



Preston Press

Community News

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

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

May 2024

Free, monthly

Balingup Primary commemorates the ANZAC Day

RETURNED serviceman Bob Atkins was guest of honour at the Balingup Primary School's ANZAC Day assembly held on Wednesday 24 April.

Bob, who joined the navy in 1962 at the age of 17, talked about his medals to the students, which include an Australian Active Service medal, earned in Malaysia and Vietnam, a War Service medal for Borneo, the Far East Strategic Service medal, the Australian Defence medal, and the Logistic Support Forces Vietnam.

This medal recognises the three trips Bob made escorting the aircraft carrier HMAS Sydney to and from Vietnam, to ensure the safe transport of army personnel and equipment from 1963 to 1967.

Bob's presence at the assembly was a reminder of the valour and sacrifices made by many in service to our nation.



Sue Holden *LEST WE FORGET: Bob Atkins with Balingup Primary School students.*

Shire faces \$1 million funding shortfall for assets

THE Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup is facing a \$1.03 million funding gap in relation to its asset management, that has the potential to grow to \$1.7 million in seven years.

Dr Garry Hunt, temporary Shire chief executive officer, advised the Shire Council at its agenda briefing session held on Wednesday 17 April that the Council faced some tough decisions over the management of its asset portfolio.

Dr Hunt said if the Council did not address the issue of lack of asset renewal, it had the potential to eat away at the Shire's financial foundation.

"I fear for this community because if you don't start putting some money away, and, like any investment or savings account, if you don't put anything in, then it just compounds," he said.

"You need that much, plus what you didn't put in, and it keeps going on and on."

Dr Hunt said asset management was an issue that

often got lost in the budget conversations of smaller local governments, as the focus tended to be on rates.

"Asset rationalisation is one process – what do you really need? Can you do something about reducing the amount of depreciation you are incurring, and reduce the amount of maintenance you are incurring?"

Dr Hunt said some conversation was needed in the upcoming budget workshops about what was more important in terms of some of the things the community wants, or maintaining and looking after the Shire's long term assets.

Shire president Vivienne MacCarthy said the Shire's 2024-25 asset management plans, reserve fund plan, borrowings plan and ratings objectives strategy serve as 'informing strategies'.

"They play a crucial role in helping councillors understand the decisions we face, especially as we approach the annual budget process," Cr MacCarthy said.

Continued on page 3

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Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024

Preston Press Issue 241 - May 2024

1



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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



Upcoming social workshops / information sessions:

- Women Together - see page 14. For more information, please contact us on 9731 2177.
- U3A Donnybrook - see page 30
- Donnybrook Town Team - see page 5
- Donnybrook Mens Shed – a women's workshop is coming, please contact us for any further information.
- Community Resilience Workshops – is a series of online workshops, facilitated by Southwest NRM. For more information, ring Sue on 9731 2177.
- WA Country Health Volunteer Information Session – Friday 24 May 2024 at the Donnybrook Library.

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.

Technical help: 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.

Email: donnybrook@crc.net.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/DonnybrookCRC/

Web: www.donnybrook.crc.net.au

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.

Shire Council faces tough decisions on assets

Continued from page 1

SHIRE president Vivienne MacCarthy said these plans were considered in line with expectations set out in the Shire's Community Strategic Plan.

"With a total asset valuation of \$335m, these informing strategies highlight an initial funding gap of \$1.03 million, growing to \$1.7 million in seven years," she said.

"During the April ordinary council meeting, councillors will respond to an Executive recommendation to request the chief executive officer to use the 2024/25 Asset Management Plan and supporting plans, to inform and guide development of the long-term financial plan and the annual budget.

"The long-term financial plan will be presented to Council at the June ordinary council meeting.

"Now, our community, councillors and Shire executive each have a role to play in working together to identify opportunities to close the funding gap and ensure continuity in the level of amenity that we and future generations enjoy from our assets," she said.

The Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup's asset portfolio is valued at a total replacement value of \$335 million and is made up of 41 lots of freehold land, 134 buildings, 56 vehicles, 634.50km of roads, 35 bridges, 23 kms of drainage pipes, 27 km of footpaths and 614 items of equipment at parks and reserves.

At the agenda briefing meeting held on 17 April, the Shire's finance projects manager Stuart Eaton said there had been a lack of asset renewal on the Council's asset portfolio.

"The Council has a third of a billion dollars of assets and the budget is not structurally funding that level of assets," he said.

"Until such time that it does, the long-term implementations are of asset decline to a point of failure."

Mr Eaton said the type of failure likely to occur was determined by different things, and could result in a preventative failure, where an asset was closed, or an emergency failure where a roof fell in or a lighting pole fell over.

Dr Hunt said as the Shire's budget workshops progress, Council would need to start to identify the assets it wanted to keep along with the assets that spending money on was not value for money in the short or long term.

Finance director resigns

Kim Dolzadelli, Director of Finance and Corporate Services, has resigned from the Shire, as of 26 April.

Mr Kim Dolzadelli joined the Shire in August 2021, and was the fifth person in the role over six years.

Cr MacCarthy said Mr Dolzadelli's deep finance knowledge and experience in local government had led to many improvements.

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Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024

Balingup Small Farm Field Day continues to thrive



PLENTY OF INTEREST: A diverse range of stalls draws the attention of young and old at the Balingup Small Farm Field Day. Photo: William Dickie

OVER 4000 people attended this year's Balingup Small Farm Field Day held on a hot autumn day on Saturday 6 April.

The field day included more than 200 stalls featuring farm machinery, craft and more, which were enjoyed by all who attended.

The popular farm visits sold out and will be continued next year in an extended programme.

The Kids' Corner was well-attended and we plan to expand this aspect of the field day in the future.

The Balingup Small Farm Field Day's support of local musicians was well-received and the live music program goes from strength to strength.

There was great enthusiasm shown by the children on the climbing wall, sponsored by Talison Lithium, and the sandpit was popular with lots of toy machinery.

We would like to thank all our volunteers who earned over \$10,000 for their groups by volunteering their services.

Well done to our committee who have worked hard for six months in the lead up to this year's event, and a special thanks to Corinne Rule, our coordinator who has done a fantastic job this year and went well beyond her role to make it a success.

*Andrew Scott, chair
Balingup Small Farm Field Day*

Scarecrow competition showcases creative talent

THE annual Balingup Small Farm Field Day Scarecrow competition again attracted many entries which displayed the creativity and talent of local participants.

Pia Campbell and her daughter Maddison, of Balingup Heights, won first prize for their entry depicting a truly menacing crow attacking a farmer and his wife, which impressed judges with its attention to detail and chilling realism.

Second prize went to Lynn Baddeley, Jalbrook Estate, for the delightful portrayal of a bride and groom which captured the hearts of onlookers and judges alike.

Third prize and the People's Choice Award went to Brooke Hamilton and her family, for their enchanting depiction of a lady adorned in a beautiful forest dress (pictured right).

This whimsical creation earned admiration for its artistic flair from not only the judges but also won the People's Choice Award!

Karyn Connor



Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024

Bali bombing survivor talks about resilience



THRIVING: Phil Britten, a Bali bombing survivor, martial artist, adventurer, entrepreneur, best-selling author and award-winning motivational speaker, with students from St Mary's Primary School. Phil visited Donnybrook on Friday 22 March for the school visit and a men's mental health event, with the support of the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup and the Donnybrook CRC. Phil's story of determination and resilience in overcoming adversity inspired both the students at St Mary's as well as many men from the community. Phil's 'thrive' approach challenged everyone to explore the things in life that hold them back and to set goals to overcome them.

Road safety the focus of future town team projects

ASPHALT Art is the latest project that the Donnybrook Town Team is bringing to the community.

As a sub-committee of the Donnybrook CRC and a member of the Town Team Movement of WA, the Donnybrook Town Team (DTT) is focused on engaging and empowering the community to create better places.

An example of the team's success is the Donnybrook Dunny Do Over which saw a mural installed on the toilet block in the centre of the town and officially opened in February 2023.

DTT is taking proactive steps to ensure the safety of the community near the Apple Fun Park and the Donnybrook Pump Track with their latest project - Asphalt Art.

The creation of artworks on the asphalt is intended to not only calm traffic, but also to inspire everyone who passes by.

There will be two locations for the artwork, near both of the pram ramp crossings on Collins and Reserve streets.

As a road safety initiative, DTT has received grant funding of \$25,000 from RAC.

Team members have started talking with residents who live close to the location and will engage with the broader community.

We plan to involve our younger community by organising workshops to develop a theme for the artwork.

An experienced artist will work with the children taking part in creating the art to ensure the best results.

Painting will take place in April and May 2025, and there will be opportunities for the entire community to participate.

By working together, we can create a safer and more beautiful community for all to enjoy.

*Leanne Wringer
Donnybrook Town Team*

More people needed to access funding

The Donnybrook Town Team has the possibility of obtaining \$50,000 and \$100,000 of funding from Main Roads WA, by submitting a road safety project submission through the WA Town Team Movement.

To put together such a submission will take a good deal of work, beginning with extensive community engagement about what projects the people of Donnybrook want, with regard to road safety in and around the town of Donnybrook.

Given DTT has two current projects underway, the Orchid Art Trail and Asphalt Art, existing team members cannot take on the development of a submission for such a large potential project without some new members.

Anyone who is interested in working on this submission can contact Judith Morrissey, DTT coordinator, on 0407 086 212 or via email: jamorrissey@outlook.com

A+ Services Vaccinations



Free flu vaccinations this May and June

Donnybrook Pharmacy is pleased to be participating in the Western Australian Government's free flu vaccination program this May and June. Our expertly-trained pharmacists provide flu vaccinations for ages five and over in our comfortable and private consultation rooms.

The flu can affect people of all ages, however, flu vaccination is particularly recommended for:

- + Children aged 6 months to <5 years
- + Adults aged ≥65 years
- + Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- + Pregnant women
- + People with medical conditions that increase their risk of severe influenza
- + Healthcare workers, carers and household contacts of people in high-risk groups
- + Residents, staff, volunteers and visitors to long-term residential facilities
- + People who are travelling during influenza season¹

Did you know?

Flu vaccines can be given on the same day as many other vaccines. We are now able to administer a range of vaccines funded under the National Immunisation Program (NIP) for school-aged children, teens and adults.^{2*} These include vaccines to protect against:

- + Whooping cough
- + Shingles (herpes zoster)
- + Human papillomavirus (HPV)
- + Meningococcal
- + Pneumococcal

Ask us which other vaccinations you can add to your appointment.

Other ways to feel well and stay well this cold and flu season

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References: 1. <https://www.health.gov.au/topics/immunisation/vaccines/influenza-flu-vaccine>
 2. <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/nationalimmunisation-program-adult-vaccinations-consumer-brochure> *Eligibility criteria apply. Pharmacist vaccination legislation varies by state and territory. Discuss eligibility and availability with your pharmacist.

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



A quick step back to celebrate 70 years of ball history

THE Donnybrook Historical Society's 'A Quick Step Back' dance held on Saturday 30 March was both a celebration of past Apple Festival balls and a tribute to former society president Steve Dilley.

The idea for the Donnybrook Historical Society (DHS) to host an event commemorating the first Apple Festival Ball held in 1954, plus subsequent balls, came about in 2021.

In opening the gala event, held at the Donnybrook Soldiers Memorial Hall, DHS president Shaun Nelson said the idea was first discussed when DHS members were on a bus trip for their end-of-year wind-up to the Bridgetown Cidery.

"Steve Dilley, our president at the time, came to chat to a few of us sitting down the back of the bus, and with much excitement, he bought up his idea of recreating a retro ball to celebrate 70 years of Apple Festival balls," Shaun said.

"Steve had spent some time being a judge on panels for the Apple Queen competitions, and being heavily involved in the apple and pear industry, and as a fruit grower himself, as well as attending many festivals and balls, even partnering his wife Rosie when she was an entrant in 1987, we thought this was a fantastic idea.

"Sadly, in November 2022, Steve passed away, leaving such a big hole in his family and this community, but he also left us with his idea to create this event that he so wanted," he said.

Shaun said some DHS members had made it their mission to host the 70th anniversary event, and he thanked everyone for being part of the night, especially Rosie Dilley.

The night included performances from Brookhampton Bell Ringers and the Bunbury Rock & Roll Club, along with several guest speakers.

Dr Helen Cripps, the daughter of the Department of Agriculture senior research officer John Cripps who bred the pink lady apple, provided an insightful perspective of her father's apple breeding work.

Danielle Nelson, who was an Apple Princess in 2000, shared her experiences of the competition with



HISTORIC DANCES REMEMBERED (from left): Shaun Nelson, Rosie Dilley and Danielle Nelson at the Donnybrook Historical Society's 'A Quick Step Back' dance. Photo: Terri Sharp

several past Apple Queen contestants joining her on stage.

Terri Sharpe, former Apple Festival committee chairperson, also spoke about her past experiences of Apple Festival balls.

The society displayed a large range of Apple Festival memorabilia at the event in the Lesser Hall.

The night was supported by many local businesses and had several fun activities, including a quiz, a lucky door prize, lolly bags and boxes of fruit on each table.

CWA celebrates 100 years



COUNTRY WOMEN (from left): Balingup CWA members Judy Hawter, Pam McRorie, Glen Griffiths and Wendy Ayers promote the work of the CWA and its centenary year at the Balingup Small Farm Field Day.

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World class music performances held in Balingup

A STELLAR line up of talent – local and international - opened the 2024 Balingup Arts and Cultural Hub (BACH) program in March and April.

Etheara Collaboration

The Etheara Collaboration performed soaring and evocative world music on Saturday 23 March at the Balingup Town Hall.

In a collaboration between Beth Chia and Chrissy Maddison, both of Balingup, with Gary Maddison on drums and Kip Cameron on Yidaki (Digeridu), Etheara gave the audience an experience of beautifully-constructed and hypnotic world music.

Through the layering of soaring vocals from Beth and Chrissy with keyboards, flute and yidaki, Etheara produced an eclectic mix of ancient and modern sounds inspired by Celtic and indigenous roots.

At times the music was powerful and pulsing, and at other it was soft, ethereal and mystical, but always a satisfying and complete blending of voices and instruments.

The performance opened with travelling troubadour Nick Bannan, an adopted son and favourite of Balingup with vocals on acoustic guitar.

The audience experienced another rich variety of world music, ranging from Spanish to classical, Celtic through to folk.

Show stoppers included Nick's 'a capella' version of the Scottish classic 'Loch Lomond' (you take the high road) and Nick and Chrissy's duet 'Scarborough Fair'.

Opera Divas

Rachelle Durkin and Dimity Shepherd performed a glittering night of opera, with Mark Coughlan on the grand piano, on Saturday 30 March.

Standing ovations occurred throughout the performance by Western Australia's own world opera stars, Rachelle Durkin and Dimity Shepherd and concert pianist Mark Coughlan, marking an historic night in the Balingup Town Hall.

Entitled 'Tell Me Sister!', the beauty and sheer power of the voices of New York Met favourite coloratura soprano Rachelle and Australia's great mezzo soprano Dimity blended to give the capacity audience the musical experience of a lifetime.

Featuring achingly beautiful duets such as the 'Flower Song' from the opera *Lakme*, the 'Norma Duet', the 'Bacarolle' and a show-stopping version of the 'Duet for Two Cats' by Rossini, the divas' performance provided a wide sweep of opera favourites.

Rachelle's solo performance of 'I Could Have Danced All Night' had the entire audience on its feet singing with full gusto, while Dimity's solo of the 'Habanera'



SHOW STOPPERS (from left): Chrissy Maddison, Gary Maddison, Kip Cameron and Beth Chia perform as Etheara.

from *Carmen* revealed the drama and raw passion of this tragic heroine.

Mark Coughlan's solo performance of Gershwin's 'Rhapsody in Blue' was a dazzling display of concert pianist virtuosity, bringing the audience again to its feet in rapturous applause.

Summa Musica

With its ninth concert in Balingup, this superb 'a capella' choir of 12 voices under the expert direction of Anthony Maydwell moved the audience with its sheer beauty of perfect and controlled harmonies on Saturday 6 April.

Summa Musica performed a repertoire of music that bridged the sacred and the profane, from the divine to the outright bawdy.

Featuring works by Eric Whitacre, Henry Purcell, Carlos Guastavino, Rodolfo Halffter and PDQ Bach, the audience was exposed to works of great variety spanning the years 1659 to 2000 AD.

The imaginary heroics of *Don Qijote* (sung in Spanish), which was a mini opera in its dramatics and storytelling, were juxtaposed with Henry Purcell's bawdy tavern song of the period late 1600s - 'Good Simon How Come Your Nose Looks So Red?'.

A standing ovation was the audience recognition of experiencing an extraordinary evening of music delivered by this most accomplished of choirs.

If you would like to know what is coming up at the Balingup Arts and Cultural Hub (BACH) please visit www.bachub.com.au

You can book tickets online, by email or by phone.

Gary Hodge

'Brook Fest gets the crowd pumping

THE inaugural 'Brook Fest, a festival created by young people for young people as part of Youth Week 2024, saw the Donnybrook Pump Track come alive with music on Friday 12 April.

The Youth Innovators from Donnybrook District High School (DDHS) provided the ideas and inspiration for this event, which was facilitated by the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup for people aged 10 to 25 years.

'Brook Fest had live music featuring successful competitors from the Donnybrook Apple Festival's New Sounds competition.

The performers included singer Maddison Sawyer, guitarist and vocalist Ruby Wren, and guitarist and vocalist Charli Piper.

There was also entertainment from a new band from Bridgetown District High School, known as the Floorboards, as well as performances and stories from local Noongar artist Troy Bennell, a silent disco, face and body paint with UV paints, giant lawn games, food trucks, plus stalls from Investing in Our Youth and Cleanaway.

'Brook Fest was made possible due to a youth week grant from the Department of Communities, and the generous contributions and support from the community including South West Water Cartage, St John Ambulance, ECU South West, Headspace



YOUTH BEATS: Bridgetown band, The Floorboards, perform at the 'Brook Fest event.

Bunbury, and MC Stephen Dennis for being the host with the most.

Shire President Vivienne MacCarthy said she was very grateful to the local volunteers, including the Youth Innovators from DDHS, who were all key to the event's success.

"The Shire is eager to receive feedback on the event, particularly if you attended 'Brook Fest."

"Contact the Shire through its socials or email to let them know what you liked, and suggest improvements, ready for the next event," she said.

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70th anniversary Apple Festival attracts thousands

THE organisers of the 2024 Donnybrook Apple Festival, held on Saturday 30 March, estimate the event drew approximately 10,000 visitors to the town.

Apple Festival secretary Louise Wallman said the committee was thrilled with how the festival turned out, particularly since the first Apple Festival was held 70 years ago in 1954.

"All of the stallholders, including market stalls, food vendors and information stalls, reported more sales, foot traffic and engagement," she said.

"We have had overwhelming positive feedback, lodged online via our socials and website.

"The main feedback themes included an appreciation for the variety, quantity and quality of the stalls, the variety of activities to cater to all ages, and the general atmosphere," Louise said.

She encouraged people to consider joining the committee for next year's event, by attending the Donnybrook Apple Festival AGM on Wednesday 3 July. Anyone wanting to provide further feedback on this year's Apple Festival can email the committee on: donnybrookfestival@outlook.com



APPLE DELIGHTS (from left): Donnybrook CWA members Maria Giancono, Dawn Dodd, Karen Miller and Barbara Osbourne-Orme with this year's apple pie competition entries.



GRAND PARADE: This year's festival parade of vintage, veteran and service vehicles travelled along Collins and Bentley streets.

**THE TASTE DONNYBROOK COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO
THANK OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS
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Donnybrook Apple Festival Inc



Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 3 July 2024

6pm at the Donnybrook Hotel Function Room

After the incredible success of the 2024 Donnybrook Apple Festival, we're gearing up for the next chapter with the formation of a new committee during the AGM on Wednesday 3 July at the Donnybrook Hotel.

The 2025 Committee will have a solid foundation to build upon, promising an even more captivating and engaging event for both community members and visitors, while also offering increased benefits for local businesses.

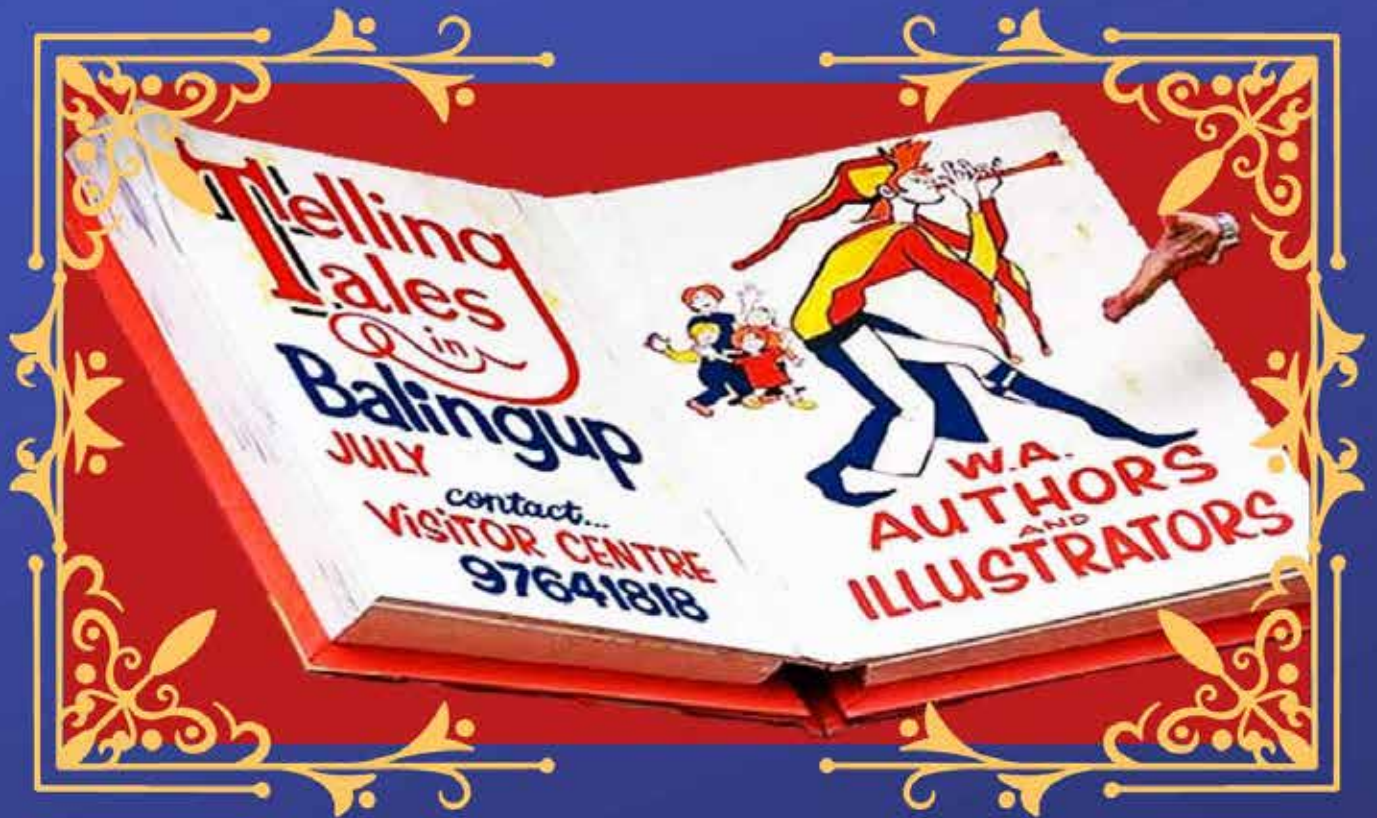
We've gathered substantial, positive feedback that will serve as a guide for planning and decision-making, and several members from the 2024 committee will continue, offering invaluable advice and historical context.

Those interested should commit to meeting every three weeks, attending the Festival on Saturday 19 April 2025, and being ready to take on one or more areas of responsibility.

No specialized skills are necessary - just a passion for being part of our town's most significant annual celebration! For more details, and to receive a nomination form, please contact Louise on 0448 491 501 or email your expression of interest to:

donnybrookfestival@outlook.com

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What's on

National Volunteers Week: something for everyone

NATIONAL Volunteer Week is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteering and a range of activities are planned throughout the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup.

This week, being held from Monday 20 to Sunday 26 May 2024, provides an opportunity to highlight the important role of volunteers in our community and invites people not currently volunteering to give it a go.

Community expo

A Community Club Expo is being coordinated by the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup, and will be held in conjunction with the Donnybrook Station Markets on Saturday 18 May, from 9am to 1pm.

The purpose of the expo is to provide community members across the shire the opportunity to see what amazing clubs and groups are on offer to them, including sporting, recreational and service clubs.

The expo will showcase the diversity of clubs and groups in the shire and provide an opportunity for people to find out about membership.

Fire fighters' lunch

The Beelerup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade is hosting a luncheon on Saturday 25 May for its volunteers and landowners in the district.

The brigade was successful in gaining a grant from Volunteering WA and Lotterywest so that it can recognise and celebrate its members during National Volunteers Week.

Workshops for volunteers

The Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup is also hosting a series of workshops for volunteers in the lead up to National Volunteers Week, which will be held from 5pm to 7pm at the Donnybrook Recreation Centre.

On Wednesday 1 May, there is an Inclusive Volunteer Engagement and Planning workshop, which will explore volunteers' needs and motivation to be part of a community organisations, and how clubs can be ready to ensure the volunteering experience is a positive one.

Grant Writing 101 is the title of the workshop on Wednesday 8 May, an informative workshop for those who want some tips to get started with grant writing.

This workshop will be aimed at those looking for guidance on the basics of the grant writing process, especially the preparation for writing a grant application.

Attracting and Retaining Young Volunteers is the focus of the workshop being held on Wednesday 15 May.

The focus this workshop is engaging young people to volunteer in an organisation, as it creates new

energy, fresh ideas, and opportunities for positive change.

This workshop will look at what attracts young people to an organisation, as well as providing effective strategies and practical tips for recruitment and engagement strategies.

The final workshop, on Wednesday 22 May, is Event Planning within the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup.

It will focus on how to apply to hold a public event within the Shire, including what documentation and approvals may be necessary.

For further information on these workshops, check the Shire's socials or website.



Wednesday: 11am – 6pm, Thursday to Sunday: 11am – late
Live music every weekend
Check socials for any updates - see you at The Mumby!
9732 2550



182 South Western Highway, Donnybrook
Sales | Property Management | Storage

Real Estate Sales Team
Angela Murphy | 0438 310 315
Susan Kouw | 0438 300 980
Sara Orenshaw | 0459 594 272



Property Management
Trish Absolom | 0422 655 689



The Team making a difference in Our Community

Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024

Forum focuses on employing the right staff



PREPARATIONS for 'The Right Staff', the 2024 trainee and apprentice forum, are in full swing.

The event will provide information on local employment and youth employment services and incentives.

'The Right Staff' forum will be held on Wednesday 29 May in the Donnybrook Lesser Hall, at the side of the Soldiers Memorial Hall, Bentley Street, from 5pm.

The forum offers a valuable opportunity to:

- Receive assistance in expanding your business through local employment and youth employment services and incentives
- Hear from guest speakers and invited industry groups
- Network with local businesses to foster collaborations and growth opportunities.

Brought to you by the combined efforts of the

Donnybrook-Balingup Chamber of Commerce, the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup, Jobs and Skills WA, and South Regional TAFE, and more.

This event promises to be an enriching experience for all attendees, and presents an excellent opportunity for employers to engage with the local business community and play a significant role in shaping the future workforce of the region.

May meetup and makeup

DONNYBROOK'S Women Together group will provide a relaxed and fun opportunity to learn makeup hints and tips at its May meetup on Wednesday 15 May.

Makeup consultant Aimee will answer questions and provide opportunities for participants to try out new techniques with makeup.

Drawing on her experience of doing makeup for 11 years, Aimee loves helping people to feel empowered and beautiful through teaching about makeup application.

Participants are invited to bring along their makeup bag, ready for a chat and some guidance.

The workshop is being held from 5.30pm to 7.30pm in the meeting room at the Donnybrook CRC, on South Western Highway. Tea, coffee and light refreshments will be provided.

For more information or to register for the May meetup, contact the Donnybrook CRC on 9731 2177, or the South West Women's Health & Information Centre on 9791 3350.

"THE RIGHT STAFF" BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

HEAR FROM GUEST SPEAKERS,
INVITED INDUSTRY GROUPS AND
NETWORK WITH LOCAL BUSINESS.

29TH MAY 2024 FROM 5PM

LESSER HALL - BENTLEY STREET

Side hall - Soldier's Memorial

LEARN ABOUT EXPANDING YOUR BUSINESS
THROUGH LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND YOUTH
EMPLOYMENT SERVICES & INCENTIVES.



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Save the date!

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

Balingup Telling Tales - Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 July.

Balingup Medieval Carnivale - Saturday 24 August

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

What's on

Friday 3 May - Community Resilience Network workshop, from 12noon to 1pm at the Donnybrook CRC. Contact the CRC on 9731 2177 for more details.

Friday 3 May - Balingup Night Markets, 4pm to 7pm at The Packing Shed, Balingup. For enquiries, call Mr Fosters Cafe on 9764 1887.

Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 May - Festival of Country Gardens' Autumn Festival, including several gardens in Balingup, Bridgetown, Greenbushes, Manjimup and Pemberton. Go to: www.festivalofcountrygardens.com.au or on facebook, visit Festival of Country Gardens.

Sunday 5 May - Preston River foreshore busy bee, from 9am to 11.30am, on the eastern side of the suspension bridge in Donnybrook, with parking available on Clifford Road. See page 33 for details.

Sunday 5 May - Donnybrook & Districts Country Music Club's Dance, 1pm to 4.30pm, Donnybrook Memorial Hall. Live music by Dave Kent and the Cowtown Ramblers. Call Geoff on 0455 546 906 for more details.

Tuesday 7 May - Ignatian Spirituality reflection from 10am to 2pm, at the Spirituality Hub, Capel St, Kirup. Email deborahmrobertson@bigpond.com for details and registration.

Thursday 9 May - Donnybrook Garden Group outing. See page 33 for details.

Saturday 11 May - Produce Swap for the exchange of kitchen and garden goods, at 10.30am behind the Donnybrook CRC. Call Rita on 0450 160 347.

Sunday 12 May - Donnybrook & Districts Country Music Club's Jam Session, 1pm to 4pm, Donnybrook Memorial Hall. Call Geoff on 0455 546 906.

Tuesday 14 May - Foodbank mobile van from 9am to 9.30am, All Saints Anglican Church, 126 South Western Highway, Donnybrook.

Wednesday 15 May - Donnybrook U3A, from 10am at the Seniors Room at the Donnybrook Library. Call Maddie on 0448 169 785.

Wednesday 15 May - Women Together May Meetup with 'Makeup hints and tips with Aimee', 5:30pm to 7:30pm, Donnybrook CRC. See opposite page for details.

Saturday 18 May - Donnybrook Station Markets, 9am to 1pm in Ayers Garden, near the Donnybrook Visitor Centre, on South Western Highway.

Saturday 18 May - Donnybrook Community Club Expo at the Donnybrook Station Markets (see opposite page).

Sunday 19 May - South West Country Music Club's May jam session and dance, at the Burekup Hall. See advert on this page for details.

Tuesday 21 May - Remembering Sr Irene McCormack, from 9.30am (for a 10am start) to 2pm, at the Spirituality Hub, Capel St, Kirup. Email deborahmrobertson@bigpond.com for details and registration.

Friday 24 May - WA Country Health Volunteer Information Session, calling for volunteers to help with inpatient visitors, drivers, consumer representatives and a therapy dog team. The volunteer roadshow will be visiting from 10am to 12noon at the Donnybrook Library, in Emerald Street. For more details go to their facebook page.

Friday 24 May - Australian Religious Response to Climate Change - engaging with forest conservation, from 10am to 2pm, at the Spirituality Hub, Capel St, Kirup. Email deborahmrobertson@bigpond.com for details and registration.

Saturday 25 May - Produce Swap for the exchange of kitchen and garden goods, at 10.30am behind the Donnybrook CRC. Call Rita on 0450 160 347.

Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 May - Kirup Community Op Shop, Saturday: 9am to 3pm, Sunday: 9am to 12 noon, at the Kirup Hall, South Western Highway, Kirup. Call Yvonne 9731 6331.

Tuesday 28 May - Foodbank mobile van from 9am to 9.30am, All Saints Anglican Church, 126 South Western Highway, Donnybrook.

Wednesday 29 May - The Right Staff, a business forum on local and youth employment, from 5 pm at the Donnybrook Lesser Hall, Bentley Street. See advert on opposite page.

The South West Country Music Club

MAY DANCE

Burekup Hall

Sunday 19 May

Jam session

10.30am to 12.30pm

**PETER DELLE COSTE
& JANELLE**

1pm to 4.30pm

Soup and rolls available from 12 noon

Usual door prizes & raffles,

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Everyone welcome

members \$10, visitors \$15

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BULK BILLING



Kirup school mural showcases local flora and fauna



FLORAL DESIGNS: Artist Keira Barrett with her children, Rowan and Amelia, at Kirup Primary School.

ARTIST Keira Barrett has created a beautiful mural at Kirup Primary School.

The artwork was designed to include the resident king skinks and the native South West flora and fauna surrounding the school and local community, whilst also displaying the school values of respect, empathy and active learning.

Keira's children, Noah and Amelia, are the third generation in their family to attend Kirup Primary School.

Her youngest child, Rowan, currently attends the

Little Explorers playgroup held each Friday morning in the school grounds.

"This playgroup helped my older children with the transition into kindergarten, as they were already familiar and at ease within the school," Keira said.

"We have families joining us from Kirup, Donnybrook and Balingup, and we are a friendly and welcoming bunch."

All families are welcome to join the friendly Little Explorers playgroup

Alana Pyburn

Aboriginal retail store and art gallery opens in arcade



DONNYBROOK'S Central Arcade is now home to Boordiya Boodja, a family business that promotes and sells items made by First Nations peoples.

Artist Telicia O'Dine (left) opened her shop in late March and stocks her own artwork, along with a wide range of indigenous products made locally, in WA and from across Australia, including bush tucker foods, children's books, a skin care range, jewellery and key rings.

Telicia said opening the shop was an opportunity to bring people together to learn about Aboriginal culture.

"The name Boordiya Boodja means 'boss country' which reflects the amazing country on which we live," she said.

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Traffic concerns continue

Dear Editor

Further to Harold Pratt's letter 'Use the crossing points' published in the March edition of the *Preston Press*, perhaps the Shire Council could tell us exactly where its responsibility starts and the Main Roads Department's ends, with regards to pedestrian crossings on the South Western Highway?

Additionally, the road sign opposite the Donnybrook chemist says 'no U turn' when it should say 'no right turn', as just up from it is a slip lane which gives safer access to the car park.

This is the South Western Highway and large trucks, 40 tons plus, are legally allowed to do up to 40 kmh - yet clever people continue the practice of reverse parking!

I have witnessed some near misses in the main street of Donnybrook as a large truck has made an emergency stop, as the cars in front of them have suddenly stopped due to someone reverse parking.

The trucks in this situation are blameless as they are going about their legal business.

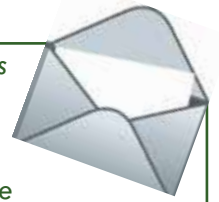
Perhaps half of these trucks will be off the South Western Highway when the railway is reinstated?

George Parke, Argyle

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



Memoir recounts great community service

Dear Editor,

I would like to congratulate Lui Tuia on the launch of his book *Nothing by Halves*.

What a wonderful read about a life so energetically dedicated to Lui's family and the wider community, for the benefit of all.

And how fitting that the book is not being sold but asking for donations which will be forwarded to various community groups, including the Donnybrook junior cricket club.

As a former coach, manager, scorer, umpire and chief transport officer for the junior cricket club, I commend Lui's generosity.

As the founding editor of the Donnybrook Balingup News, I know how very hard Lui worked to get the newspaper up and running in 1979.

His work on behalf of the community through the local council, South West Health and Bunbury Port Authority boards, many other community organisations and even commercial enterprises, had a huge beneficial impact.

My wife Lesley and I thoroughly enjoyed attending the book launch at Lui and Helen's home and it was great to meet up with many friends and acquaintances from 43 years ago.

Some former Donnybrook District High School students made themselves known to me at the launch.

As they are now in their mid fifties and early sixties, I did have some trouble recognising them; however, I was so pleased they took the trouble to speak with me of those happy days of long ago.

I must say Wendy Brown did a wonderful job in putting Lui's long and interesting story together.

Wendy's 'Afterword' is the icing on a very delicious cake, and her last two paragraphs brought a tear to my eye.

Noel Bourke, Ocean Reef



8 Torrisi Pl Donnybrook \$675,000



This well designed 4x2 spacious family home features open plan living with kitchen/dining/family, games room, lounge and office. Outdoor entertaining is made easy with a full length gabled patio at the rear.

Features include ducted evaporative cooling, tile fire and solar panels.

158A South West Hwy Donnybrook \$640,000



This is a great investment opportunity. The home is tenanted until March 2025. Located within walking distance from the shops and close to the river and the walking trails.

A lovely 4 x 2 home with open plan kitchen/dining/living and a lounge/theatre room. Other features include ducted, reverse-cycle A/C, an alfresco area, a garden shed with lean-to on the fully fenced 815m2 block and a good sized double garage.

Chris Cain: 0418 922 011

chris@summitdonnybrook.com.au

108 South Western Hwy, Donnybrook Phone: 9731 2555

www.summitbunbury.com.au

Balingup Friends of the Forest create memorial

MEMBERS and friends of the Balingup Friends of the Forest gathered at a small reserve in Balingup on Sunday 14 April, to dedicate a sign placed in memory of our friend Jenny de Garis.

We enjoyed a morning tea with Brian and Fiona de Garis, and shared stories and memories of Jenny.

Jenny was an inspirational and long term member of the Balingup Friends of the Forest, along with being a published poet and teacher, who sadly passed away from cancer in December 2020.

She was passionate about native flora, and hated to see neglected, weed-covered council land, just like the reserve she passed by every day, at the corner of Walter and Lukis Street in Balingup, and wanted to rehabilitate it.

After Jenny passed away, it was suggested that we work on the reserve, and dedicate it to her memory.

Over the last three years, the Balingup Friends of the Forest has been working to remove weeds from the reserve and have been planting and caring for local plants and, with help from the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup, have created a marri log seating area.

Committee member Judy Allen was integral in getting people active at the reserve, and spent many hours



MEMORIAL: Members of the Balingup Friends of the Forest at the sign placed in memory of Jenny de Garis.

hand-weeding and liaising with the Shire about work at the reserve.

Sadly Judy Allen passed away earlier this year, but her efforts will always be remembered.

Balingup Friends of the Forest is creating a peaceful and beautiful space for the community to sit and enjoy nature and remember our friends.

If anyone would like to join us in caring for this reserve, or join the Balingup Friends of the Forest, please email: balingupforestfriends@gmail.com

Sondra Noonan

Healthy lifestyle program provides fun and fitness



FIT AND HEALTHY: Participants in the program receive their certificates.

THE WA Country Health Service (WACHS) together with GP Down South recently wrapped up a successful round of the Healthy Eating Activity and Lifestyle (HEAL) program.

Over eight weeks, the group of 11 participants

discussed strategies to develop and maintain healthy lifestyle habits and participated in fitness circuit sessions.

Edith Cowan University student dietitians also attended and contributed practical eating suggestions and creating an exercise playlist that was a great hit.

Participants reported the program provided lots of good information and ideas.

They really liked the exercise component and coming together as a group each week.

Ann Clifford, the local District Health Advisory Council Chair attended the presentation of certificates of completion.

A second round of the program will commence at the Donnybrook Recreation Centre in early May.

For more information call 0461 557 906 or email WACHS-SW.healthpromotion@health.wa.gov.au

*Deb Brealey,
Senior Health Promotion Officer*

Focus on Cherrydale businesses



DIVERSE RANGE (from left): Marty and Ros Ladyman of DonnyBooks, Ivica Naumoski of Dbk Design Engineering and Suzanne Hernan of House of Perri in front of the premises that form the Cherrydale retail precinct.

SEVERAL new businesses have joined the Cherrydale shopping strip on South Western Highway in Donnybrook.

South West Property Management director Melissa Tillman said a wide range of businesses had become Cherrydale tenants.

"South West Property Management now has an office here, which is open by appointment, and we offer boutique property management," she said.

"We only focus on residential and commercial

property management, so we know what property owners and prospective tenants want."

One of Cherrydale's long-term tenants is the House of Perri fashion boutique, which was opened by Suzanne Hernan in 2006.

"My range of smart, casual clothing caters for women aged 40 or older, and I stock sizes 12 to 24," Suzanne said.

A few doors along is DonnyBooks, which sells a large range of books - new, second-hand, vintage and antique - along with games and gifts.

Ros and Marty Ladyman have recently reshuffled the front rooms of DonnyBooks and they encourage people to visit their local bookshop, if it has been a while since their last visit.

"There's much to discover, and we recently had a new shipment of games arrive," Ros said.

"We are now stockists for the educational card game 'Numero' which was invented by my father, Rev Frank Drysdale," she said.

Continued on next page

Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024

Focus on Cherrydale businesses

Continued from page 20

DBK Design Engineering is a new business established by Jay McCormack to provide engineering design services to the industrial and mining sectors.

A Yabberup resident, Jay used to work out of Bunbury prior to establishing DBK Design Engineering.

"We provide engineering and drafting services, and we design machinery, piping systems, structural buildings and materials handling for a wide range of clients," Jay said.

Due to the demand for these technical services, Ivica Naumoski has recently joined the business.

The Walkley Chiropractic Group is also a long-term tenant, and consists of a team of musculoskeletal practitioners who apply proven, evidence-based therapies to injury treatment, rehabilitation and prevention.

The Donnybrook clinic has two chiropractors available, Dr Shelby Pringle and Dr Kim Payet, and appointments can be made between 2pm and 6pm from Monday to Wednesday, or from 8am to 12 noon on Fridays.

Rebecca Collis also offers remedial massage, and Emmett and Bowen therapies at the Walkley Chiropractic Clinic at Cherrydale.

Another new business located at Cherrydale, Southwest Electrical and Communication (SEC), is a qualified electrical contractor that provides solutions and service to the residential, commercial, industrial, and mining sectors.


Managing director Jason Sykes said SEC provided 24/7 emergency assistance throughout the South West of WA.

"We have two distinct service areas, electrical contracting and communication," he said.

"We understand the importance of making sure your home, workplace, or site is safe and we want to provide the top service we can to all our clients from residential to commercial and mining," Jay said.




House of Perri
Donnybrook
Suzanne
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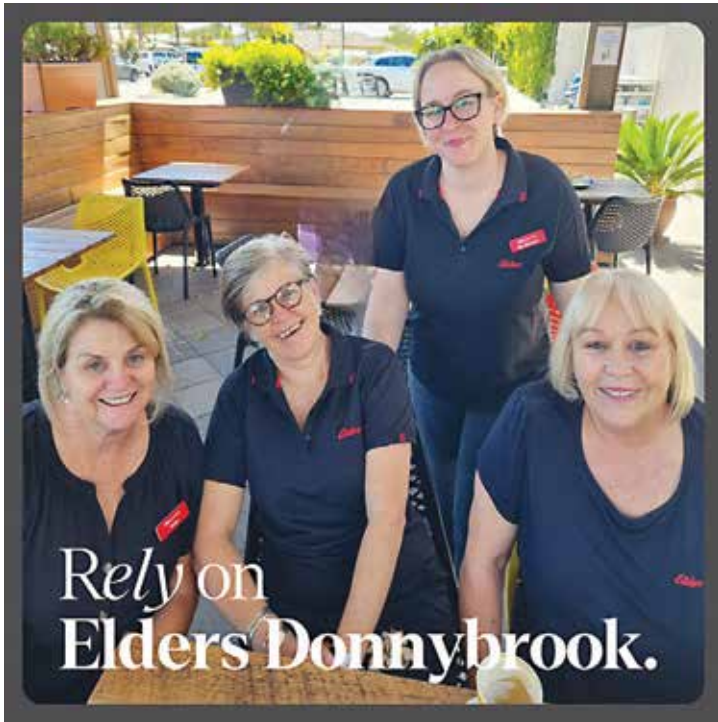


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Angela Murphy 0438 310 315

*Approximately

\$899,000



Upper Capel Lot 5 Goldfields Road 4 2 2
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Located only 2*km from the Upper Capel/Goldfields Road intersection, this 44.37 *hectare property makes for easy access to town amenities. Beautifully positioned with a mix of treed and cleared areas, offering scenic views and natural beauty. Ideal for building your dream home, with plenty of space to create your own private oasis. Suitable for running cattle or horses, with recent use for grazing purposes, and dams. Perfect opportunity to embrace the rural lifestyle while still being close to town for shopping, schools, and other amenities. This generous rural block offers endless possibilities for building your dream home!



Angela Murphy 0438 310 315

\$849,000



Donnybrook 9 Russell Court 4 2 2
EXPERIENCE THE DELIGHT

Built on a generous 1,008m** block, this home boasts quality craftsmanship & features inc. 4 beds, 2 baths, master bed with bir & ens. & large minor beds with bir. Open plan living, dining, and spacious kitchen equipped with dishwasher & walk in pantry. Cathedral ceilings in main living area. Tile fire, 5 x r/c a/c. Library, lounge rooms and study, ideal for relaxation or as a versatile space. Heritage-style charm with high decorative ceilings, cornices & quality finishes. North-facing patio with remote outdoor blinds. Paved driveway leading to a dbl lock-up garage and sep. bituminized side access to shed. Manicured, easy-care gardens, solar hot water system. Close to town centre, Donnybrook Hospital, golf course & schools.



Angela Murphy 0438 310 315

*Approximately

\$899,000

King Cottage provides a trip down memory lane

BUNBURY'S historical King Cottage was the destination of the Donnybrook Social Club in April.

With 13 of our members including Rod, our driver for the day, boarding the Treehouse Childcare bus in Donnybrook, we travelled to the King Cottage museum on Forrest Avenue in Bunbury where two more members joined us.

We spent a very pleasant and interesting time looking around all the exhibits, talking to the volunteers and asking questions.

This cottage was built around 1880 and has undergone a few changes since then.

It was purchased by the City of Bunbury in 1966 and has been leased to the Bunbury Historical Society ever since, which has done a great job of maintaining it.

The Bunbury Historical Society is celebrating its 70th anniversary on Saturday 4 May at King Cottage from 10am to 3pm.

A short performance on the life of John Forrest will be presented at 12 noon and 2pm, plus there will be free tours of the cottage, a cuppa, activities for kids, tools in the shed, a backyard dunny, old carts and drays.

We then travelled to the Australind Tavern where we all enjoyed a lovely lunch accompanied by plenty of chatter.

The tavern is always a great place to eat and the drive along the estuary is very pleasant.

Our last stop for the day was at the Waterloo Nursery on Hynes Road, which covers a large area and has many varied plants and trees, as well as giftware.

Our visit ended by sitting in the large gazebo having a cuppa, provided by the nursery, and cake before heading home.

Some members made purchases and, now that we all know where the nursery is and what a great selection of plants they have, I'm sure there will be further visits made by members in the future.



HISTORIC MUSEUM: Donnybrook Social Club members at the King Cottage in Bunbury.

We are very thankful to all the people we met and who made this an enjoyable day out.

Our social club meets at 1.15pm on Tuesday for cards and games, and on Friday for bingo at the Donnybrook Library on Emerald Street - look for our bright banner in the car park. For further information, phone Sue on 0416 532 737.

Sue Blythe

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Jodie Hanns MLA

Member for Collie-Preston

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Shire Connect

Want to know the latest news, updates, and notices from the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup? Look no further!

The month of April has moved quickly, where we saw the Balingup Small Farm Field Day and 'Brook Fest light up our region. Both events proved successful, with the Balingup Small Farm Field Day bringing approximately 4,000 attendees on the day, and 'Brook Fest selling over 200 tickets and handing out over 150 tickets for the event on the day. The Shire commends the efforts of all those involved in each occasion, and we are pleased to share that the feedback from the community (near and far) has been resoundingly positive. Well done to those who made it all happen, it was a fantastic effort.

In other recent developments, the VC Mitchell Park (VCMP) Project has continued to make significant progress in the construction stage, and in recent weeks saw the concrete poured for the second floor of Pavilion 1. The Project is dedicated to the enhancement of the quality of life for Shire residents, and has remained well on track for the delivery of a vital community asset. Pavilion 2 is also well under way, with framing completed and new roof-cover installed.

The Project Consultation Group (PCG) have contributed to the project with discussions ranging from the materials that will be used for flooring and walls, to ideas on how to best join the existing Donnybrook Recreation Centre facilities to the rest of the precinct. Connecting the two would provide a great sense of community and unity throughout the area, and would be true to the concept of a Community Club that revolves around our wonderful sports groups and clubs, catering for all ages and access needs.

April was a busy month for Council meetings. Our Shire hosted a meeting of the South West Zone of Local Governments where we presented the Shire's major projects and activities. The local governments invited were the Shires of Augusta Margaret River, Boyup Brook, Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Capel, Collie, Dardanup, Donnybrook Balingup, Harvey, Manjimup, Nannup, and the Cities of Bunbury and Busselton. We also welcomed guests from WALGA, Regional Development Australia (RDA) South West, and the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSCI).

The Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils and the Alliance's Climate Change Reference Group both held meetings as well, which were hosted in Bridgetown.

In other business, Council and the Executive Staff at the Shire have conducted a series of workshops exploring options and opportunities surrounding the upcoming Annual Budget process, with a key focus on our long-term financial position.

Vivienne MacCarthy, Shire President.



Balingup Small Farm Field Day upper right, 'Brook Fest right, VCMP left.



(08) 9780 4200



www.donnybrook-balingup.wa.gov.au



shire@donnybrook.wa.gov.au



1 Bentley Street, Donnybrook, 6239

Advice of Works (May 2024)

Please be aware that the following works are scheduled for the coming month. Make sure you follow all directional signage as required, and drive safely to and to the road conditions.

BRIDGE STREET

Drainage works to continue into early May.

BOND STREET & FLEET STREET

Drainage works to commence mid-late May.

SOUTHAMPTON ROAD / SPRING GULLY ROAD

Road upgrade works on a section of the Southampton Rd intersection with Spring Gully Rd. Works will be ongoing throughout May.

PRESTON RIVER LOOP FOOTPATH

Construction works for a new footpath along the Preston River will be ongoing throughout May.

UPPER CAPEL ROAD BRIDGE

Replacement of Bridge 3275 on Upper Capel Rd began as proposed in November 2023. Road closures will be in place at the Upper Capel Rd Bridge for a period of up to six (6) months from the start date, and are anticipated to be removed early June. The full notice and plans, including detour plans, are available to view on the Shire website.

MAINTENANCE GRADING

Due to the prolonged dry season, Summer Maintenance Grading will be ongoing. Please note that this is typically done to remove corrugations and improve the running surface by pushing gravel off the middle section of road - however, this is only ever partially successful. This is due to the lack of moisture in the gravel, and is not good for the overall integrity of our gravel roads. As such, some areas may be ungraded as with insufficient moisture, gravel loosens harder sections of the roads and cannot be recompact until Winter Grading is done (following suitable rain events).

DONNYBROOK & BALINGUP TOWNSITES

With Autumn comes more fallen leaves, requiring additional sweeping of our townsites. Shire staff and contractors will be undertaking these works during Autumn and Winter months.

Hours of operation are typically between 7:00am and 5:00pm, Monday to Friday.

Works will be clearly signed, and we request that you exercise due care when travelling near or through the designated areas. Delays are expected to be minimal.

Should you have any enquiries or require further information, please contact the Shire Works & Services Department on (08) 9780 4200 during Office Hours (Mon - Fri, 8:30am - 4:00pm). Alternatively, you can submit your enquiry online.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS (MAY 2024)

The next Agenda Briefing Session will be held on **Wednesday 15 May**, and the next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held the following week on **22 May**. You can join us at the Donnybrook Council Chamber on these dates, or tune in online via livestream (links are shared to our Facebook and Instagram pages on the relevant day).

Public Notices

The Shire would like to advise the community of the following notices, all of which are available in full on the Shire website in *Latest News*.

DRAFT LOCAL PLANNING STRATEGY (LPS) 2024: COMMUNITY PRESENTATION SESSIONS

With the Shire's Draft LPS open for public comment, we are holding presentations for the community to attend to learn more. Two sessions will be held on the following dates and locations, each with a short presentation followed by a Q&A segment. Registration is not required.

Monday 6 May, at the Balingup Recreation Centre:

- Session 1 from 3:30pm - 5:30pm
- Session 2 from 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Tuesday 7 May, at the Donnybrook Council Chamber:

- Session 1 from 3:30pm - 5:30pm
- Session 2 from 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Comment forms will be available at each session for attendees to take home with them and complete to submit as a part of the public comment period. All feedback received will be considered and proposed modifications presented back to the Council and the WAPC for final endorsement.



For submission requirements and to view the Strategy, please visit the Shire website (or you can scan this QR code). Printed copies and submission forms are available to view at the Shire Administration Office in Donnybrook and libraries in Donnybrook and Balingup.

Submissions are due by 4:00pm on Tuesday 14 May, 2024 (as per the March OCM, 2024).

RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD EXTENDED

Due to seasonal conditions, and in consultation with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 18 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 (as amended), **the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup has extended its Restricted Burning Period until midnight 10 May 2024.** Further variations to this date may apply dependent on weather conditions.

As of 11 May, provided that there have been no changes to the dates above, we will be entering the Unrestricted Burning Period. During this time, it's best to prepare your property for the upcoming fire season (particularly if you choose to use fire to reduce the fuel load on your property). Please be aware that, due to the impact of smoke, burning is still prohibited on land under 2000m².

If you are burning during this period, ensure that you have registered the burn with DFES via (08) 9395 9209.



Craig's Corner With Craig Dawson



Economic Contribution Update

Talison Lithium (**Talison**) is proud of its track record in actively supporting local initiatives through sponsorships and donations, yet its significant economic contributions often remain under the radar. It might even surprise some that in 2023, Talison ranked among Australia's largest corporate taxpayers.

In 2023, Talison paid a total of \$3.277 billion to local, state and federal Governments and Government agencies, including:

- \$2.662 billion in Australian Government income tax;
- \$577 million in royalties, taxes and levies to the Western Australian Government; and
- \$791,201 in Local Government rates and fees.

Lithium royalties paid to the West Australian Government by Talison of \$570 million eclipsed the totality of royalties paid by the entire Gold Industry of Western Australia.

Additionally, Talison is the largest corporate philanthropist in the Warren Blackwood region. In 2023, Talison invested in excess of \$6 million in local communities through four (4) main programs:

- **Community Investment Program (CIP) Donations:** \$5,359,500, focusing on health & wellbeing, quality education, environment & biodiversity and vibrant & sustainable communities;
- **Community Support Program Cash & In-Kind Donations:** \$387,890, supporting wellbeing, education, arts, community participation and environment;
- **Partnerships:** \$336,300, including contributions such as \$200,000 to Blackwood Youth Action, \$50,000 to Greenbushes Primary School and \$30,000 to Foodbank WA; and
- **Education and Indigenous Scholarships:** \$45,000, available to students in 10 local schools.

Talison takes pride in the significant economic contributions stemming from its Greenbushes Lithium Operation (**Site, Mine**). While Talison continues to play a crucial role in the Global transition to cleaner energy, it is also committed to giving back to the communities that support and are impacted by its operations.

New Parental Leave Guideline

At Talison, family matters. This is why Talison recently introduced a new parental leave guideline focused on enhancing accessibility, flexibility and gender equity.

Talison's guideline, informed by best-practice research and employee feedback, brings about substantial improvements in parental leave entitlements, reflecting Talison's commitment to supporting its employees at every stage of their journey.

Here's a glimpse of some of the significantly improved entitlements:

- **reduced Eligibility Period:** Employees are now eligible to take parental leave after just six (6) months of service with Talison;
- **26 Weeks of Paid Parental Leave for the Primary Caregiver:** Permanent employees designated as the primary caregiver will be entitled to 26 weeks of paid parental leave, with the option to take it at half-pay;

- continued Superannuation Payments: Primary caregivers will continue to receive superannuation payments for up to 12 months, even while on both paid and unpaid leave; and
- Fertility Treatment Leave: Recognising the importance of fertility treatment, eligible employees are entitled to up to five (5) days of paid fertility treatment leave per calendar year. Furthermore, employees supporting their partners undergoing fertility treatment can access up to two (2) days of paid fertility treatment leave.

Talison is committed to supporting an inclusive workplace with family-friendly policies that benefit all employees and will continue to review and improve its practices where possible to do so.

Events and Festivals

The Community and People and Culture teams have been busy attending the many community events and festivals held over the past month (pictured below), including the Balingup Small Farm Field Day, Donnybrook Apple Festival, Storm in a Teacup event in Boyup Brook and the Warren District Agricultural Show. Thank you to those who visited the Talison stalls at these events, whether to inquire about our activities, learn more about collaborating with Talison, or simply to say hello. If you have any questions about Talison’s operations, please reach out to the Community Team, available on-site Monday to Friday. Contact them via phone 9782 5700 or email gbcontact@talisonlithium.com.

Annual Noise, Dust and Water Report Presentations

A presentation was recently delivered to the local community group Grow Greenbushes and the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, focusing on Talison’s performance in noise and dust management for the previous year. Key points included the absence of exceeding regulated limits in the most recent reporting period, alongside an overall increase in Site noise levels attributed to heightened mining activity (i.e. more, and bigger, mining fleet). Dust impacts, particularly noticeable during the dry summer months, were addressed, with information provided about additional monitoring conditions introduced in response to increased Mine throughput. The presentation also covered water management practices, highlighting the use of dams and pit voids for water storage, minimal groundwater usage and extensive monitoring to ensure downstream water quality remains unaffected. Should you have any questions relating to Talison’s environmental monitoring program please email gbcontact@talisonlithium.com.

The very dry/hot and long 2023/24 summer period has been a very challenging period for Talison with respect to dust management in particular. Talison has significantly increased its real time dust monitoring network over the last 12 months with the aim of being able to better control and manage its dust impacts. A Dust Trigger Action Response Plan (**TARP**) is now in place which sets out a clear strategy for dust management.



Page Turners explore Greek texts to suit all tastes

EACH month, members of the Donnybrook Page Turners select a theme, rather than a specific book and sometimes this can have surprising results.

Last month's theme, A Taste of Greece, revealed in our readers multiple connections to many things Greek.

One member's sister, married to an Australian whose family is Greek, had co-edited a book of recipes, *A Taste of Greece*, by the Perth Hellenic Women's Community.

This recipe book was particularly notable, as for the first time, the recipes included actual measurements for ingredients.

Usually these 'handed-down' recipes were "a bit or this and bit of that" - all family 'secrets'!

Philoxenia, A Seat At My Table, written by Kon and Sia Darapanagiotidis, is a new vegan and vegetarian cookbook published in 2023, and in which Kon writes a lot about his daily kitchen life in Greece.

The book is a celebration of growing and making your own food, of living sustainably, and of eating food that nurtures your body. It is a book with community at its centre.

Another cookbook selected was *Greek and Middle Eastern Cookery*, edited by Donna Hay in 1992.

Used mainly for two staple recipes, the real story behind this book was that the Page Turners' member was fed by Donna Hay when they were both studying at East Sydney Technical College.

Another member recalled her very long-standing Greek connections - she had long forgotten that her friends were "Greek", being simply friends in her mind.

The recent, living-memory history of Perth, and indeed Australia, post-WW2, came to life as connections and places where long friendships with Greek-Australians were shared.

Other Greek tastes included Maeve Binchy's *Nights of Rain and Stars*, which brought back memories of that member's visit to Greece, as her holiday setting is mirrored in this book.

Louis de Bernieres' *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*, set on a Greek island during World War II, was felt to be too prosy compared to the movie.

The Time-Life book, *Classic Greeks*, is a distillation of Hellenism showing Greece in all its dewy freshness.

In picture essays, it documents various aspects of the Greek experience to satisfy even the most assiduous reader of books on Greece.

Costa's World by Costa Georgiadis, the Greek-Australian landscape architect and ABC television presenter, covers a lot of topics including sustainability and permaculture.

As the member said about the book, it is a little bit like Costa himself - all over the place!

Talking to My Daughter About the Economy, by Yanis Varoufakis, is a very readable, if sometimes challenging book.

Sub-titled 'How Capitalism Works, and How it Fails', the book is written by a world-renowned economist who was the Greek finance minister during the Greek financial crisis of 2014 - 15.

Aphrodite's Breath, by Susan Johnson, is the memoir of a writer diagnosed with cancer who moves to a Greek island with her mother.

Unfortunately, her mother is constantly and consistently negative about everything on and about the island.

Nevertheless, the book has beautiful description of Kythera island and its different seasons, historical facts of the several places that she visited, the life and folklore of its inhabitants and the delicious food of course, with glimpses of subtle humour.

The Rabbit Hunter: The Battle of Greece, written by New Zealander Christopher Worth and published in March 2023, is a story set in Greece in April 1941 when the Greek armies were pushing back Mussolini's invading armies.

Hitler's Wehrmacht was looking to come to the aid of the Italians, as allies of Greece, New Zealand, Australian, and British forces were deployed to engage the Germans.

The characters are fictional, covering the actions of a platoon of New Zealand infantry and their involvement in the Greek nation's unfolding disaster as the Battle of Greece was a military failure.

This gripping story follows young farmers, mechanics, teachers and labourers from the bottom of the world, in their first encounters with a vastly more experienced enemy.

The book realistically portrays terror, tragedy, farce, and humour as the Battle for Greece becomes a desperate battle for survival.

Judith Morrissey,
Donnybrook Page Turners

Hon. Louise Kingston MLC
Member for the South West Region

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

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Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024

Talk of Our Shire - DBCR news

A HIGHLIGHT of the Talk of Our Shire show on Donnybrook Balingup Community Radio (DBCR) in April was a conversation with former GWN TV weather presenter Shauna Willis.



Shauna is now running a podcast called The Wisdom of Women (WOW), and we discussed the history of GWN and evolution of the media, including how main stream media has become highly concentrated and running a corporate globalist narrative.

At the same time, new technology has allowed the creation of a new independent, community driven media like WOW and DBCR.

As part of that show, Shauna interviewed Karen Lambeck from Karrabilli Eats about the opening of her new commercial kitchen in Yabberup.

A good example of how the independent media is working is the conversation we had with Lee-ann Dimasi prior to the opening of SHAG Brewing Company cidery, on the day of the Apple Festival.

Lee-ann shared the interview on her social media and it was played over 1000 times.

We also broadcasted talks presented at Future Farming Voices at the Apple Festival.

Barb Howard, the chair of Certified Organic Biodynamic WA (COBWA) spoke about the aims of the organisation, as well as Jill Griffiths, author of *What's for Dinner*, a book that looks at what has

happened to the control of food in the last 40 years. Another talk was by local organic orchardist and Pome West chair Jason Jarvis. Sue Chapman, from Voices for Forrest, joined the show to explain to our listeners how this new community democracy movement is working and how people can get involved.

We also welcomed shire president Viv MacCarthy to explain resolutions of the Donnybrook-Balingup Shire Council meeting, while deputy shire president Lisa Glover highlighted agenda items before the next council meeting.

We broadcasted an interview by UK medical education, Dr John Campbell with Professor Robert Clancy discussing the Australian Medical Professional's Society (AMPS) event 'Covid Revisited: Lessons learned, challenges faced, and the road ahead'.

If you would like to come on the show, to talk 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.

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



Talk of our Shire is providing an oral history of local issues.
Barry Green

Donnybrook



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Celebrating 21 years of serving the community 2003 - 2024

Bird characteristics and antics intrigue U3A members

MEMBERS of the Donnybrook U3A were fascinated by our April guest speaker, John Frings, ably assisted by his wife Lynn, on the topic of recognising birds.

John and Lynn were previously registered wildlife carers which they ran from their home in Mandurah.

Their aim was to release all birds and animals back to the wild, and if this was not possible then euthanasia would be carried out by a vet.

There were some sad moments, such as a kestrel which turned out to have epilepsy, which is highly unusual, and had to be euthanised.

Then there was the brilliant story of an eagle which had a stainless-steel hypodermic needle inserted by a vet to repair its wing.

The operation was very successful and the wing turned out stronger than the other wing!

Often, John and Lynn had eggs or tiny hatchlings brought to them, and to be able to care for the bird, John had to first determine what it was so that the correct foods could be given, or in the case of eggs, at what temperature to be incubated.

Food for the birds was based on working out which bacteria was needed – quite a science!

John could also tell the difference between birds of prey and parrots identifying them by their smell.

He has been interested in birds since a young age.

A tawny frogmouth, often mistaken for an owl, is a nocturnal bird and is a master of camouflage that can blend in with tree branches.

They eat mostly insects and are a lazy bird which waits for their prey to pass by.

Sometimes they are mistakenly called “mopokes” or “mopawks”, which is a name also used for the Australian boobook owl.

John and Lynn use many methods for identifying some of the small bundles of fluff which are brought to them for care.

Their hooked beaks, their ears, feather colourings, or tunnels in nostrils, which is a unique characteristic of a falcon which slows down the air so the bird can breathe normally at high speeds.

Honeyeaters have a brush tipped tongue like a paintbrush.



EASTERN OR WESTERN? Two pink galahs - a baby and a parent. Photo: Susan Muir

Is it a '28' or Port Lincoln parrot? The difference is the Port Lincoln has a ring around its neck.

What about galahs – western or eastern? The eastern has a pinker chest.

Is it a 'welcome swallow' or 'tree martin'? One has a split tail; one has a fan tail.

The goshawk is identified by the bone above its eye, which protects it

when diving through trees to get prey.

John said certain birds had to be declared and released back to where they came from, such as the peregrine falcon which is on the endangered list.

Silvereyes were easy enough to release in the back garden as a common bird.

Releasing magpies back in to the wild was a challenge, as magpies live in colonies of about a dozen, and if others are released nearby, they will kill them.

There are seven genres of magpies and they have different colourings, while a baby magpie has blue eyes and an adult has brown.

John had to go fishing to feed any baby pelicans, which look like a little ball of wool when young.

Pelicans are not allowed to be ringed, so John would paint a number on their back before releasing them.

He has also helped a lot of pelicans by removing fishhooks.

John had many more tales of the characters of the birds in their care, such as the pecking order of the leader, second in command, and the shy comic.

The unusual antics of the wild birds around the rehabilitation cages saw a wild kookaburra feeding a baby through the cage and when that was full, as birds only eat until full, it proceeded to feed the magpie in the cage next door!

The Donnybrook U3A (University of the Third Age) meets at 10am on the third Wednesday of the month at the Donnybrook Library in Bentley Street.



So if you want to "live, learn and laugh", contact Maddie Smith on 0448 169 785 for more details.

Jane Kettlewell

Exploring Blue Zones: the secrets to longevity and well-being

IN A world where the pursuit of longevity and well-being is a constant quest, the concept of Blue Zones has emerged as a fascinating subject of study and admiration.

Coined by researcher and explorer Dan Buettner, Blue Zones are regions around the globe where people live significantly longer and healthier lives compared to the rest of the world.

These areas have captured the attention of scientists, health enthusiasts, and curious minds alike, all eager to unravel the secrets behind their residents' exceptional longevity.

So, what exactly are Blue Zones, and what makes them so special?

These regions, which include places like Okinawa in Japan, Sardinia in Italy, Nicoya in Costa Rica, Ikaria in Greece, and Loma Linda in California, share common characteristics that contribute to the remarkable health and longevity of their inhabitants.

One of the key factors found in Blue Zones is a plant-based diet rich in fruits, vegetables, legumes, and whole grains.

Residents of these regions typically consume minimal amounts of meat and processed foods, opting instead for locally sourced, natural ingredients.

This dietary pattern not only provides essential nutrients but also helps lower the risk of chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, and certain cancers.

Physical activity is another crucial element of life in Blue Zones.

Unlike the sedentary lifestyles prevalent in many parts of the world, Blue Zone inhabitants engage in regular, low-intensity exercise through daily activities such as walking, gardening, and tending to livestock.

This consistent movement helps maintain cardiovascular health, muscle strength, and overall vitality well into old age.

Social connections and strong community bonds also play a significant role in the well-being of Blue Zone residents.

Regular social interactions, meaningful relationships, and a sense of belonging contribute to lower levels of stress and increased happiness, which in turn have been linked to improved physical health and longevity.

Furthermore, a sense of purpose and a positive outlook on life are common traits among individuals living in Blue Zones.

Whether it's through practising spirituality, pursuing

hobbies, or contributing to their communities, Blue Zone residents find fulfilment and meaning in their daily lives, which may contribute to their extended lifespan.

In addition to these lifestyle factors, genetics and environmental influences also play a role in the longevity observed in Blue Zones.

While genetics may predispose individuals to certain health outcomes, lifestyle choices still exert a significant influence on overall well-being.

In conclusion, Blue Zones offer valuable insights into what it takes to live a long, healthy, and fulfilling life.

By adopting principles such as a plant-based diet, regular physical activity, strong social connections, a sense of purpose, and a positive mindset, individuals everywhere can strive to improve their quality of life and increase their chances of living a long and vibrant life.

I would like to explore what we can do in our community to improve health and well-being.

Any suggestions or keen to brainstorm, please email healthydbkcommunity@gmail.com



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May 2024

In focus – diagnostic photography



Head front and lateral views of an exotic black imported fire ant (*Solenopsis richteri*) worker, focus stacked with a stereomicroscope and dedicated high-resolution digital camera.

Imaging technologies have evolved significantly over the past decade in terms of image resolution, quality, and magnification. It's easy to observe these changes just by looking at the continuous advancements in digital cameras and mobile phones. Less apparent to many is the progress made in macro and micro photography, significantly enhancing the ability to identify invertebrates, fungi, bacteria, and other subjects.

Modern software has evolved too. One such development is a process called 'focus stacking'. Multiple images, focused at different distances are combined, or 'stacked' to form a single, fully focused image. The images featured in this article were produced through focus stacking, making complex diagnostic features easily identifiable.

Our subject

The ant photographed is about 3 mm in length. This species is not present in Australia and is of biosecurity concern. To identify this species, diagnosticians (aka taxonomists) need to be able to see its microscopic features, which include a 2-segmented waist and 10-segmented antennae, with the last 2 segments forming a distinct club.

To get a bit more technical, a characteristic seen only among the 2 species of imported fire ant, is the median tooth centred along the front edge of the clypeus, which is flanked by 2 lateral teeth. The clypeus is one of the plates that form the "face" of an insect.

The digital advantage

Having digital reference material provides so many advantages. Photographing living specimens prior to curation allows for the full colour spectrum of a species to be captured and permanently recorded. Preserved specimens can lose their colours over time, for example, the eye colour of dragonflies and fruit flies fade shortly after they die.

Diagnostic imaging can facilitate fast-tracked identification as photos may be shared directly with specialists across the globe. This is particularly useful when local experts are not available or further verification is required. Utilising diagnostic photos also reduces the need to send specimens and helps safeguard them from damage and loss.

When communicating about the various pests or diseases that are present in WA or highlighting those to look out for, being able to show them in the environment, and the damage they cause is essential. Our department's imaging specialist helps to do this by creating high-quality digital products. Many of which are available on the Pest and Disease Image Library (padil.gov.au) and are featured on our website and communication products like posters, factsheets, and videos.

Flash or not?

If you have taken a photo of something you don't recognise and it's not as flash as the ones featured in this article, don't worry! Please still report it. Photos and the information provided with them help us screen for pests and diseases of biosecurity concern.



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

Preston River busy bee and possum drey building

AS PART of the Preston River foreshore revitalisation project, the Leschenault Catchment Council is calling for volunteers to participate in a community busy bee on Sunday 5 May.

Following the busy bee, participants can make their own possum drey to support conservation efforts at home for the critically endangered western ringtail possum.

The Preston River foreshore in Donnybrook has undergone extensive restoration as part of this fantastic project over the past few years.

This busy bee will concentrate on rejuvenating the health of seedlings on-site, involving tasks such as weeding, clearing old tree guards, and removing debris to prepare for upcoming planting this winter.

After the busy bee, we'll have some morning tea, and then be hosting a possum drey building workshop.

Not familiar with dreys? They are nests that western ringtail possums construct from leaves and sticks for shelter.



MANY HANDS: People of all ages can help out at the Preston River foreshore busy bee. Photo: Leschenault Catchment Council

We will be making artificial possum dreys from hanging plant baskets, providing an ideal artificial shelter that closely resembles the real thing.

Participants will have the opportunity to take home their dreys to hang in their own backyards, providing habitat for the critically endangered possums.

This is a chance to contribute to the preservation of local biodiversity right in your own

backyard.

Participants are advised to bring a hat, gloves (if available), and wear weather-appropriate clothing and enclosed shoes for safety.

Please note that there will be a limited number of dreys available.

Join us on Sunday 5 May on the eastern side of the suspension bridge on the Preston River foreshore in Donnybrook, with parking available on Clifford Road. We will be getting busy from 9am until 11.30am.

To register for this event, please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/preston-river-busybee> For further information about the event, contact reception@leschenaultcc.org.au.

Leschenault Catchment Council

Garden group visits Argyle

IT WAS another stunning autumn day when the Donnybrook Garden Group gathered on Thursday 11 April at Ellen Ellard's Hurst Road property.

As we enjoyed wandering through Ellen's garden, we were joined by lots of extremely friendly wrens and other amazing bird life.

Horticulturalist Morton Serbon gave an extremely informative talk on pruning, photographing, bulbs and tubers. Thank you, Morton.

Our next gathering will be a mystery bus tour within the South West area. The bus will leave Donnybrook Fun Park at 10am and return by 4pm on Thursday 9 May.

Lunch will be provided; however, you will need to provide your own snacks and beverages. There is a limited number of seats on the bus, and I already have a list of names.

So, if you want to come along, please contact me as soon as possible on 0473 635 920 (leave a message) or email: semoore2572@gmail.com

Sharlene Moore, Co-ordinator

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Festival to celebrate the Leschenault Estuary

THE Leschenault Catchment Council is thrilled to announce the inaugural 'Love the Lesch' community festival as part of its exciting new Leschenault Estuary Connect Program.

The festival is on Sunday 19 May, from 10am to 3pm, at Ridley Place foreshore park in Australind, and promises a day of fun-filled activities, educational workshops and cultural experiences for all ages.

'Love the Lesch' celebrates the natural and cultural significance of the Leschenault Estuary while highlighting the efforts of the many organisations dedicated to its preservation.

Admission to the festival is free, offering the community a great opportunity to learn about, join and celebrate conservation efforts in the region.

Attendees are encouraged to participate in a diverse range of interactive workshops and presentations. Limited spaces are available for workshops, and registration is essential.

The festival includes a lineup of local organisations as information stall holders, including the Dolphin Discovery Centre, Edith Cowan University, Manea College, Friends of Big Swamp, Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's Healthy Estuaries WA team, OzFish Unlimited, Leschenault Community Nursery and many more.

Food trucks, art activities, live music, free face-painting and much more is on offer throughout the day, including mural painting with renowned local artist Simon Hemsley.



ESTAURINE FUN: The inaugural Leschenault Estuary community festival includes guided walks and many other activities. Photo: Leschenault Catchment Council

Festival attendees might even catch a glimpse of Dudley Dolphin and Western the Ringtail who are rumoured to be making guest appearances on the day!

Don't miss out on this opportunity to attend the celebration of the Leschenault Estuary's natural beauty and cultural heritage at the 'Love the Lesch' community festival.

For more information or to register for Love the Lesch workshops, visit: www.leschenaultcc.org.au/lovethelesch

Leschenault Catchment Council

Acute water stress causes canopy collapse

OVER the past months, the Leschenault Biosecurity Group (LBG) has fielded several enquiries regarding canopy decline and the probable cause being insect and/or disease related mortality.

The group advises the South West does have numerous insects that cause significant morbidity in trees such as the Longicorn Beetle, Psyllid Lerp and recently the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer in Perth, which has led to arborists culling hundreds of iconic deciduous trees.

Similarly, diseases such as Armillaria and Phytophthora root fungus lead to significant tree death.

The recent canopy collapse, however, is directly related to water stress.

A tree that dies with its foliage attached to the branches, albeit brown, is acute water stress and is relatively sudden.

Trees and/or shrubs with a shallow root profile such as those in the upper catchment in creek lines where soil has been washed down the slope, exposing

granite outcrops or jarrah colonising lateritic ridge lines are most susceptible.

Further, members of the Proteaceae family such as Banksias, with fibroid root systems which are fine and shallow, are dropping out of the landscape from Carnarvon to Esperance.

To be clear, this vegetation cohort is unlikely to survive, but some may coppice from the basal stem, creating a multi stem (mallee form) structure.

Insect and or disease is secondary to the primary cause of vegetation mortality.

It would be unwise to label the 2023-2024 summer as directly related to human-induced climate change, but rather diminishing rainfall in the South West has led to a lower resilience of the forest ecosystem over time.

In the last two years, the shire has experienced a 600mm deficit in rainfall average, against a 30% decreasing trend since the 1970s which has been linked to climate change.

Leschenault Biosecurity Group

Do you have a wildlife first aid kit in your car?

WHEN organising a wildlife first aid kit for your car, initially it doesn't have to have everything that is recommended, but choosing a few essentials could save a life, and lots of distress and suffering.

Even at home it would be handy to have items close at hand instead of rushing around like a mad thing, as I do, trying to locate a torch or a box that hopefully wasn't discarded to the recycling bin.

It won't help you on every occasion, sometimes we just have to improvise, but it does help to be prepared.

One of my recent orphaned brushtail possums was picked up by a lady walking her dog.

Fortunately, the dog was on a leash because the little joey decided that her leg looked like a very good place to take refuge and ran up it.

This quick-thinking lady wrapped the joey tightly in her t-shirt and called the Wildcare Helpline for advice.

As most rescues happen while we are driving, we need a few essentials on hand. A basic first aid kit could include:

- a box, a pet carrier or a plastic container.

A box will suffice on most occasions, but it needs to be closed up so that the animal doesn't escape.

Some masking tape would be needed as well. If using a plastic container, drill air holes into the lid and sides.

- A towel and a small blanket.

Use the towel to throw over and wrap the animal. It is essential to cover the animal's face, as this stops you from being bitten and calms the animal.

Do not handle the animal any more than necessary, and place it into the container with the towel to add warmth and place the blanket over to keep it dark.

Please turn off the radio and keep the space as quiet as possible.

You don't need to place water or food in the box.

- Gloves.

Stressed animals can try to get away or fight back, so use gloves to prevent being bitten or injured by very sharp claws or beaks.



BE PREPARED: A wildlife first aid kit can sit in your car boot until needed. Photo: Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre.

- A torch.

You can use your phone, but a decent torch is more efficient especially if you are on your own.

- A printed list of telephone numbers to call for advice.

Not every occasion is the same, so experienced guidance and reassurance can mean the difference to your safety, as well as the animals.

Telephone numbers to include in your kit are:

- Wildcare Helpline 9774 9055
- WA Wildlife 9417 7105
- Kanyana Wildlife 9291 3900.

These organisations also have excellent webpages and Facebook posts for more information.

Once you have put these items together in your wildlife first aid kit, you can start adding other useful items.

Other items could include a fluorescent vest, pouch or pillowcase, disposable gloves, a face mask, protective glasses, antiseptic wipes or handwash, scissors, pliers, and a heat pack.

Patti Bolt



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Old-fashioned community service

Plenty of classic cars on show at the Apple Festival

IT WAS a terrific day at the Donnybrook Apple Festival on Saturday 30 March for the members of the Donnybrook Classic Auto Club, with 16 people, 12 cars and one motorbike representing the club.

One member brought two cars along, a maroon Monaro and a white street rod, but unfortunately he didn't tie the street rod down as securely as he thought, and it moved a bit on the trailer, causing a small amount of damage.

Another member brought two cars and a motorbike along, one at a time from his Donnybrook home, so he had plenty of exercise walking to and fro to fetch them back home again.

Throughout the festival, there was considerable interest in our cars and lots of people took club brochures.

We were delighted to meet one of our club members, Trevor, who came all the way from Kalgoorlie, although he wasn't able to bring a club car this time.



WARM WELCOME: Kalgoorlie member, Trevor (centre), meets with other Donnybrook Classic Auto Club members at the Donnybrook Apple Festival.

Three members of the V2 Valiant Club also joined us for the day, as did a 1932 Rolls Royce Limousine and a beautifully restored Riverland High Works street rod all the way from South Australia.

The crowds built up rapidly at the festival and there was plenty on offer to do, see and buy.

The Egan Park oval was our parking spot at the festival, along with the Donnybrook branch of the WA Veteran Car Club, plus dog agility and vehicle rescue demonstrations, Old MacDonald's farm, show rides, show bags and some food and beverage stalls.

Club members browsed the large number of market stalls offering a huge variety of arts and crafts, with plenty of choice of food and drink vans.

There were lots of kids' activities including the ever-popular face-painting, a music competition in the amphitheatre, plus free BMX, skateboard and scooter coaching and games.

A highlight of the festival is the Grand Parade which included emergency vehicles, classic cars and even a rickshaw, travelling along Collins and Bentley Streets and back again.

As our club continues to grow, so too does the cruising and camaraderie aspects of being a member, so if you have a liking for "classic" cars we'd love to have you along.

The club meets on the third Sunday of every month, and for further information, contact DCAC president Charles on 0429 773 947. Meanwhile check out our facebook page: DCAClub for photos of past cruises and events.

Tracy Doyle, Publicity Officer



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Dry spell hits home on drive through countryside



A LONG WAY FROM HOME: Mike Banks only gets to drive his Austin 1957 (Cambridge A55) when he is on holiday in Donnybrook from the UK.

AT THE monthly meeting of the Donnybrook branch of the Veteran Car Club of WA on Sunday 7 April, some members expressed interest in the 'rocker cover' competition to be held at the Wokalup Tavern in August, so it will be interesting to see what our creative minds can come up with.

After the meeting we had some general chat time over a cuppa and nibbles which Maureen had laid out, before setting off on an organised drive to Allanson, about six or seven kilometres out of Collie. We travelled from Donnybrook to the Mumballup Tavern, and took the back road to Collie from there. Although it was a very pleasant day and the sun was shining, our farmers and orchardists in the area badly need it to rain.



CLASSIC SIXTIES: A well-restored Ford Anglia on display at Chris and Vicki Roberts' private museum in Allanson.

We were shocked to see the Glen Mervyn dam, which is renowned for water skiing and camping, bone dry.

The very long dry spell being experienced in parts of the South West was again brought home as we travelled past farms whose dams have dried up.

On arrival at our destination, we were warmly welcomed by Vicki and Chris Roberts.

We were invited to the rear of their home where we had lunch in a lovely relaxed setting before viewing their private museum collection.

We have visited many museums on organised drives, but this one has some really

old pieces of particular interest and club members enjoyed a very pleasant and informative day.

Leonie Tomlinson

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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 Noelene 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 on the 2nd Thursday each month at 2pm at various locations. Contact: Sharlene on 0473 635 920.

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.

Spirituality Hub at Kirup - Quiet in Kirup, prayer and reflection from 10am to 2pm on the first Wednesday and third Tuesday each month. Drop in at any time for a few minutes or longer. A range of activities are held each month at the Spirituality Hub at the Holy Family Church in Capel St, Kirup. See our facebook page: Spirituality Hub Kirup, or contact Deborah on 0419 939 864 or email: deborahmrobertson@bigpond.com for more information.

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: Thursdays 9am - 11am at Balingup Primary School, in the room with the Aboriginal artwork on the outside. Please bring a piece of cut up fruit. Casual visits are \$3 per child, or \$10 per child per term. Contact Lisa on 0439 939 380 or email: balingup.Playgroup@hotmail.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 Amanda 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 7.30pm - 9pm 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

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 - 11am Boyanup Community Centre; Fri 9.30am - 11am, 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

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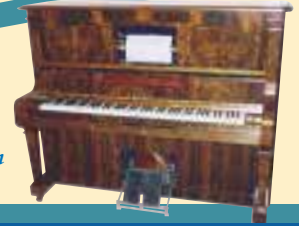
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Donnybrook tennis season has smashing finish



DOUBLES CHAMPS (from left): Craig and Tracey Van Uden, with runners-up Kate Jendrzejak and Jason Jarvis.

THE Donnybrook Tennis Club wrapped up its 2023/2024 tennis season with a club windup recently.

This year the club members had it all, as players faced humidity, many 35 degrees days, strong winds and a little bit of rain.

We celebrated the season that was - the winners of the championships, welcomed many new members and acknowledged the many efforts our club volunteers have put into making our temporary clubrooms possible.

We are a thriving club with many volunteers who dedicate many hours each week to prepare the courts for game days by watering, mowing, and maintaining the grass courts, marking the lines and organising the running of the days.

We are very thankful to everyone who contributes to make our club such a great place to be.

Results:

Mixed doubles champions: Craig and Tracey Van Uden defeated Jason Jarvis and Kate Jendrzejak 6-2, 6-7.

Plate mixed doubles champions: Nick Clifford and Megan Coxall who played in a round robin.

Women's doubles champions: Kate Jendrzejak and Tracey Van Uden defeated Felicity Graham and Natalie Harrison 6-3, 6-4.

Men's doubles championships: Richard Graham and Craig Van Uden defeated Jeff Heath and Michael Beeson 6-4, 6-0.

Women's doubles plate: Jill Clifford and Jesslyn Devenyns defeated Ev Dowley and Jenelle Dale 6-1, 0-6, 6-4.

Men's doubles plate: Neville Clifford and Chris Cain won in a round robin.

Women's singles champion: Kate Jendrzejak defeated Tracey Van Uden in 3 sets with a tiebreaker in the first 7-6, 2-6, 6-3.

Men's singles champion: Euan Tuia defeated Craig Van Uden 6-2, 6-4.

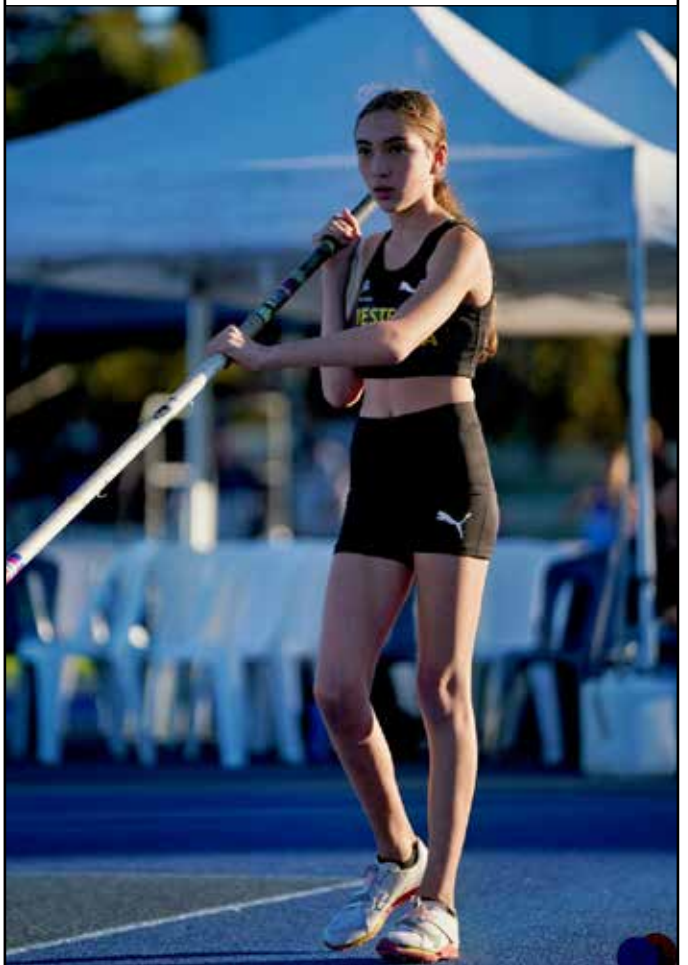
Women's singles plate: Jenelle Dale defeated Gabby Ptolemy 6-1, 6-5.

Men's singles plate: Alfie Patane won in a round robin.

2023-2024 Captain's Award: Shane Sercombe for all the time and effort he has provided in helping with the setup of our temporary clubroom and his support with the ongoing maintenance of the club.

Kate Jendrzejak

Balingup athlete wins silver in pole vault event



ATHLETICS STAR: 12-year-old Eva De Ronchi, of Balingup, prepares for the pole vault at the 2024 Australian Athletics Championships held in Adelaide. Eva jumped to 2.45m to claim silver in the under 14 girls' pole vault final on Monday 15 April. Photo: Sportspix

Men's bowls go up a division due to pennant success

THE bowling season at the Donnybrook Country Club has come to a close, after what has been a very successful season the men bowlers.

Our third division Saturday pennant team won their division and will now compete in second division which will require an extra four players each week, so all members will be playing Saturday pennants.

Our mid-week pennant team also won their division and will also go up a division, while the first division only missed the finals for the first time by 0.5 of 1%.

These wins are a great result for Donnybrook, as we are not a very big club, but certainly fight above our weight.

A big thank you to all members who make themselves available each week to represent Donnybrook.

The winners of the championships played over the bowls season were:

- Pairs championship winners - Rob Cross and Peter Clifford
- Triples championship winners - Natham Pain, Darren Pulford, and Mike Butler
- Fours championship winners - Mitchell Walker, Darren Pulford, Don Clarke, and Kevin Porch
- Singles veteran champion - Rob Cross
- Men's singles champion - Natham Pain, runner up Murray Walker.

The bowlers acknowledge the support of the Donnybrook Country Club for our facilities, which are second to none in the South West. If anyone would like to join in on the fun - we have a club full of experts to help you enjoy the game.

We thank the following sponsors for their continued support: William Barrett & Son, Bunbury Machinery, Jack Cross (Delta Company), Donnybrook Farm Supplies, Donnybrook Butchers, Donnybrook Bakers, Donnybrook Tyre Service, Ben Cross, Damian Dixon, Luke Jones, Don Clarke, Mitchell Walker, Jim Pooley, Tom Clifford and family, Murray Walker, Jeff Proctor and family, WA Marron, Peter Clifford, and the Donnybrook branch of the RSL.

Thank you to all the orchardists who support our raffles: Simon Russo, Orchard 161, Torre Licciardello, Mario Tosana and family.

Scroungers bowls will be held on Sunday mornings, with names in by 9am for an approximate 11.30am finish. All welcome, so come along and have a go.

*Bruce Thompson
Men's 2023/24 captain*



TOP BOWLER: Men's singles bowls champion Natham Pain

Social bowls will continue throughout the months ahead and will be on each Thursday (fun morning) and anyone who is interested are welcome to come along and join in, starting at 8.45am.

The men's bowls pennants third division winners were Damien Dixon, Kevin Porch, Jo Betti, Peter Oliver, Luke Jones, Jack Cross, Daniel Morgan and Don Clarke.

Mid-week pennants winners were Jack Cross, Mike Butler, Bruce Thompson, Peter Clifford, Luke Jones, Jim Pooley, Peter Oliver, and Kevin

Porche, who defeated Dunsborough.

Golf news

The official opening of the 2024 golf season at the Donnybrook Country Club saw 68 players compete for the WWG trophy.

This number of golfers created an incredible atmosphere around the first hole for Cliff Welsh to send down the opening tee shot of the season!

Once all the teams got away to almost every tee on the course, lots of shouts of joy could be heard from teams holing out chips and longs putts.

Some fantastic scores came in with Keith and Tyler Patterson, Lod Hurst, G Roland and C Barndin winning the day with a nett score of 55.9.

Second place went to Colin Hazelden, K McDonald, Paul Berman and Rob Darlow, while third was Annie Sims, Grant Cockman, Lee Fitzgerald and Jim Bell.

Special mention is made of the sponsors Welsh team whose score had them in second place; however, as sponsors, they wanted the prizes to go to others.

A truly awesome day was held by the club, and enjoyed by members and friends who came along. A barbecue dinner held afterwards was kindly cooked to perfection by Phil Welsh.

The Donnybrook men's veterans hosted the SW Vets at Donnybrook, with 100 players attending the day with everyone enjoying Donnybrook's hospitality.

The club will once again be hosting the Cellarbrations Classic on Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 May.

This is a 4BBB Stableford open event and any golfers interested in playing can register through MiTournament.

Meals are served at the club every second Friday and for bookings phone Chris on 0438 943 478. For membership information, call 97311268 or email dclub@bigpond.net.au Results and information about the club can be found on our website: www.donnybrookcountryclub.weebly.com

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