 864.

Friday 1 March - Balingup Night Markets, 4pm to 7pm at The Packing Shed, Balingup.

Saturday 2 March - Donnybrook & Districts Country Music Club's March dance, 7pm to 10.30pm at the Donnybrook Memorial Hall. Call Geoff on 0455 546 906 for more details.

Wednesday 6 March - Quiet in Kirup, prayer and reflection from 9am to 3pm, Living Rosary at 12.30pm, at the Spirituality Hub, Capel St, Kirup. Phone Deborah on 0419 939 864.

Saturday 9 March - Produce Swap for the exchange of kitchen and garden related goods, at 10.30am behind the Donnybrook CRC at the pergola, opp. post office. Call Rita 0450 160 347.

Sunday 10 March - Donnybrook & Districts Country Music Club's Jam Session, 1pm to 4pm, Donnybrook Memorial Hall. Call Geoff on 0455 546 906 for more details.

Monday 11 March - Carers WA's Priscilla Pop-Up van, 2pm to 4pm, outside the Donnybrook CRC. See page 41 for details.

Tuesday 12 March - Foodbank mobile van from 9am to 9.30am, All Saints Anglican Church, 126 South Western Highway, Donnybrook.

Tuesday 12 March - Women Together March Meetup - Clay and Creativity, 6pm to 8pm, The Salted Earth Studio, Brookhampton. See page 23 for details. To register, contact Donnybrook CRC on 9731 2177.

Thursday 14 March - Donnybrook Garden Group outing. See page 35 for details.

Saturday 16 March - Donnybrook Station Markets, 9am to 1pm in Ayers Garden, near the Donnybrook Visitor Centre, on South Western Highway.

Tuesday 19 March - Quiet in Kirup, prayer and reflection from 9am to 3pm, at the Spirituality Hub, Capel St, Kirup. Phone Deborah on 0419 939 864 or email deborahmrobertson@bigpond.com for more information.

Wednesday 20 March - Ignite Your Business workshop, from 9am to 11am, at the Donnybrook-Balingup Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Call 0499 018 105 or email secretary@dbchamber.com.au for further details.

Saturday 23 March - Produce Swap for the exchange of kitchen and garden related goods, at 10.30am behind the Donnybrook CRC at the pergola, opp. post office. Call Rita 0450 160 347

Saturday 23 March to Sunday 7 April, Blackwood River Arts Trail, see opposite page for details or go to: www.blackwoodriverartstrail.com.

Sunday 24 March, Preston River Cultrual Walk, from 9am to 11am, along the Preston River foreshore in Donnybrook. See page 35 for details.

Tuesday 26 March - Foodbank mobile van from 9am to 9.30am, All Saints Anglican Church, 126 South Western Highway, Donnybrook.

Wednesday 27 March - Donnybrook District High School apprenticeship and traineeship information session for Year 9 and 10 students and their parents, from 2pm to 4pm. Call 9732 4300 for more details.

Saturday 30 March - Donnybrook Apple Festival, 10am til late, see pages 10 and 11 for details.

Saturday 30 March - Donnybrook Historical Society's celebration of 70 years of Apple Festival Balls, from 6.30pm to midnight, at the Soldiers Memorial Hall, Donnybrook. See page 5 and 6 for details.

Apple pie comp returns

WHAT is an apple festival without an apple pie competition?

After its absence last year, the traditional apple pie competition will return to the 2024 Donnybrook Apple Festival under the supervision of the Donnybrook CWA.



THE APPLE OF OUR EYE: Leanne Abas's winning entry in the last pie competition held in 2022.

There will be two categories: one for adults and one for under 15s with wonderful prizes going to the winners in each category.

Cooks are urged to hunt up their favorite recipe made with Donnybrook's finest apples to create their winning masterpiece.

Pie entries are to be dropped at the Donnybrook CWA Hall on Friday 29 March, for judging by an accomplished guest chef, and they will then be displayed at the CWA stall at the Donnybrook railway station during the Apple Festival.

The winning entries will announced at the festival at 11am on Saturday 30 March. Entry forms will be available soon.

For more details email: donnybrookcwa@gmail.com

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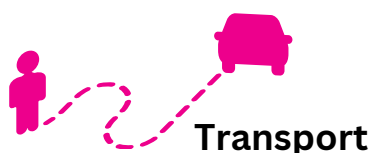
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Donnybrook youth lead the way



KEEN TO SERVE (from left): Chelsea Hutchinson, Evan Tuia and Amelia Patane.

THREE Year 12 students from Donnybrook are part of the student leadership team at Bunbury Catholic College for 2024.

Evan Tuia is school captain, while Chelsea Hutchinson is a vice school captain and Amelia Patane is a stewardship captain.

Both Evan and Chelsea are keen footballers.

Chelsea currently trains twice a week in Mandurah with Peel Thunder in the WA Australian Football League Women's competition. Evan plays for Donnybrook Football Club and hopes to play for Peel next year.

All three student leaders attended primary school in Donnybrook.

Closed river access causes concern

SEVERAL Donnybrook residents have contacted the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup over the blocking off of a track alongside the Preston River.

The track is on the south side of the river and runs towards Beelerup from the weir at the end of Dale Street.

The matter is on the agenda of the Shire Council meeting to be held on Wednesday 28 February after being raised by Victoria Buckley in public question time.

Ms Buckley said she was among the many people who use that path, and she has walked it for the past 17 years. She hoped the Shire could find a solution to curb the activity that caused the owners to take the action of blocking public access.

The Shire has advised it was aware that access along the foreshore path had been blocked; however, the path is located on private property and its boundary stretches to the river, so the owners are within their rights to block the path on their private property.



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Marron on the menu at pop-up TASTE event

TASTE Donnybrook held its first pop-up event on Saturday 20 January with 50 guests from as far afield as Perth, gathered at the picturesque Smallwater Estate to enjoy a specialty menu created by local chefs Dean Wood, of Smallwater Estate, and Ricky Mandozzi, of Rickles Pickles.

Guests enjoyed a refreshing elderflower spritz on arrival, five different savoury canapés paired with local white wines from Oakway Estate and Smallwater Estate, and finished with a delightful sweet prepared by Sophie of Piccolina's Providore and Zinfandel Rozé.

The marron was sourced from Smallwater's own on-site dams.

The first of the canapés was a pickled marron gilda, followed by a marron celeriac remoulade on crispy chicken skin, marron cocktail roll, marron pie and marron risotto.

A guest from Fremantle commented that they loved the setting which felt like a fun gathering of family and friends in an idyllic garden, which just happened to have gorgeous views over the forest and farm, amazing food, and all paired with yummy wines poured by the growers themselves.

Guests also tried the different grape varieties grown at Smallwater to round out their paddock-to-plate experience.

The TASTE Donnybrook committee (formerly known as the Donnybrook Food & Wine Committee) has expanded their program of events from an annual festival event and long table lunch, which have been historically wine-focused, to include smaller events such as this one to showcase a broader variety of local produce.



MASTER CHEFS: Ricky Mandozzi (back) and Dean Wood prepare some of the marron dishes.

The TASTE committee is run by volunteers and is grateful to our gracious hosts for this pop-up event, Leeanne and John; our chefs Dean and Ricky; and our serving staff, Rachel, Sophie, Jeneen and Hannah.

We would also like to give a very big thank you to Peter and Lisa Gubler at Royal Gala Tours, for providing guests with transport to and from the event at no cost.

Their support of these events helps us continue to showcase more of our region's beautiful produce, and it is greatly appreciated.

Please continue to support businesses that support our local community groups.

The TASTE Committee is once again running the licensed marquee at this year's 70th anniversary Donnybrook Apple Festival.

To learn more about upcoming events, or provide your suggestions for future ones, please follow @TASTEdonnybrook on Facebook & Instagram.

Alexis Davy
TASTE Donnybrook committee

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Holiday craft fun at Yabberup Hall

A FREE children's workshop was held at the Yabberup Hall on Wednesday 24 January as a school holiday activity.

It was attended by 24 excited children who built little birdhouses together, adding chimes and then painting them.

Afternoon tea was supplied for the children and parents, and fun was had by all.

The end result was some very colourful birdhouses being taken home, along with big smiles.

Thank you to all parents and grandparents for bringing your children along.

This free workshop was made possible by the generosity of The Donnybrook Bendigo Bank.

Yabberup Craft Group



BIRDHOUSE BUILDERS (from left): Cooper, Maitland, Olivia, Jennifer, Astrid, Hope, Josh, Cooper and Amelia proudly display their craft efforts.

Your letters

Use the crossing points

Dear Editor,

I write regarding the letter headlined "Crosswalks in town" in the February edition of the *Preston Press*.

There are actually six designated pedestrian crossing points, with safety barriers, in the town of Donnybrook.

The trouble is that most people crossing the highway are related to "Brown's cows" and rarely use these crossing points.

David Hamilton's suggestion that motorists stop to allow pedestrians to cross is unsafe and ridiculous.

Maybe the police could start charging people with jaywalking.

Harold Pratt, Donnybrook

The *Preston Press* welcomes letters from readers, but reserves the right to edit them for clarity, length and legal reasons.

The views expressed in letters are those of the individual contributors and not the *Preston Press*.

Email letters to: prestonpress@westnet.com.au



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This gorgeous cottage offers an affordable option for those looking to invest or settle down in Greenbushes. This well presented, charming cottage is tucked away in a quiet location surrounded by nature. Fully fenced, the kids and pets are catered for. Enjoy nearby bike tracks and the Greenbushes pool, plus amenities located close by for your convenience.



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Kirup students enjoy Pancake Tuesday at Hub

MANY students from Kirup Primary School enjoyed Pancake, or Shrove Tuesday, on 13 February at the Spirituality Hub at the Holy Family Catholic Church in Kirup.

Pancake Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday, which is when the Christian season of Lent commences as a preparation time for Easter.

Around 40 people visited the Spirituality Hub, including the students and some of their family members, and everyone enjoyed a pancake breakfast which went down a treat, thanks to Judy Fitzgerald's great cooking.

Later in the morning, a group of people came together to hear about the faith journeys of a number of young people, and this was both inspiring and challenging. Thank you to the Catholic Diocese of Bunbury Evangelisation Coordinator Aaron Faure for organising the guest speakers.

On Friday 1 March, the Spirituality Hub hosts the Donnybrook area's World Day of Prayer, along with the Anglican community. Everyone is welcome to attend this service which is at 10am, followed by morning tea.

The Hub's only fundraiser for the year is the 'Paint and Sip' event on Saturday 16 March, which will include food, fun and feasting with the participation of Smallwater Estate wines.



PANCAKE FANS: (front from left) Kirup Primary students Noah, Vera, Jonas, Ned, MacKenzie, Michael and Amelia, with (back from left) Margaret Liversage, Noel Ramsay and Keira Barrett.

Artist Rob McCafferty will guide participants step-by-step to produce a painting of a protea flower.

The 'Paint and Sip' event costs \$80 including art materials, tuition, sweet and savoury platters and hot and cold beverages including wine. Registrations are essential.

See our Facebook page – Spirituality Hub Kirup – or call 0419 939 864 or email deborahmrobertson@bigpond.com for details and registration for Paint and Sip.

Deborah Robertson
The Spirituality Hub Coordinator

Donnybrook



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Large crowd returns to enjoy blues at Brookhampton

MORE than 220 people gathered under the shade of the old oak tree at Brookhampton Hall on Sunday 5 February for the third, and finest so far, Brookhampton Blues festival.



Building on the success of the event in 2022 and 2023, the committee had tweaked the position of marquees, tables and seating to take full advantage of the afternoon shade and we were blessed with a blissfully cooler day amid the searing heat of the days on either side of the event.

With Singapore satays and lamb burgers by Merrifield Range, chilli hot dogs by Hooley's Catering and very welcome ice-creams, coffee and cool drinks supplied by Cindy in The Cream Machine, everyone settled in for a relaxing summer afternoon of music.

Enzo Fantasia, host of 103.7 Bunbury Community Radio's Classic Blues and Rock Show, compered the event and there were great prizes from local businesses, including meat packs, wine and bulk water supplies.

Brookhampton resident busker, Alan Coxall opened the show, with a little help from his friends De Robinson,

IN THE GROOVE: Blues fans enjoy the music playing at Brookhampton Hall. Photo: Tom Clifford

Rhys Warner, Dave Fawcett and Sue Dennis who, together, perform locally as the musical collective 'Imagine'.

The exceptional talent of Henry McInnes was showcased to an appreciative audience, once again.

Popular musos Ponyfish and, new to the program this year, Deadwater Pelican, got into the groove delighting listeners as the day progressed.

Smokin' Joe ramped up the energy and had everyone on the dance floor in the late afternoon as usual.

The Brookhampton Blues is undoubtedly becoming an iconic annual event where music fans, local revellers and visitors alike can soak up the unique atmosphere, scenery and sounds of our region.

If you were unfortunate or silly enough to miss it, take a look at the video on the Brookhampton Hall facebook page to see what you missed!

The Brookhampton Progress Association uses the proceeds of events to restore and maintain the historic Brookhampton Hall, built in 1899 and still supported by the local community.

Sarah Hornsey



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Donnybrook Social Club goes underwater

DESPITE a rather hot weather forecast, the Donnybrook Social Club still set off for Busselton on Tuesday 20 February.

We were also warned a few days before about the road works on the Bussell Highway, which had not only started up again but had increased in size.

We just hoped we had allowed enough time to get to the Busselton Jetty with plenty of time to buy tea or coffee at The Goose restaurant, as well as walk to the jetty office to check in for our train ride and tour of the Jetty Underwater Observatory.

We last did this trip when the jetty re-opened after the Covid-19 shut down, which was in late-August, and hoped that we might see more activity in the water around the observatory this time.

We arrived with plenty of time for a cuppa and then we boarded the solar-powered train for the 1.7km journey along the jetty to the observatory.

We met our tour guide, and made our way, either by the stairs or the lift, to the lower floor of the observatory.

Our guide gave us plenty of interesting information



JETTY VISIT: Donnybrook Social Club members enjoy their outing to Busselton.

regarding the history of the observatory, the sealife around us and happily answered our questions.

It was great to see how much the corals have grown on the pylons and how colourful they are, along with the number and variety of fish.

Once outside again, we enjoyed a very refreshing, cool breeze before boarding the nippy little train again and travelled back along the jetty.

We then made our way through the carpark to the Esplanade Hotel for lunch, which was enjoyed by all with plenty of chatter going on. We returned

to the bus and our driver, Joe, brought us back safely to Donnybrook after a most enjoyable day.

Our social club is always happy to welcome visitors and new members. We meet on Tuesdays for cards and other games and Fridays for bingo, with afternoon tea afterwards.

We meet from 1.15pm in the Seniors Room at the Donnybrook Library on Emerald Street. For further information, I can be contacted on 0416 532 737.

Sue Blythe

Busy January for CWA

THE Donnybrook CWA has had a busy start to the year commencing with the Australia Day fruit salad stall which was a great test case and christening of our new kitchen.

We catered for a private function, held a welcome to CWA pot luck dinner, and had a huge cook up of morning tea items which we shared with the Donnybrook Mens Shed as a big thank you for their help with many special projects over the past year.

Our AGM was held on Thursday 22 February and a new committee were elected.

We also welcomed several new members.

We are gearing up for our renovation grand opening, with special guest, Jodie Hanns MLA, on Friday 1 March when we will express our thanks to all our wonderful donors and supporters.

Inspections of our renovated premises are welcome after 3pm.

On Friday 29 March we will be receiving entries for the 2024 Apple Festival apple pie competition.

We will also be selling WA Toffee Apples, CWA made jams and chutney and CWA cookbooks at the festival on Saturday 30 March.

*Karen Miller
President*



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The Shire Connect

You can find the latest news and updates from the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup right here!



February has been a busy month for Councillors and Shire Staff, having held our February Agenda Briefing, our Ordinary Council Meeting, and the Annual General Meeting of Electors. Two (2) external Committee Meetings were also held.

On Tuesday 6 February, Councillor Alexis Davy and I attended a Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils (WBAC) Board Meeting with CEO Dr Garry Hunt PSM in Nannup. At the start of March, the WBAC's 'All Shires' meeting will be held in Balingup, which brings together Councillors and CEOs from all member Shires. We will also see regional stakeholders, and foster collaborative discussions and share insights from our various roles and locations. In the later half of February, the South West Country Zone meeting was held in Bunbury and was followed by the South West Development Commission's Strategic Planning Session, with the CEO and I attending both sessions.

Also during February, CEO Garry Hunt and I had the pleasure of attending the launch of the feasibility study into the recommissioning of the Bunbury-Greenbushes Railway. The study stands separate to the Talison Lithium feasibility study, and proposes that tourist and passenger services will enhance the region by providing valuable high-yield tourism opportunities and commuter services.

With regional enhancement still in mind, your Councillors and I have been working hard to build our knowledge of the Shire by attending three workshops. At our first workshop, the Director of Operations and Director of Finance and Corporate both presented the broad scope of their responsibilities and the many services their departments offer to the community. I was astounded by the breadth of knowledge and expertise that we require in our CEO and Executive Team.

These presentations supported our second workshop, where Councillors explored the skills and capabilities we will look for from prospective CEO candidates during the CEO recruitment process. Output from the workshop will be captured in a first draft job description and selection criteria.

Our third workshop included an overview of the Planning function, presented by our new Manager of Development Services, Michelle Dennis, who presented an eye-popping view of the complexities of the Planning approval process. Councillors also had the opportunity for a site visit and presentation on the VC Mitchell Park (VCMP) Project from Director of Operations. I was pleased to see rigorous project management principles being applied. Happy fact: just 2% of demolition materials were sent to landfill, with the remaining 98% avoiding landfill entirely. An update and timeline of the project is available on the Shire's website on the VCMP Project page.

On other matters, I am pleased to share that we have received grant funding from the Department of Communities for \$2,374 toward a Youth Week event at the Pump Track building during Youth Week (5 – 12 April 2024). The Shire will contribute a further \$3,000 from the Youth Programs budget of \$8,860. The event will target Youth aged 12 to 24 within our community.

The Shire also received \$275,000 in funding for the Greenbushes-Grimwade Road, as a part of the Main Roads WA Commodity Route Funding (CRF). The Shire will co-contribute \$137,500, which will bring the total works funding for this road to \$412,500. Sealing the area specified in the project will improve safety as well as seal a section of gravel road between 2 sealed sections.

I hope you all enjoy family and fun over the Easter break and have the opportunity to participate in the Donnybrook Apple Festival activities and 70th Anniversary Apple Festival Ball.

Shire President Vivienne MacCarthy.



Save these dates in your calendar to join us at the Council Chamber, or tune in online:

• **Agenda Briefing Session:**
Wednesday 20 March @ 5:00pm

• **Ordinary Council Meeting:**
Wednesday 27 March @ 5:00pm

Do you know what you can and can't do during a **Total Fire Ban (TFB)**? You can call the **DFES TFB Hotline** on **1800 709 355** to confirm if a TFB is in place in particular locations, as well as to ask any questions related to a TFB.

- Total Fire Bans usually last for 24 hours and start at midnight of the particular day that the Ban is in place.
- Some work can be conducted without an exemption, however an online notification form must still be sent to DFES and your local government if a TFB has been declared in your area. This must be done a minimum of 30 minutes and maximum of 24 hours before the works start, and you must meet all of the conditions in the Bush Fires Regulations 1954. This form, factsheets, and a checklist can be found on the DFES website.
- Depending on the type of power source your equipment uses, you may not be able to use a lawn mower, chainsaw, brush cutter / whipper snapper or slasher. If your equipment is powered by an internal combustion engine, it is not allowed. Electric or battery powered equipment is acceptable, however anything that causes a spark should be postponed for later use.
- Depending on various requirements, you may still use a generator.

More information is available online, visit www.dfes.wa.gov.au to get started, or call the TFB Hotline.

PROHIBITED BURNING PERIOD: 1 DECEMBER 2023 - 31 MARCH 2024

Always check that it's safe / allowed before conducting hot work or lighting a fire.

IF YOU SEE SMOKE, CALL 000.

DON'T LEAVE IT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE.

ADVICE OF SHIRE WORKS: March 2024

We would like to advise the public that the following works are scheduled to take place in March 2024. Please ensure that you follow all directional road signage as required.

UPPER CAPEL ROAD

Bitumen reseals expected to be completed by mid-March.

LOWDEN GRIMWADE ROAD

Bitumen reseals expected to be completed by mid-March.

YABBERUP ROAD

Bitumen reseals expected to be completed by mid-March.

GRIMWADE-GREENBUSHES ROAD

Road upgrade works to a sealed standard for a section of the road, bitumen sealing expected to be completed by the end of March.

UPPER CAPEL ROAD BRIDGE

Replacement of Bridge 3275 on Upper Capel Rd began as proposed in November '23. Demolition of existing single lane timber bridge plus the construction of a new dual lane concrete bridge, with roadworks, are included in the proposed works. Road closures will be in place at the Upper Capel Rd Bridge for a period of up to six (6) months, which will be May '24. The full notice is available, as well as the detour plans, on the Shire's website.

BALINGUP AREA

Gravel road grading will be undertaken throughout March.

DONNYBROOK & BALINGUP TOWNSITES

Preparations are underway for upcoming events in March, including the Donnybrook Apple Festival & Balingup Small Farm Field Day.

Standard operation hours take place from 7am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. Works will be clearly signed and you are requested to exercise due care when travelling near or through these areas. Delays are expected to be minimal.



Should you require further information, please contact the Shire Works and Services Department on (08) 9780 4200. For more information, scan this QR code or visit the Shire's website via www.donnybrook-balingup.wa.gov.au.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)

The Shire is accepting Expressions of Interest from 1 March 2024 for the Collie Donnybrook Balingup Natural Resource Recovery Program 2024-2025 (CDB NRRP).

This is a part of a Devolved Grant Program within the CDB NRRP, as Blackberry (Rubis spp, a Weed of National Significance), is a threat to the biosecurity, biodiversity, water quality, and economy for both the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup and the Shire of Collie.

For further information, and to submit an EOI, please visit the Shire website and head to the Environmental Awareness page under our Services menu.

YOUTH WEEK FUNDING SUCCESS!

The Shire is pleased to advise the community that funding has been provided by the Department of Communities to go towards a **Youth Week Event**, to the value of \$2,374. The Shire will co-contribute \$3,000 towards the event, bringing the **total funding to \$5,374**. Shire staff are also currently discussing the event details with students of the Youth Innovators Group at Donnybrook District High School.

As well as being an alcohol and smoke free event, the event will be sun smart and safe for our young people. Other key points that are being considered are the access and inclusion for young people to the the event and Youth Hub, and the Youth Innovators Group will be assisting the Shire in developing a Youth Reference Group for ongoing projects with young people in our region. **We encourage all young people from 10 to 25 to stay updated with us on our website or social media platforms and watch this space!**

Follow us @shireofdonnybrookbalingup



(08) 9780 4200

www.donnybrook-balingup.wa.gov.au

shire@donnybrook.wa.gov.au

1 Bentley Street, Donnybrook, 6239

Are you up to date with your bowel cancer screening?

Cancer Council WA is calling for more West Australians to complete the free lifesaving bowel cancer screening test, with figures showing only four in 10 eligible Australians are participating in Australia's National Bowel Cancer Screening Program.

Bowel cancer is Australia's second biggest cancer killer. Many people don't realise it kills more Australians each year than breast, prostate, or skin cancer.

When you receive the Home Test Kit, don't put it in the cupboard and forget about it - delaying can so easily become ignoring, forgetting, and ultimately not doing the test.

The test is quick, simple and can be completed in the comfort of your own home. Over 90 per cent of bowel cancer cases can be successfully treated if caught in the early stages.

To find out more about the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program or to order a free replacement kit, go to bowelcancer.org.au or call **1800 627 701** for more information.



When UV is 3 or above be SunSmart.

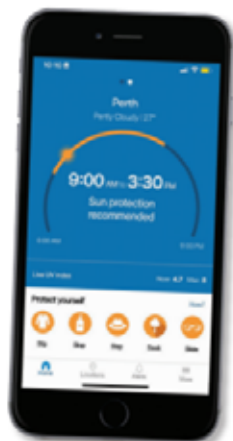
But how do you know when?

Use the free SunSmart Global UV App!

The sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation is the major cause of skin cancer. UV cannot be seen or felt and can damage your skin on cool or cloudy days. The sun protection times tell you when UV is forecast to reach 3 and above, **that's the time to be SunSmart.**



Scan to download the SunSmart app



Download the app or go to myUV.com.au

Find Skin Cancer Early

Common skin cancer symptoms:

- A new spot or mole on your skin that is red, pale or pearly in colour
- A spot that is different from other spots on your skin
- Any crusty or non-healing sores
- Any spots, freckles or any moles changing in size (width), thickness (height), colour, or shape

Get to know your skin and what's normal for you, particularly if you're over 40 years of age. If you notice any of these symptoms or any other unusual changes, tell your doctor without delay.

If it's skin cancer, the earlier it's found, the greater the chance of successful treatment.

Visit <https://www.findcancerearly.com.au/cancer-symptoms/skin-cancer/> for more information.

Donnybrook Scouts achieve peak awards

MEMBERS of Donnybrook Scouts have shown just what can be achieved with two youngsters earning their peak awards recently, including our first ever Joey to complete the challenge award.

Evelyn McNab, 11, and William McNab, 8, were presented with their awards in a ceremony followed by a colour run-inspired party with friends and scouting peers.

The scouting program is structured to support children on this journey, progressively building both outdoor and leadership skills.

Scout leader Amanda McNab said it was amazing to witness the transformation of children as they progress and succeed, gaining confidence over their time as a scout.

"Belief in myself is one of our core elements of scouting and we work on fostering that self confidence in all the kids," she said.

"While everyone has the chance to achieve, the completion of a peak award is a major achievement and requires extra dedication to complete the project challenges."

Scouting peak awards run in each age section and are the culmination of nearly three years of effort involving mastering a range of outdoor camping and bushcraft skills, completing a minimum of six community projects and personal growth challenges.

For cub scouts, aged 8 to 11 years, they also need to gain a basic understanding of other outdoor pursuits like bike riding, hiking, paddling or vertical activities (which includes rock climbing and abseiling) plus participate in leadership training.

William said his Joey Scout Challenge award journey included too many fun things to choose a favourite activity.

"I loved learning to tie knots and playing games with my friends," he said.

The opportunity to try out new things like archery and zip lines were a big draw of the many camps that William got to attend.

"He pushed himself to learn patience and persistence in completing his special projects, and is now a bit of a bird expert after focusing on learning about hollow dependent species and building different



PEAK ACHIEVERS: William (left) and Evelyn McNab display their Scout awards shields, which were made by Donnybrook Mens Shed.

nest boxes to help with habitat decline," Amanda said.

Evelyn said in achieving the Grey Wolf Award, she found that camps were a great way to try new activities, and she also enjoyed making new friends during larger State-wide and district camps.

She also felt that being in Scouts had improved her confidence, especially building her public speaking skills.

For her personal growth challenge, Evelyn focused on public speaking and represented Donnybrook District High School in the soapbox competition. She also wrote and delivered the Donnybrook Scout group's pitch at the Bendigo Bank pitch night.

"Working with another scout, Evelyn also created an Amazing Race-style event for other scouts to learn about the environmental impact of our waste and how we can tackle the problem," Amanda said.

"It was such a fun activity and well-received, so the girls are hoping to run it for the wider community to get involved too.

"These children have been an inspiration to our other scouts and their community spirit gives us hope for a better tomorrow."

New members are welcome and anyone interested in joining our Donnybrook Scout group can sign up for a trial at anytime. Scouts meet on Thursdays at the Bentley Street Hall, or contact us through the facebook page @scoutinginDonnybrook.

Amanda McNab, Donnybrook Scout leader

U3A members learn about Médecins Sans Frontières

MEMBERS of the Donnybrook U3A have again been enlightened by another of the many exceptional, interesting and talented people living right here in our own town of Donnybrook.



Our February guest speaker was Claire Vander Linden who spoke of her work with Médecins Sans Frontières, also known as Doctors Without Borders or MSF.

Claire described the scope and purpose of the organisation Médecins Sans Frontières, which is a global organisation she has been associated with since 1980.

Born in Belgium and trained as a nurse, Claire's contribution to populations in need is huge.

The origins of MSF began in 1971, when a group of French doctors and journalists founded a group (associated with the Red Cross) to provide relief and assistance to people in distress, without discrimination.

Several years later, they formed Médecins Sans Frontières, breaking away into their own group to break the "culture of silence", as they deemed that not only was their mission to assist, but importantly, their proximity to people in distress implied a duty to raise awareness to improve their situations.

Currently there are between 40,000 to 60,000 MSF people helping over the world.

The MSF upholds three principles: neutrality - in the name of universal ethics and the right to humanitarian assistance; impartiality - assistance to population in distress, victims of man-made or natural disasters, and victims of armed conflicts; and independence: claims full independence of political, economic, religious powers and unhindered freedom in the exercise of its functions.

Claire said It took a special type of person to be able to continue working in extreme conditions and witnessing horrible human suffering.

Often the MSF people are in war-torn areas where their own lives are constantly in danger and they are also at high risk of being kidnapped. Claire herself was attacked, resulting in serious injury.

She spoke of the millions of people suffering tropical diseases for some of which there are currently no cures.

These diseases do not attract the pharmaceutical companies' interest for researching a cure as they are the diseases of the poor, insolvent population.

Claire has been involved in, with some amazing teams, in this international organisation including a vaccinator in a slum in Cairo/Egypt, creation of a dispensary in Burkina Faso, establishing a babies' clinic in a detention centre in Hong Kong, organising a pharmacy in Lahsa/Tibet, clinical nurse in an HIV clinic in Guatemala, and Chikungunya clinics in Cameroon, where she was attacked.

She was the coordinator of information, education and development in an HIV project in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and relief coordinator in a cholera unit there.

She has also run awareness campaigns of refugees and asylum seekers in Canada and in Australia.

Claire described areas of high infant mortality from tetanus, because the only instruments the local medical helpers had for cutting the umbilical cord was the edge of a lid from a can.

"People with cholera tended not to come into clinics until they were already emaciated, and treatment was too late, so they were placed on beds with a large hole in the middle and a bucket underneath for their diarrhoea," she said.

Claire has witnessed clinics with rows of stretchers, the patients with many different ailments including HIV, where a nurse was moving from bed to bed administering medications using the same needle.

"When questioned, the nurse replied it was the only needle the clinic possessed."

Sometimes patients found alternative uses for resources, such as nets sprayed with repellents to protect people whilst sleeping were sometimes seen to make wonderful fishing nets, while condoms provided to help with birth control were excellent for carrying alcohol.

Claire said MSF aims to set up clinics and educate people to a point where governments are expected to take over.

"One such clinic was running efficiently, and the government of the country asked MSF to leave as they would take over," she said.

"The locals begged MSF not to leave because they said the government would abandon them; however, the government didn't abandon them - they bombed them after the MSF exited the country.

"MSF used to be able to move easily between countries needing help, but currently they are blocked by governments of many countries, preventing them from giving help."

It is so confronting to hear of million upon million of people in our world suffering unbelievable horrors.

Claire said you see so many terrible things, but as an individual you cannot hold onto them.

Psychologically it must be so difficult to carry on.

MSF has no government funding, so its funding is totally from the public.

Please consider any financial contribution your family could make to these extraordinary people making a difference. More information is available at: www.donations.msf.org.au

Glenda Kennerson
Donnybrook U3A

If coffee good or bad for you?

COFFEE is a popular beverage worldwide, and while some posts in the media highlight the health benefits of coffee, others highlight its dangers.

What is the latest evidence on coffee?

A recent study showed that diverse chemical components of coffee, including alkaloids, phenolic acids, flavonoids, and terpenoids, have beneficial biological effects, such as lowering blood pressure and sugar and protecting the liver.

Coffee has a positive impact on immune and inflammatory reactions.

Due to these reactions, regular coffee drinking can help combat Alzheimer's dementia, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, and diabetes, reduce cardiovascular disease and even lower the risk of some cancers.

Other studies have shown that coffee can increase blood pressure, increase anxiety and reduce the quality of sleep.

There are several reasons why coffee might benefit some and harm others.

Studies have found that caffeine in a pure form, e.g. tablets, can increase blood pressure, but caffeine consumption through coffee can lower blood pressure.

Other compounds found in coffee, other than caffeine, cause these benefits and can counteract the effect of caffeine.

Individual sensitivity to caffeine determines the effects of coffee on a person's physical functioning.



Photo: Mike Kenneally on Unsplash

Smoking typically accelerates caffeine breakdown.

When giving up smoking, some people might experience palpitations and anxiety caused by a sudden increase in caffeine in their system.

Oral contraceptives and pregnancy result in a slower breakdown of caffeine, and this typically results in a reduced tolerance to coffee.

Coffee (with or without caffeine) can be a part of a healthy lifestyle when consumed in moderation (no more than four per day).

It is not caffeine but other components in coffee that bring the benefits.

These components can also be found in tea and cacao; however, there is no evidence that people with diabetes, heart disease or liver disease can improve their outcomes by drinking more coffee.

Women Together to focus on creativity with clay

THE March meetup of the Women Together group will focus on clay and creativity with a workshop at the Salted Earth Studio in Brookhampton.

The mission of Women Together is to enhance community connections, and this workshop will enable participants to try their hand at clay activities while networking with other local women.

Marilyn Dreaver will share her passion for clay and the benefits of making time for creative pastimes through the different seasons of our lives.

With years of teaching experience, Maz will guide workshop participants in ways to nurture their creativeness with clay.

The meetup is being held on Tuesday 12 March from 6pm to 8pm.

This is the second meetup to be held at this studio, as the December workshop held here was very popular.

There are only five places available, with a fee of \$25 per person as a contribution towards the materials, firing of the clay and refreshments.

To register or for further details, contact the Donnybrook CRC on 97 31 2177 or the South West Women's Health and Information Centre on 9791 3350.

*Christina Gammon
Health Educator SWWHIC*

ADVERTISEMENT

Jodie Hanns MLA

Member for Collie-Preston

Delivering for our Community

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Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024

A variety of summer reads explored by Page Turners

THE last meeting of the Donnybrook Page Turners book group found us sitting outside the Blue Guide Hall feeling the last rays of the day with three electric fans, a large bucket of ice blocks, a drink or two, some yummy nibbles, a variety of books to discuss, and some March flies.

The month's reading theme was a holiday read or, if you would prefer, a summer read, and this is what we read:

Bright Shining: How Grace Changes Everything, by Julia Baird, was published in 2023 as a companion piece to her 2020 book, *Phosphorescence: On Awe, Wonder And Things That Sustain You When The World Goes Dark*.

Part-memoir, part-philosophy and part-science - this book spans them all, as Julia looks at the mysterious and difficult to define topic of grace.

The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning, by Margareta Magnusson explores the Swedish kind of decluttering called *döstädning* - *dö* meaning death and *städning* meaning cleaning.

Margareta reviews, in short and sweet chapters, this surprising and invigorating process of clearing out unnecessary belongings and embracing minimalism.

She emphasises how this can be undertaken at any age or life stage, but should be done sooner rather than later, before others have to do it for you.

Question 7, by Richard Flanagan, was published in 2023 by this well-known Australian author and a conservationist. By exploring the different divisions in society and the human capacity for kindness as well as ignorance, Richard blends fiction and non fiction, biography and autobiography, history and historical fiction, all while dealing with the extreme complications of trying to understand history, and his own past.

When a famous iconic Australian actor like Bryan Brown releases a book, it poses the question 'but can he write?' and it appears he can!

In *The Drowning*, published in 2023, Bryan writes an entertaining, fast-paced, page-turning thriller, which

is actually his second book and it has the potential to be a television series.

The Collector, by Daniel Silva, is a new stand-alone thriller from this famous New York Times bestselling author.

This is the 23rd novel in the author's Gabriel Allon series, and in this book Gabriel Allon undertakes a search for a stolen Vermeer masterpiece and uncovers a conspiracy that could bring the world to the brink of nuclear Armageddon (Booktopia).

The Big Treasury of Australian Folklore: Two Centuries of Tales, Epics, Ballads, Myths & Legends, by A K MacDougall, was first published in 1990. It is an anthology of the tales, ballads, epics, myths and legends inspired by two hundred years of white settlement in Australia (Goodreads).

Coal Creek, by Alex Miller, is an outback thriller with racial issues that doesn't end well.

Taste, written by actor and food obsessive Stanley Tucci, provides an intimate and irresistible memoir of life in and out of the kitchen (Amazon).

The Tea Ladies, by Amanda Hampson, is a twisty mystery, cosy crime novel set in 1960s Sydney, where three tea ladies become accidental sleuths, stumbling into a world of ruthless crooks and racketeers in search of a young woman believed to be in danger (Bookshop NLA).

The Sense of an Ending, by Julian Barnes, is about four young men at university together, who grow apart and then later in life, one man commits suicide.

A Quarter Of An Orange, by Joanne Harris, could be described as a psychological thriller and perhaps historical fiction, as it happens within two different periods - during WWII and a more contemporary period some 55 years later.

Andrea Penrose has written a series of murder mysteries with two protagonists - Lord Wrexford and Mrs Sloane - who join forces to solve murders that revolve around advances in science and industry which occurred during the Regency period of the early 1800s. Three of her books proved to be frivolously fun reads!

Our theme next month is 'roadtrips', providing an opportunity to figure out where you are going, without the worry about packing any bags. Enjoy the journey!

Donnybrook Page Turners



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Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024

Talk of Our Shire - DBCR news

THE relevance of Chamber of Commerce and Industry organisations and their ability to talk to all levels of government about issues affecting local businesses was the topic of conversation with Iain Massey when Talk of Our Shire recommenced on Donnybrook Balingup Community Radio (DBCR) on 31 January.

Iain is the new president of the Donnybrook-Balingup Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DBCCI), which sponsors the Talk of Our Shire show.

The subject of journalism, and what has become of the profession, was discussed with Amy Holdsworth who is a volunteer with the community-driven newspaper, *The Light Australia*.

The latest edition of the paper included a book review *On the Origins of Diseases*, by Dr Neil Benson.

The review acknowledged DBCR as having brought the book to the attention of the reviewer, Jerry Roberts, who is a journalist of the old school!

The Light Australia is also available online at <https://thelightaustralia.com>

We also spoke about the upcoming Donnybrook Apple Festival, the Balingup Progress Association Rail Group's study into the possibility of a passenger rail service, and to Peter Thompson from the Donnybrook Lions Club about changes to the Containers for Change operation.

Cam Tinley explained the challenges of establishing a new political party in WA, which is required to be registered 12 months before the next election.

Cr John Bailey spoke about some ideas that he wishes to pursue on the Shire Council.



We think that the ability of our elected representatives to talk directly to our listeners is important to a functioning democracy, and extend the same invitation to our other councillors.

Another story, prompted by an article in the February edition of the *Preston Press*, was with Deb Brealey from the WA Country Health Service who told us more about their Healthy Eating Activity & Lifestyle (HEAL) Program.

If you would like to come on the show to tell our listeners about your business or community organisation, give Barry Green a call on 0428 317 006. Talk of Our Shire goes to air on Wednesdays between 10am and 12 noon.

The highlights of each program are posted online so you can listen in later if you miss the live show and they can also be shared on social media.



Visit our website www.dbc.com.au and click on the recordings menu, then following the links to Talk of Our Shire 2024, or simply scan this QR Code.

DBCR is also accessible via the Community Radio Plus app.

Barry Green



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Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024

Preston River walk offers a cultural perspective

AS part of the Leschenault Catchment Council's Preston River foreshore revitalisation project, we invite the community to encounter the rich tapestry of Australia's Indigenous heritage with an immersive cultural walking tour along the Preston River Foreshore.

Led by Noongar man, Karim Khan, participants will have an opportunity to experience the profound connection between the land and its traditional custodians.

Karim, who has connections to country in Donnybrook, Collie, Busselton, and Bunbury regions of the South West, offers a unique perspective as he shares stories of traditional Noongar customs, including the significance of the Preston River, bushfoods, traditional medicines, spiritual practices and more.

Karim has many years of experience working for the WA Parks and Wildlife Service, as a seasonal firefighter, conservation employee, Aboriginal training supervisor, and project officer with South West Native Title.

He has made a significant contribution to increasing understanding of Noongar culture and how people live with their country, ensuring all Aboriginal interests are considered in relation to Parks and Wildlife legislation and policies.

As part of the South West Native Title Settlement, Karim now continues his contributions as the Land and Heritage Manager at Gnaala Karla Booja Aboriginal Corporation.

The Preston River foreshore revitalisation project, now in its fourth year, has focused on fostering community involvement in conservation activities including revegetation, managing invasive species and creating habitat for native wildlife along the river.

This cultural walk provides a unique opportunity to explore the cultural heritage of the Noongar people in the serene setting of the Preston River Foreshore revegetation site.

Participants will watch, listen and learn while taking in the beautiful sights of the bushland and river.

The walking tour will culminate in a yarning circle,



LIFE SOURCE: The Preston River flows through Donnybrook. Photo: Patrick Adams.

providing an intimate setting for further discussion and reflection, followed by a shared morning tea.

This interactive walking tour promises an unforgettable experience, inviting participants to deepen their understanding of Australia's oldest living culture and foster connections with the land and its custodians.

Tickets can be purchased at <https://events.humanitix.com/prestonriver-culturalwalk> and cost \$10. Get in quick as places are very limited!

Leschenault Catchment Council

Garden group gathers for March outing

THE Donnybrook Garden Group is looking forward to its first gathering for 2024 on Thursday 14 March. Everyone is welcome to come along, as gardening is good for the heart and soul.

We would especially like to encourage some more men to join our group.

For more information about the Donnybrook Garden Group, call me on 0473 635 920 (leave a message) or email: semoore2572@gmail.com

*Sharlene Moore
Coordinator, Donnybrook Garden Group*

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Making choices about wildlife and our environment

WEST Australians are aware of the impacts of climate change, as these impacts are on our doorstep and affecting our everyday life.

Summer days are hotter, the heatwaves longer and the rains from the North West's cyclones are a distant memory.

I walk through the bushland and see environmental stress.

Leaves are turning yellow; branches are falling and vegetation is dying. There is not a fresh leaf in sight!

The earth is dry and ground water is at an 800 year low.

The birds, animals and insects are drawn to the urban areas where we water our lawns and gardens and there is food on offer.

Many of us are aware that climate and human actions impact our wildlife, biodiversity and environment, and most of us want to make changes for the better.

Many of us feel very connected to nature and we care about what is happening to our forests and all that inhabits them.

But when crunch comes to crunch, and hard decisions have to be made, how much do we really care?

In a recent study it was found that in emergency situations such as wildfire, first responders, such as firefighters, placed saving human lives first, then property and infrastructure, then natural assets.

Those surveyed did prioritise the saving of human lives, with saving a person who had not received evacuation warnings was rated highest, ahead of saving a person who ignored evacuation advice even at the cost of the extinction of an entire species.

However, property and infrastructure didn't fare as well as convention deemed, but at least the tables are turning on the view of letting the forest burn for the sake of a shed.



SURVIVAL ISSUES: Western ringtail possums are just one natural asset needing protection. Photo: Patti Bolt

Facing up to Australia's extensive threatened and endangered species list is not easy, and it is not a comprehensive list.

We do not categorise all non-human life as equal, as media, history and culture all influence the hierarchy.

For example, does an endangered mammal species such as the Western ringtail possum, have the same value as a rare snail or butterfly?

Do flora species have more value than fungi?

An ancient tree over a bee?

A well-known species over one that we have never heard of?

What we cannot do if we are to save our natural assets is place them at the bottom of the list.

We cannot do this not only in times of crisis, but in our entrenched practices and belief systems in the everyday management of our unique biodiversity.

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That's so weird!



Witches' broom on *Jacksonia* causing red deformed growths, fasciation on *Templetonia*, chimera on orange rind, and phyllody on strawberry.

Plant abnormalities have intrigued gardeners and botanists alike for many years. These abnormalities sometime result in strange growths or odd variations. Causes include environmental or genetic factors, pests, and disease. Below are some common examples, and perhaps you've noticed one or two of these before?

Witches' broom

Witches' broom is a symptom of stress in woody plants resulting in a deformed mass of twigs and branches, which looks broom-like in appearance. Causes include insect pests, viruses, fungi, environmental factors and genetic mutations.

Fasciation

Fasciation appears as abnormal flattened, ribbon-like, crested or elaborately contorted stems or leaves. Causes include hormonal, genetic, bacterial, fungal, viral and environmental.

Chimera

Chimera is the result of a genetic mutation. The overall appearance of fruit can be changed and sections of the rind or skin can appear striped and/or green. This is often reported in citrus where the rind colour is perfectly split between yellow and orange. Chimera leaf mutations

produce variegated, misshapen, or completely white leaves. These mutations may be prized and propagated to create new varieties.

Phyllody

Phyllody is the abnormal development of the leaf tissue caused by viral infections or environmental factors resulting in an imbalance of the plant hormones. It makes leaves grow in strange places.

Is control or reporting necessary?

Not much can be done to prevent these oddities. Keep plants as healthy as possible to allow them to fight off pests and diseases as best they can. These weird and sometimes wonderful malformations can be a great talking point, but if you don't want them on your plants, consider removing the affected parts. Remember to disinfect gardening equipment before and after, to avoid spreading pests and diseases.

We would love to see photos of any weird or wonderful plant growths or variations. Take photos, tell us what you've found and on what plant. Photos can be submitted to MyPestGuide or the Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS).



Report your observations

MyPestGuide® Reporter via app or online mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au
Pest and Disease Information Service (08) 9368 3080 | padis@dpird.wa.gov.au

Fertiliser spreading field day at Thomson Brook

FERTILISER spreader machines play a crucial role in ensuring a proper and balanced distribution of fertiliser on farms.

Recent evidence suggests, however, that many spreaders deliver highly variable spread patterns, potentially impacting the productivity of farms across our region as well as waterway health.

As part of the ongoing Healthy Estuaries WA program, farmers throughout the Leschenault catchment are invited to participate in a free demonstration day scheduled for Wednesday 20 March, in Thomson Brook.

This event will provide an opportunity for farmers to assess the accuracy of their spreader and even to bring along their equipment for testing.

Understanding the reach and pattern of spreading equipment, particularly when using different products and lime, can lead to higher productivity, cost savings, and healthier waterways.

Dr Deborah Holtham, Sustainable Agriculture project coordinator with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, said it was vital that spreaders were properly calibrated.

"Many fertiliser spreaders deliver highly variable spread patterns, leading to some areas of a paddock receiving too little fertiliser and others too much," she said.

"With the high costs of fertiliser, it is especially timely

for farmers and contractors to learn how to test and calibrate their equipment."

Dr Holtham further emphasised the significance of minimising nutrient runoff.

"In a drying climate, it is more important than ever to keep excess nutrients from entering our waterways, where they can fuel harmful algal growth," she said.

The Accu-Spread field days provide invaluable insights for participants, with agronomist Russell Nichol, along with participants, testing various spreaders and working on calibrating them for optimal performance.

Past field days show the results of testing and calibrating machines are significant, with improved spread patterns and enhanced efficiency observed.

The field day is part of Healthy Estuaries WA, a State government initiative to improve the health of our South West estuaries. It is supported by Soil Wise, which is funded by the National Landcare Program Smart Farms Small Grants – an Australian government initiative.

To learn more about best practices for nutrient management, including fertiliser spreading, visit <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/nutrient-best-management-practices-guideline>

To register for the upcoming Accu-Spread demonstration day visit: https://events.humanitix.com/lcc_accuspread

Leschenault Catchment Council

Information session for Great Cocky Count volunteers

DID you know that all three South West black cockatoo species are threatened with extinction?

Community members are invited to take part in an information session all about our charismatic South West black cockatoos, as preparation for the upcoming, annual Great Cocky Count to be held in autumn.

The Great Cocky Count is a long-term citizen science survey and the biggest single survey for black cockatoos in Western Australia.

During one night in autumn, volunteers monitor and count black cockatoos as they arrive at dusk to roost at known sites.

Records submitted from across the South West provide a snapshot of threatened black-cockatoo populations, and over time this has helped to quantify the changes in their numbers.

During the information session, being presented by



BirdLife Australia and hosted by the Leschenault Catchment Council, participants will learn about the three species of black cockatoos in South West WA, their identification, biology, ecology, behaviour and threats.

There will be an explanation of what is involved with the survey and what else you can do to help black cockatoos in your

neighbourhood.

The information session for potential volunteers is being held in Bunbury on Wednesday 6 March, from 5.30pm to 7.00pm, at the City of Bunbury Function Room, 4 Stephen Street, Bunbury.

Light refreshments are provided, so please register for catering purposes. To find out more and to register for the Great Cocky Count 2024 information session, go to <https://events.humanitix.com/the-great-cocky-count/tickets>

Leschenault Catchment Council

Car Club members visit Bunbury collectors' home

FOLLOWING a well-attended meeting of the Donnybrook Classic Auto Club on Sunday 18 February at the Soldiers Memorial Hall, a convoy of fourteen vehicles headed towards Bunbury for a garage tour.

Most drivers were brave enough to bring their classic cars on the 37-degree day, even those whose vehicles didn't have air conditioning.

We visited the Bunbury home of club members Brian and Liz DePassey to view Brian's garage.

Although just a regular garage, unlike some of the huge sheds we have seen, Brian has a vast display of an eclectic variety of interesting material he has collected.

CDs line part of the ceiling, posters adorn the walls, and shelves are full of bottles and all sorts of memorabilia.

Of great interest was Brian's fabulous 'steam punk' art style weaponry, which he created from nerf guns.



GARAGE GOLD: Liz and Brian DePassey display their eclectic collection of a huge range of memorabilia at their Bunbury home.

Brian opened cupboard doors to reveal various treasures including a box of meteorites, photos of WWII, including one of his great grandfather Regimental Sergeant Major William DePassey in a group including Breaker Morant during the Boer War, and another of RSM DePassey with Lord Kitchener.

Brian told us his great grandfather was commissioned in the field when he used a Colt machine gun to cover the withdrawal of Australian troops under attack. Brian also has a panorama photo of the entire Australian contingent in South Africa in 1900.

Black and white tiles, posters of rock and roll events, and a glass-fronted cabinet of trophies all point to Brian and Liz's huge involvement in rock and roll dancing over many years.

They are both inaugural members of the Bunbury Rock'n'Roll Club from 1999 and continue to have a huge input into the club.

Then our classic car convoy hit the road to Eaton Tavern where members enjoyed a great selection of meals and drinks.

As the Donnybrook Classic Auto Club continues to grow, so too do the driving and camaraderie aspects of being a member. If you have a liking for classic cars, we'd love to have you along.

Our club meets on the third Sunday every month at 10am at the Donnybrook Soldiers Memorial Hall, in Bentley Street, and we always welcome visitors who may be interested in joining.

Meanwhile check out our Facebook page www.facebook.com/DCAClub for photos of past cruises and events.

Tracy Doyle, Publicity Officer



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Donnybrook Veteran Car Club news

Veteran car club meetings resume for 2024

MEMBERS of the Donnybrook branch of the Veteran and Classic Car Club of WA fired up their vintage and classic cars to attend the club's first meeting of 2024 on Sunday 4 February.

We had a great roll up, with members showing their enthusiasm for the outings that lie ahead with their cars.

The president of the Veteran and Classic Car Club of WA, Andy Wearmouth, attended the meeting to discuss classic car concessions and explain the necessary requirements for the special licenses.

Members had many questions which were addressed in Andy's friendly and patient manner.

Refreshments after the meeting allowed members time to catch up on all that had happened since the last meeting in 2023.

Later, the group drove to Policemans Way in Argyle to view Larry Morgan's collection of police force memorabilia.

His substantial collection began in 1968 and over the years it has grown to what it is today.

Members then travelled to the Boyanup Tavern for a midday meal and further chitchat.



READY TO ROLL: John and Pam Licciardello with their 1967 Mercedes sedan - the first Mercedes in Donnybrook.

Leonie Tomlinson



CLASSY CONVERTIBLE: Darrel and Sue Skey with their 1968 MG.

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BULK BILLING



Community Connect

SOCIAL · SPECIAL INTEREST

Balingup CWA: meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at 11am, followed by a shared lunch at the CWA rooms, Jayes Rd, Balingup. Contact: president Judy Hawter on 0423 074 473 or secretary Noeline King on 9764 1080.

Begonia Society of Donnybrook: meets monthly on the 4th Saturday, at 1.30pm for 2pm start at the CWA Hall, 2 Bentley St, Donnybrook. Phone: Trevor McGuigan on 0439 927 122 for details.

Donnybrook Classic Auto Club: meets monthly on the 3rd Sunday at 9.30am for a 10am start, at the Soldiers Memorial Hall (Lesser Hall), Bentley St, Donnybrook. Contact: president Charles Smalley 0429 773 497.

Donnybrook Community Garden: is located at Egan Park, Donnybrook, and visitors are always welcome. Contact: Wink Lindsay on 0407 445 491.

Donnybrook Community Workshop: is run by Mens Shed Australia, for metal working projects. Every Thursday from 8am - 12 noon at the old Shire depot, Victory Lane, Donnybrook. Contact: Allen Brooks 0455 167 450 or John Simpson 0428 455 211.

Donnybrook CWA: meets on Thursdays, alternating days at 9.30am and evenings at 7pm, at the CWA Hall, 2 Bentley St, Donnybrook. Contact: Karen Miller 0427 211 008 (karenmello@hotmail.com), hall bookings Carolyn Hayes 0411 665 577 (chayes@lowdenridge.com.au).

Donnybrook Gardening Group: meets monthly on the 2nd Thursday at 2pm at various locations. Contact: Wilhelmina McIvor 0400 747 097.

Donnybrook Gourmet Toastmasters Club: in-person dinner meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 5.45pm - 8pm at the Seniors Room, Donnybrook Library, and Zoom meetings on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 5.45pm - 7.30pm. Email: Robin on vppr-4281544@toastmastersclubs.org or phone Morrie 0429 834 912.

Donnybrook Historical Society: meets regularly at various local addresses. Anyone wishing to find out more details please email: dbkhistoricalsociety@gmail.com or call 9731 8264.

Donnybrook Masonic Lodge: meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7pm, at the Masonic Hall, South Western Hwy, Donnybrook, except for installation/changeover which is held on the 3rd Saturday of September. No January meeting.

Contact: Steve Pillage on 0438 345 067 or email mybigred@bigpond.net.au

Donnybrook Mens Shed woodwork meets every Tuesday and Friday from 8am - 12 noon, at Egan Park. Contact: Geoff Box 0472 632 176.

Donnybrook Social Club: meets at 1.30pm on Tuesdays for carpet bowls, cards & games, and on Fridays at 1.30pm for bingo or games at the Seniors Room, Donnybrook Library. Regular outings are also held. If you are over 55 and would like to join a very social group of people, please come along and get involved. Contact: Sue 0416 532 737 for further information.

Kirup Community Op Shop - last weekend of every month, Saturday from 9am to 3pm, Sunday 9am to 12 noon, at the Kirup Hall, South Western Hwy. Contact: Yvonne Zwart 9731 6331.

Veteran Car Club of WA Inc. Donnybrook branch meets monthly on the first Sunday at 10am at the Donnybrook Mens Shed, Egan Park. Contact: secretary David Newman 0419 834 063.

CHILDREN · YOUTH

Balingup Playgroup: Tuesdays 9am - 11am at Balingup Primary School. Please bring a piece of fruit to share. Email: balingupplaygroup@protonmail.com

Donnybrook District High School P&C: Meetings held twice a term in weeks 3 and 8. For meeting dates, contact P&C President Karen Martella: 0437 171 082, or email: donnybrookdhs.p.c@gmail.com

Donnybrook Playgroup: Mondays 9am - 11am (rhymes and story), Fridays 9am - 11am (free play) during school term at Allnutt Community Centre (Child Health Nurse building). Contact Larissa 0447 769 470 or email: donnybrookplaycentre@gmail.com

Story Time: Thursday and Friday 10.30am at Donnybrook Library, during school terms. Ph. 9731 0432.

Scouts: Donnybrook Scout Group, open to boys and girls. Joeys, Mondays 4pm - 5pm; Cubs, Mondays 5.15pm - 6.45pm. Scouts, Tuesdays 6pm - 8pm. Contact Michaela, Cub/Scout Leader, 0438 146 507; Amanda - Joey Leader, 0427 888 301; or follow Donnybrook Scout Group WA on facebook.

More over the page

Community Connect

ART · CRAFT · MUSIC · LITERATURE

Apple Strings Ukulele: Meets every Thursday from 10am - 12pm, at the Boyanup Bowling Club. Please contact via facebook page - Apple Strings Ukulele - or phone Peter on 0407 373 927.

Art Club: meets at WA Smallest Art Gallery on the first Monday of each month 4pm - 6pm. Contact: Samuel Bariesheff on 0474 512 143.

Balingup Patchwork and Craft Group: Every Thursday, Balingup Recreation Centre, 10am - 3pm. New members welcome, tea and coffee provided; BYO lunch. Contact: Wendy Holmes 0417 493 440.

Balingup Ukulele Group: Meets from 1.30pm - 3pm every Tuesday at the Balingup Community Centre. Join us in fun and friendship and learn a new pursuit. Contact: Bronia 9764 1848.

Balingup Valley Voices: We sing a wide range of songs with an accomplished pianist. Join us on Tuesday from 4pm - 5pm at the Balingup Recreation Centre, \$1 per week. Contact: Noelene 9764 1080 or Marjorie 0477 806 224.

Balingup Writers: Meet 10am - 1pm every fourth Tuesday of the month, generally at the Balingup Community Centre. Visitors and new members welcome. Contact: Louise on 9764 1520 or Diana on 0418 976 410 to confirm venue.

Brookhampton Bellringers practise most Thursdays 7.30 - 9.00pm at the Brookhampton Hall. New members always welcome, no musical experience needed. Contact Dale 0428 317 154 to arrange a visit or come and have a go.

Donnybrook Arts and Crafts Group: craft days from 10am - 2pm. Tues: pottery & knitting, Wed: crochet & knitting, Thurs: mosaics, Sat: anything goes! Held at the Blue Hall, Donnybrook. Contact: Carolyn Flynn 0429 311 357.

Donnybrook Community Choir: Sings Wed 7pm - 9pm at the CWA Hall, Bentley St: 9731 1605.

Donnybrook & Districts Country Music Club: monthly dances featuring live music, line dancing, rock-n-roll, at the Donnybrook Memorial Hall. Call Geoff on 0455 546 906.

Donnybrook Theatre Troupe: for information call Sandra on 0499 933 324.

Page Turners: meets the last Wednesday of the month, 6.30pm - 7.45pm at the Blue Hall, Donnybrook. Free for Arts and Crafts group members, \$4 for non-members. Email Claire: bindigreeneyes@hotmail.com.

Writers Group: Every 2nd and 4th Friday, Feb to Nov, 2pm to 4pm at Donnybrook Library. We welcome new and established writers of poetry, prose, fiction, non-fiction, histories, memoirs and more. Phone Jackie 9731 0947 or email jackiecavill52@gmail.com

Yabberup Craft Group: Meets Wednesdays, 10am - 2pm at Yabberup Hall. Bring along craftwork. Contact: Bev Giudici 0427 958 889.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Argyle/Irishtown Bush Fire Brigade: Training 2nd Sunday of the month - 9.00am at the Fire Station in Knights Rd, Argyle. Check road signs for details.

Balingup Progress Association: meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 6pm at the Community Centre opp. Balingup Tavern. Contact balinguppa@outlook.com

Donnybrook-Balingup Community Radio: Donnybrook 102.1FM, Balingup 98.5FM: New members are always welcome. Chairman Barry Green 9731 7154, secretary Lynda Anderson 0410 310 969. Find us on facebook, or on our website: www.dbcommunityradio.com.au, or email: info@dbcr.com.au

Donnybrook Regional Tourism Association: to join, contact the Donnybrook Visitor Centre, 10am - 4pm, Monday - Friday 9731 1720.

Lions Club of Donnybrook: Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 7pm at the Lion's Den, 10 Allnutt St. Promoting community, fun and friendship. Contact Peter Thomson: 0437 703 125

RSL Meetings held on the 1st Monday of the month, 7pm. Held upstairs at the Soldiers Memorial Hall. Contact Geoff Box: 0472 632 176 or Ric Evans: 0427 319 788. All welcome.

Donnybrook State Emergency Service (SES): trains every Monday at 6pm at the SES headquarters, Bentley St. Volunteers and visitors welcome. Phone: 0419 926 689.

St John Ambulance: first and third Wednesday each month, at 6pm at ambulance rooms, Bentley St. Phone: 9731 1577.

CHURCH NOTICES

All Saints Anglican Church meets Sunday at 9am, 126 South Western Highway, Donnybrook.

Donnybrook Catholic Church 6pm Mass on Saturdays; 8.30am Mass on 1st Sunday of the month, 10am Mass on other Sundays, at Bentley St, Donnybrook.

Donnybrook Christian Community Church meets every Sunday at 10am in the Seniors Room at the Donnybrook Library. Contact Andrew for further details on 0423 189 441.

Donnybrook Uniting Church meets monthly for a shared lunch and communion on a Wednesday. Call Reverend Greg Ross on 0417 637 944 for details.

Gospel Meetings held every Sunday at 4.30pm at the Donnybrook Recreation Centre.

New Life Family Church meets at 10am each Sunday at the CWA Hall, Bentley St Donnybrook. Contact Tom 0417 940 616 or Julie 0417 894 028.

More over the page

Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024

Community Connect

SPORT · EXERCISE · WELLBEING

Badminton Kirup: (mixed) Thursdays 7.30pm at Kirup Hall. Contact: Jodie 0400 316 555

Balingup Croquet Club: Thursday afternoons and Sunday mornings at the Balingup Recreation Centre. For information, call Carolyn on 0478 748 298.

Bindi Yoga and Pilates: Dru Yoga classes on Mon 6pm - 7.30pm Seniors Room, Donnybrook Library; Tues 9.30am - 11 am Boyanup Community Centre; Fri 9.30am - 11 am, Preston Village Community Centre. Beginners Mat Pilates classes on Thursdays 9.30am - 10.30am Preston Village, and 6pm - 7pm Seniors Room, Donnybrook Library. Contact: Claire Connolly 0415 670 139 or check Bindi Yoga facebook page.

Bootscooting at Donnybrook Masonic Hall: Mon 10am - intermediate; Tues and Wed 10am - beginners. Contact: Audrey 0458 567 183

Donnybrook Amateur Basketball Association: President Erin Delaporte, vice president Jodi Thomas, email: dbkbasketball@gmail.com, facebook: Donnybrook Basketball Association, season runs October to February.

Donnybrook Badminton: Thursdays - youth from 3.30pm - 6pm, adults 6pm - 7pm, at the Donnybrook Recreation Centre. Contact: Liliana Wright on 0412 880 233.

Donnybrook Country Club: offers bowls, golf and darts. Bowls season is September to April with Scroungers bowls running throughout the winter. Golf is played all year round. Meals are available every 2nd Friday during winter 6pm - 8pm, call Chris to book 0438 943 478. Check out our website donnybrookcountryclub.weebly.com.

Donnybrook Football and Sporting Club: training - seniors: Tuesday & Thursday; juniors: Monday-Thursday, VC Mitchell Park, Marmion St, club open Fri, Sat, Sun. Email secretarydbkfootball@gmail.com or check the club's facebook page.

Donnybrook Horseman's Club: Trail ride every 3rd Sunday of the month. New members welcome. Contact Sandy: 0429 690 771.

Donnybrook Netball Association: meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, April onwards. Contact Linda McCabe for more information: 0428 364 459.

Donnybrook Tennis Club: Tuesday ladies' tennis from 9am, call Dot: 0437 081 037. Prof junior coaching on Saturdays from 8.30am, play is Saturday afternoons from 1.30pm. Contact President Jason Jarvis: 0429 311 363.

Goju Ryu Karate: Tuesdays at Donnybrook Recreation Centre. Juniors 5.30pm - 6.30pm, seniors 6.30pm - 8pm. Contact Shihan Peter Davis 0424 252 920.

Origins Centre: Jayes Rd, Balingup, info@originscentre.org or 9764 1109. Mindfulness classes Tuesday 8.30am and Friday 8am. Potluck lunch on Wed at 12.30pm. Fortnightly 'Kindy' playgroup held on Wed at 10am. www.originscentre.org

Qigong: For health and well-being. Low impact exercise, suitable for all ages. Workshops, classes, small groups and private lessons available. Contact De Robinson, 0458 613 656

Sisters of Ishtar Belly Dance: meets every Monday at the CWA Hall, 6.30 - 7.30pm. \$10 non-members. Beginners welcome. Check out our facebook page.

Wellington Districts Pony Club: holds its rallies one Sunday a month at the Donnybrook Horseman's Club grounds in Frontino Rd, Donnybrook. 0458 172 735.

HEALTH SUPPORT

Alcoholics Anonymous: Donnybrook Group, meets Tuesday evenings 7pm at the All Saints Anglican Church Hall, 126 South Western Highway, Donnybrook. Contact Tom: 0427 650 605 or Simon: 0499 055 578.

Child Health Clinic: Dbk Tues, Wed & Thursday: 9am - 3pm (by appointment only). Monday: 9am - 3.30pm, Boyanup, Group Sessions: Postnatal, Positive Parenting, Parenting Toddlers, Sleep Program, Bedwetting advice. Immunisation Clinic: 3rd Thursday of the month (by appointment) at the Dbk Child Health Clinic, 10 Allnutt Street, Donnybrook. Contact Nerida: 9735 1450

EVENTS

Balingup Night Markets: First Friday of the month, at the Balingup Packing Shed from 4pm to 7.30pm. Contact email balingupmagicalmarkets@gmail.com

Boyanup Farmers Market: Every fourth Sunday of the month except Dec which is on the 3rd Sunday, 0448 806 833.

Donnybrook Apple Festival Committee: Meetings held every three weeks on Wednesday evenings. Email: donnybrookfestival@outlook.com

Donnybrook Food & Wine Festival Committee: Meetings held periodically throughout the year. Email: dbkfoodandwine@outlook.com

Donnybrook Station Markets: Every 3rd Saturday of the month in front of the Donnybrook Visitor Centre from 9am to 1pm. Email: donnybrookstationmarkets@gmail.com or contact the Donnybrook Visitor Centre on 9731 1720.

Produce swap: exchange of all kitchen and garden related goods, fortnightly on Saturdays, behind the Donnybrook CRC, at 10.30am. Check 'What's On' for this month's dates or call Rita Winkler on: 0450 160 347.

COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS, NOTICES and JOB VACANCIES

Donnybrook Regional Tourist Association

Position Vacant

Administrator

Part time, ongoing position
(to commence as soon as possible)

This position is accountable to the DRTA to promote tourism in our region. Requires excellent inter-personal skills, computer & financial knowledge, organising rosters, liaising with our members, the Shire and the Chamber of Commerce.

Experience in grant applications would be an advantage.

Work hours will be from 9.30am to 3pm at the Donnybrook Visitor Centre four days a week on a rotational basis plus overseeing the station markets on a Saturday once a month from 7.30am to 1.30pm.

Annual and sick leave, superannuation is a part of the overall package.

Closing date is 8 March 2024

Please email a covering letter, CV and references to:
donnybrookwa@westnet.com.au

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Priscilla Pop-Up: Donnybrook

Meet the Carers WA team in Donnybrook

Are you an unpaid family or friend carer who would like to learn more about Carers WA and Carer Gateway?

Join the Carers WA team and our community engagement van, Priscilla, to find out more about Carers WA services and supports and how we can help you in your caring role.



Where: Priscilla will be parked at:
Donnybrook Community Resource Centre
Old Station Master House, Donnybrook WA 6239

When: Monday, 11th March | 2.00pm - 4.00pm

If you have any questions, please contact the Community Capacity Development team on 1300 CARERS (1300 227 377) or email ccdteam@carerswa.asn.au.

www.carerswa.asn.au

Business For Sale

Unique opportunity to buy a locally established pastured egg business

Are you looking to expand your farm income and have a business that can be run from your farm?
Do you have a minimum of 50 acres on land that is not too steep to house mobile chicken caravans?

This is an ideal family business where the whole family can get involved. Mobile chicken caravans housing up to 1500 chickens. Marketing and customers are all established, this reputable business has been running for 6 years.

Chickens will provide many benefits to your farm including:

- regenerating your soil
- providing a natural source of manure
- opportunities for tourism and education to be built into the business
- can compliment your existing operations with other livestock
- great for families where Mum or Dad work from home and the whole family can get involved
- can provide a natural source of fertiliser
- produce high-quality organic eggs for the local community to enjoy
- plus so many other great benefits to this business.



This business will suit families living in Donnybrook / Balingup / Capel / Harvey / Boyup Brook/ Greenbushes and nearby areas. Everything is mobile and can be moved onto your property.

Price is \$135k – enquiries to the owner Belinda on 0448 880 714

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Donnybrook basketballers develop competition skills

FIVE teams from the Donnybrook Basketball Association (DBA) participated in the 2024 Basketball WA Country Championships at Bendat Stadium in Perth over four weekends in January and February.

Girls and boys from the Donnybrook Defenders represented Donnybrook in the U13 boys, U14 boys, U13 girls, U14 boys and U18 boys divisions.

The Defenders had great success as almost every team came home with a few wins under their belt.

Volunteer coaches Craig Cross, Garry Thompson, Sarah Newman, Erin Delaporte and Tom Anderson helped the keen players prepare for the championships with weekly training sessions over the past three months.

The U13 girls team, coached by Erin Delaporte, made it to the semi-finals before losing against a strong Busselton team.

"The results we had really exceeded our expectations and just show that all the hard work the committee, coaches and kids have been putting in really paid off," Erin said.

Erin, who is also the DBA's development officer, said that the DBA committee has worked hard to bring their competition up to the same standard as other associations in the area by introducing the DBA representative program with support from Basketball WA's South West development officer, Wayne Hayres.

"The program created opportunities for 60 boys and girls aged between 11 to 16 years old from our domestic competition to train weekly with our coaches and development coaches to improve our skills in all areas," she said.

"Our players have also participated in events such as South West Slammers regional carnival, friendly scratch matches against Bridgetown, Australind and Bunbury PCYC, and then the Country Championships as a part of our representative program."

Erin said overall it had been a positive season for the Donnybrook Basketball Association.

"The committee and coaches are starting to see great results from their efforts to bring their domestic and representative programs up to a level where our basketballers can play competitively against other associations," she said.



SEMI-FINALISTS (back row, from left): Erin Delaporte (coach), Olivia Delaporte, Devyn York, Natasha Dowey, Isabella Conner and Derek Du Plessis (team manager). Front row (from left): Marley Vinci, Evellyn Licciardello, Evelyn McNab, Erin Du Plessis. Photo: Erin Delaporte

DONNYBROOK NETBALL ASSOCIATION

2024 WINTER SEASON

REGISTRATIONS OPEN

PROPOSED DIVISIONS

subject to change with registration numbers

<p>NETSETGO NET: Skills, Gross Motor and basic Rules of Netball Pre-Primary and Year 1 Wednesday 3:30pm Term 1- 45mins 10 weeks</p> <p>SET: Round Robin- Skills, Rules of Netball and modified Games Year 1 and Year 3 Saturday 8am- Season Starts Term 1- 17th April - 12weeks \$0mins</p> <p>GO: games and training (during week) Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 Saturday 9am- Starts Term 1- 17th April 12weeks 50mins</p>	<p>JUNIORS Games and training (during week) Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 Team Placement Day- 10th April Season Starts-Saturday 10:15am- Term 1- 17th April Season end- late August/early September</p> <p>SENIORS Make your own team or be added to a team Games- Thursday evenings, commencing 2nd May</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">ALL GAMES PLAYED AT DONNYBROOK RECREATION CENTRE No games in school holidays</p>
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