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# THE MAILBAG

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## Blush and Berry on Rose Ball

The Social Dancing Group's annual fundraiser for the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS), the Blush and Berry on Rose Ball will be held on the 31<sup>st</sup> August this year in the Manjimup Town Hall, dancing to start at 8pm.

It's a glamorous night which sees those that attend dressed in cocktail or formal wear in the balls colour theme, with the decorated Town Hall being a showcase of the artistic endeavours of the members of the Social Dancing Group.

The standard of decorations has improved over the years, making those who have attended the RFDS balls in the past eager to see how the hall has been decorated this year.



Dianne, Colin, Cathy, David, Cheryl, Sharron, Gayle, Trevor, Isabella, with instructors Trish Martin and Mick Blatch

Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy a wonderful evening; those who come for the dancing will have their full measure of the night's entertainment, some patrons come to sit and watch the dancing and marvel in the night's theatre with all its glitz and glamour, a glimpse back in time, all contributing to a memorable evening.

All those attending get to participate in one of the best social activities of the year whilst raising money for the RFDS.

Collette Kowald has been involved with the Social Dancing Group over a number of years and explains some of the planning behind the event, "Everyone involved in this fundraiser does so on a volunteer basis. We have volunteers who man the door, work in the kitchen and assist generally throughout the night.

"This year we are still looking for a volunteer photographer for the evening.

"The group hires the hall over three days, on the Friday, members from the group decorate the hall leaving a relaxing Saturday for all of us to get ready for the evening. Then on Sunday we go back and do the cleanup of the hall.

"We pride ourselves with what we achieve with the decorations, I'm seen as a bit of a hard taskmaster when it comes to the decorations, but the hall decorations have become a feature of the evening. Each year it's a different colour combination and theme, so it gives us a whole new palette to work with to see what can be achieved...*Continued on page 12.*



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# Opening of the Bridgetown Landcare Community Nursery “Growing On” Facility

Blackwood Environment Society celebrated the opening of the Bridgetown Landcare Community Nursery “Growing On” Facility on Saturday July 27th

The Honorable Jane Kelsbie MLA opened the Facility and joined nursery volunteers and the wider Bridgetown community for morning tea.

This new facility was funded by a Forestry Transition Grant of \$38,835 from the WA State Government received in October 2023. Blackwood Environment Society sincerely thanks the State Government of WA for recognizing the value of our community service and supporting our endeavor.

Our project “Growing and Upskilling our Community Landcare Nursery” aimed to build a “Growing On” facility to increase the number of native plants produced annually and to make it easier for landholders to access our plants. Currently the nursery produces about 30,000 native plants each year from seed sourced locally. We hope to substantially increase these numbers over the next few years.

Expansion of the nursery will have a significant impact on landcare activity in our Shire, offset projects and generally for landholders who wish to provide habitat and food for wildlife such as cockatoo forage and food/shelter for pollinators on their land.

One of the milestones for the project was achieving Accreditation with the National Body NISIA (Nursery Industry Accreditation Scheme Australia). This was achieved



Hon. Jane Kelsbie MLA and Julia Boyle at the opening

in December 2023, with the help of Ann Bentley (Beaufortia Environmental). This means our nursery operates at the highest standard of best practice for the nursery industry.

Another milestone was upskilling nursery volunteers, many of whom already have considerable nursery experience. Five workshops were held over the duration of the project covering seed collection, preparing cuttings and nursery hygiene practices.

Most of the installation was carried out by local businesses who were generous in their support.

Site works - Danny & Monica Farquhar (DR & ML Contractors)

Reticulation- Chris Hodgins (Freshwater Irrigation)

Poles & Fittings - Phil Holroyd (Bridgetown Timber and Hardware)

Shade cloth and fittings- Nick Jeffery (Bridgetown Mitre 10)

Post Holes – Ron Mark Fencing

And signage - the enthusiastic Glen Hywood (Hywood Signs).

The compound fencing was a Bunbury business, T & V Fencing.

Volunteers; James Boyle, Dennis Flockton, Phil Anderson, Mick Dewing, Jenny Dewing and Kylie Garde carried out much of the internal fit out.

This included refurbishment of secondhand benches, installation of all other benches and installation of poles, wires and shade cloth

And last but certainly not least the wonderful team of the Nursery Manager Kylie Garde and her team of volunteers who grew the plants that are currently in the facility.

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Cathy Morris, Daun Crozier, Doreen Mackman, Penny Walker, Margaret Rothery, Robyn Robb and Steve Heron

## Writers' Group

Bridgetown Writers' Group is a welcoming gathering of people who love to write; stories, essays, memoirs, prose and poetry in any style.

The group meets at the Bridgetown Library on every alternate Friday from 10am til 12 noon and is seeking new members.

"The writers' group is suited to anyone who is addicted to the enjoyment which comes from the creative writing process," Spokesperson for the group, explains.

"At the fortnightly meetings we set a topic for the members to explore and write about, then at the next meeting we all get to hear how each person has interpreted their homework.

"The styles are as varied as the membership, resulting in imaginative work which is infinitely interesting and entertaining.

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Daun Crozier sums up what to expect from the group with the following poetic prose, Word Soup.

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 To share and write  
 Scrawl and scribble  
 And then recite.

Words are pondered  
 Rhymes come and go  
 Prose ponders  
 Then just flows.

No need for censure  
 Or to berate  
 Just talk and laughter  
 Coffee and cake.

It's an invitation  
 Right here in town  
 At the library  
 So, note it down.

Don't hide your words  
 Bring them along  
 String 'em together  
 They could be a song.

Hope to see you  
 Right or wrong.

Spokesperson concludes with "The Bridgetown Writers' Group meet every second Friday at the library.

"You are welcome to join us - 10am to 12noon, gold coin donation for cake and cuppa.

"Contact the library to find out when we next meet."

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1898 around the time of the opening of the railway station. The photo shows a group of men with the first locomotive in Bridgetown. C.R. Doust is the gentleman on the engine with bow tie

## Bridgetown Historical Society

BHS has had a busy time in July with four Ghost Walks proving most popular for residents as well as tourists who visit Bridgetown during the school holidays. Roaring Bob Crawford was a 'roaring success'.

Looking ahead we are now in the planning stage for the Orchard Museum project. This project also includes the compiling of a recipe book for orchard fruit, not necessarily just apples. So, we would ask that you pull out some old family recipes that might be tucked away at the back of a cupboard and send them to BHS for inclusion in this publication.

Email to [bridgetownhistory@iinet.net.com](mailto:bridgetownhistory@iinet.net.com) or post to Box 1017 Bridgetown WA 6255.

Contributions will be acknowledged in the publication if you include the source.

Apples were an important part of Bridgetown history so much so that orchardists, landholders and businesses of the time presented a petition to the Western Australian Government in 1894 to extend the railway from Donnybrook to Bridgetown to provide a faster and reliable means of transport to Fremantle and ultimately beyond our shores.

This came to fruition and the railway was opened on December 1st 1898 in Bridgetown.

How amazing to see the railway station as it is today, repurposed, refurbished and repaired to now be the Bridgetown Visitor Centre.

Lee Wittenoom BHS



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# The Blackwood River Community Radio

*Continued from page 8...* and transmitter to tick all the boxes. We need a residence to get our licence and the funding we need. "Once we have a home we can then concentrate on fundraising and applying for grants to purchase the necessary equipment to make broadcasting a reality."

"After we establish an operating studio in Bridgetown, we hope to eventually cover Boyup Brook and surrounding areas too. We urgently need more support from the local community to make it happen, so why not come and join us to help our team turn this exciting concept into reality."

Leigh Carroll, has considerable broadcasting and management experience on community radio, around 18 years and he encourages anyone with a background in the broadcasting or media industries to get involved.

Leigh continues, "Of course, we will also provide a training program for anyone without past radio experience willing to join our team of announcers once the station is established."

"Our wish list of needs goes across the table, out the door and across the street but it's doable. Enthusiastic committee members and committee members and those with experience in Community Radio are high on our list."

"And we need stuff like studios, transmitters, NBN processors and associated equipment; mixers, recording gear, library of all kinds of music and sounds for production, computers for accounting, production and transmission, microphones and headgear, and much more. Furniture to sit or sleep on, sound proofing to keep out superfluous noise, and of course a coffee jug."

"So, if you would like to be involved, come and meet us and be a part of the most fun you can have without getting bored."

You can also follow "Blackwood River Community Radio" on Facebook or contact Leigh on 0400 877 552 or email [leigh.carroll@eprim.com.au](mailto:leigh.carroll@eprim.com.au)



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## Craig's Corner With Craig Dawson



### LOCAL STUDENTS ENJOY A TASTE OF CAREERS IN SCIENCE

Talison was pleased to host students from Bridgetown and Manjimup High Schools at the Chamber of Minerals and Energy WA 'Inspiring Girls' event in Perth in July. Ten students and their teachers attended a tour of the Greenbushes Lithium Operation before travelling to Perth to participate in the event which featured inspiring speakers keen to ignite a passion for science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The students were escorted to Optus Stadium by a Talison team comprised of representatives from the environment, survey, metallurgy and sustainability departments. It's the fourth year Talison has had the pleasure of escorting Bridgetown and Manjimup students to this event which provides students and teachers with information about the variety of careers in the mining and resources sector.



### YOUTH PRECINCT PLANTING WITH GREENBUSHES PRIMARY SCHOOL

Talison staff, Shire of Bridgetown Greenbushes representatives and Bridgetown Greenbushes community landcare group volunteers joined students from the Greenbushes Primary School and members of the community in a 'planting day' at the Youth Precinct in early August. The newly planted areas will complete the project which has been staged over a few years. As part of the Shire and Talison "Partnering for the Future" project 2024, Talison provided \$180,000 funding to build the new Pump Track. Talison also provided \$160,000 towards construction of the new skatepark in 2022-2023.



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## BALINGUP PROGRESS ASSOCIATION MEETING CANVASSES COMMUNITY VIEWS

Talison representatives attended a community meeting in Balingup in July at the invitation of the Balingup Progress Association.

Several representatives from the Perth and Greenbushes teams attended the sessions which followed a format of small groups rotating through information stations which were themed around environmental monitoring, approvals and offsets, sustainability and community investment programs and current and future mine expansion projects.

The small group format enabled people to feel comfortable to ask questions of the Talison representatives in an informal setting.

Talison provides formal and informal opportunities for members of the public to seek information or provide feedback. This includes attendance at the monthly meeting of Grow Greenbushes Incorporated in Greenbushes, presentations to community groups and other organisations, mine tours, mine open days and through our staff attendance at community events and meetings.

To ask a question, lodge a complaint or find out further information about the Greenbushes Lithium Operation please email our Community Team at [gbcontact@talisonlithium.com](mailto:gbcontact@talisonlithium.com) or call 08 97825700 to get in contact with our Community Team.



## TALISON COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM

Through our social investment programs Talison aims to contribute to the social and economic wellbeing of people living in surrounding communities. The Community Support Program focuses on health and wellbeing, education, art and culture, community participation and environmental initiatives.

In July Talison was proud to support:

- South West Food Bowl—Agricultural Awareness Event in Nannup
- Lower South West Football League Medal Presentation Night
- Greenbushes CWA Belles Mosaic Project
- Mineralogical Society of WA—cut and polished rock
- Geegeelup Village—Balga request
- Bridgetown Football Club Superkids Superheroes Fundraiser—sandpit and toys
- Bunbury Foodbank—electrical tagging.

Incorporated community organisations are encouraged to apply for funding for projects, events and initiatives. Contact [gbcontact@talisonlithium.com](mailto:gbcontact@talisonlithium.com) for further information.

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# Prostate Care

A small but determined group of people have formed a new charity in town, Prostate Care.

Michelle Wright and her mother Margaret Wright along with four board members have set themselves the challenge of highlighting the need for men in remote and rural areas of Western Australia to have regular PSA blood tests to detect prostate cancer in its early stages.

The PSA test is a test that measures the amount of prostate-specific antigen (PSA) in the blood. It can help detect but not diagnose prostate cancer.

Every day in Australia, around 70 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer and 10 men will die.

“Men living in rural and remote areas are 24% more likely to die from prostate cancer, this is due to a number of different reasons, but mainly when living in remote and regional areas these Australians face unique challenges due to their geographic location and often have poorer health outcomes than people living in metropolitan areas.” Michelle Wright explains.

“The Ideals we have with Prostate Care is to increase awareness around prostate cancer, not only to the men but also to their families and to increase the awareness of the importance of early detection of this cancer. Our other aims are to financially support men and their families with

out-of-pocket costs linked to the cancer treatment they may undertake.

“We can help with incontinence products, and we can help with psychosocial support, which is practical help with daily living.

“To raise funds towards this venture we are starting with a Prostate Care Raffle. Look out for the bright yellow tickets.

“We have had a lot of wonderful support from businesses around the south west with the prizes.

“One of the long-term main aims we have at Prostate Care is to fund a bus which will be set up to visit rural towns to do PSA blood tests for men. This will be along the lines of the Breast Cancer screening bus or a skin cancer detection bus which visit remote or regional towns. Both of these initiatives have a wonderful record with early detection of those cancers and with doing so are saving lives.

“I would like to see Prostate Cancer given the same level of support and consideration around Australia as breast cancer currently receives, prostate cancer early detection needs to be trumpeted more often.”

Early detection and treatment have been and remain crucial for reducing death rates and increasing the chances of survival for men with prostate cancer.

For further information or if you would like to support this cause contact Michelle Wright on 0418 886 902 or via email on [info@prostatecare.org.au](mailto:info@prostatecare.org.au).

# The Blackwood River Community Radio

Since the beginning of this year there has been quite a few changes to the Blackwood River Community Radio committee, with members travelling or returning to domicile in their original states, nevertheless Leigh Carroll who is the Treasurer of the committee would like to reassure everyone the Radio Station establishment committee is still in existence.

The committee meets every third Tuesday at 7pm. The team invites Bridgetown Greenbushes residents and community group members who would like to be involved

in the committee to the next public meeting on Tuesday August 20th at The Bridgetown Hub, at the corner Roe and Steere Streets, Bridgetown.

Leigh Carroll explains the importance of the radio station, “Our goal is to establish a community radio station that will be a voice for all ages, community organisations, youth groups, local issues and events, while playing music to cater for all tastes.

“Our biggest stumbling block has been trying to find a suitable location. We are presently working with the Bridgetown Greenbushes Shire and other groups with the aim of obtaining a building...Continued on page 12.

**AR**  
Alison Rutton  
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Transition Bridgetown and the Bridgetown-Greenbushes shire invite you to an informative Open Space on the topic of "WASTE" on Sunday 25th August 4pm – 6pm at the Uniting Church Hall Roe St Bridgetown.

Presenters Jenny Mountford [Shire President] Iggy Van [Containers for Change] and Candice Myers [Education Officer for Cleanaway] will be joined by several innovative community members displaying recycling initiatives right here in our shire. Come and learn about future changes in waste disposal practices at the Bridgetown Waste Facility and be encouraged by innovative suggestions for minimising, re-purposing and recycling our waste effectively. Bring along 'hard to recycle' items and ask questions of how to dispose of them. Discuss how we can assist each other to minimise waste and raise awareness of sustainable waste disposal practices. This event is a great opportunity to check out the Wash Against Waste Trailer that is ready for community use to run low-waste events! To register for the "Waste" Open Space, email [transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com](mailto:transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com) or text 0432 105 754.

There was lively discussion and priorities were identified at our July Open Space on Heat Vulnerability. Transition Bridgetown thanks Carole Green from WACOSS, Dr Sarah Youngson from the Bridgetown Medical Centre and Tania Lockley Community Development from the Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire.

Here are some of the priorities that were identified: Planning for power outages during heatwaves. This includes places to go during a power outage.

Preservation of shaded places in the Shire. Cool places to go: library, pool. It was noted here that the pool needs additional shade. Possibly outdoor baths should be recommended.

Messages for heatwave warnings. Potentially an SMS service can be activated through doctors.

Fire fighters should be considered in heat protection work. Also have good existing networks to build off. Retrofitting old homes. Noted that many aren't well insulated. Homes should be prepared. Plans around when events should be cancelled from high heat watering around houses to cool homes during heat. Shire could provide recommendations for new builds on best practice for making homes more weather/extreme proof. Includes discouraging black roofs and north-facing. Existing bushfire ready groups can help disseminate education. They have information packs that are shared out that could incorporate heat information...*Continued on page 11.*



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# Transition Bridgetown

Continued from page 10....

Awareness raising by the Shire - General heat preparedness information. Where cool spaces are. Medication specific information. Chemists could share information on medications that increase body heat to clients.

Interventions that the Shire presented were:

Water Fountains, Text Warnings for Heatwaves, Packs for Keeping Cool, Shade Trees, Shade Sails in town, Volunteer Heat service calls, Cool Spaces during heatwaves, Bus service to access cool spaces.

Responses/ Questions to these interventions were:

Things to include in storage boxes in cooling spaces: Uno, jigsaw puzzles, movies and internet connection availability. Jigsaw Gallery could be another cool space, Include greening in carparks, Are there plans for cool spaces outside of opening hours? Community groups should be involved in cooling spaces and coordinating events, Could be a good opportunity for the Shire to work with community groups.

Other Shires and groups have done things like: Passing out icy poles, Having misters outside, Using urine checks as education point for dehydration.

Additional note on cool spaces: The Hub is not always recognised under its new name, there should be more communication on this.

Education is important across this project and messaging needs to be clear

Tania mentioned there will be a promotional campaign around the cool spaces etc. This was positively received.

We look forward to working with the shire and the community to ensure these priorities are progressed before summer when we will experience the intensity of these heatwaves.

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## Blush and Berry on Rose Ball

Continued from cover...“This year, the main decorations will consist of flowers and mushrooms in many shapes, sizes and colours as well as giant butterflies in an effort to recreate a European Flower Market, our very own situated in Manjimup on Rose Street.

“People who attend this once-a-year ball come from all over, they travel from Perth, Albany, Mandurah, Busselton, Donnybrook and all towns in between, and this year we have a couple travelling over from New South Wales, they are attending because they like to support RFDS fundraisers.

“The RFDS has special significance for me with members of my family benefiting from the service, as a group we make sure that all the monies raised from the evening goes to the RFDS with any associated costs for the evening coming from our other revenue.

Since 2011 the Social Dancing Group has raised \$26,500 for the RFDS from the annual ball.

The group also holds dances regularly at the Yornup Hall and from the monies these dances have raised they have also given a further \$26,000 to the other charities they support; Beyond Blue, the Cancer Foundation, Perth Children’s Hospital and Men’s Health.

When getting ready for the Ball, yes, it is beneficial to know your way around the dance floor but not essential, and if you need to touch up your technique, the Social Dancing Group holds dance practice every Monday night at the Uniting Church Hall on Roe Street starting at 6pm, except if it’s a public holiday. Of interest, as the annual ball is imminent, being held on 31<sup>st</sup> August, all the dance practice nights until then are being given over to learning the 21 or so dances that will feature at the Ball.

Patricia (Trish) Martin and Mick Blatch are the dance instructors for the group, Trish explains, “The dance style being taught is Sequence dancing, an offshoot of Ballroom dancing. Dance sequences are made up from a certain number of repeated steps which are in multiples of 8. Once you have learnt the sequence the length of the dance is dictated by the music.

“Practice is a necessary part of dancing in order to obtain muscle memory. This can be also be done whenever you have a little bit of spare time in between the dance practice nights.

“One of the places to maintain your appetite to learn dances is YouTube: it can be a wonderful source for refreshing your memory when learning a different dance. It is also a site which showcases some of the very best dancers and encourages the development of a bit of flair.

“Dance, of course, stimulates the mind as well as the body, dance is a gentle form of exercise which keeps the body supple, and learning the dance steps and remembering the sequence keeps the mind active plus attending dances is the very best social activity around.”

Mick was also happy to contribute his thoughts, “I’d always wanted to dance, so I attended my first dance at the Yornup Hall some fourteen years ago. I found I was really



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out of step with all the other dancers, like a lot of those new to dance I discovered I had three left feet.

“I took up dance lessons and over the next few months I found I was improving, a little bit each time, and then in time I found myself confident enough to be on the dance floor.

“What happens is you develop muscle memory for the steps which goes with the music, so after a while, a long while for some, it all becomes quite effortless and very enjoyable.

“You become fit, because your body is active, and your muscle groups release endorphins and you feel good within yourself.

“What can I say, I love it. I have found dancing to be rewarding, both socially, mentally and physically.”

For further information on the Social Dancing Group or the Annual Ball you can call Tony on 0427 643 638, Collette on 0417 174 294 or Trish on 0897 611 946.

## Show Talk

Hi Everyone: The Stewards have been busy getting their changes in for the Schedule and there are some exciting additions this year incorporating the ‘Blackwood to the Beach’ Theme.

To help CWA celebrate their 100 years there will be a special class in the Photography Section for a colour or black and white photo, no greater than 8” x 12” showcasing the work of CWA. Photos must be taken by the Exhibitor and can be more than 12months old. There is a whole new section, Section G – Pets: Pets exhibited must be owned and staged by Juniors up to and including 16years. Rabbits, Guinea Pig/Cavy and Chickens will be located in the Poultry Pavilion and Lambs, Sheep, Goats and Kids will be located in the Sheep Pavilion. A lot of effort has gone into this section

to accommodate the Juniors and to encouraged them to be a part of their local show. We hope there will be a lot of interest and entries.

Sponsorship: There are still many Sponsors who have not responded. If you would still like to continue to support our show, please let us know as soon as possible. This is a very important part of our ability to run a vibrant show with competitions and entertainment. The Schedule can then be finalised and the online Sections updated.

Our next Meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th August 7.00pm, in the Presidents Room at the Showgrounds. If you would like to know more about the Committee or the Agricultural Society’s role in the Community, contact mob. 0437 602 836 or email: [info@bridgetownshow.com.au](mailto:info@bridgetownshow.com.au) website address is [www.bridgetownshow.com.au](http://www.bridgetownshow.com.au) like us on Facebook ‘Bridgetown Agricultural Show’ or Instagram.

## Jarrah Park under Mining Threat

Some weeks ago we were alarmed to find that a minerals tenement application had been lodged over the Donnelly Village, and extending up almost to Brockman Highway opposite the Bridgetown Jarrah Park.

We now find that a new application for a tenement of 32,126 hectares (10 times the size of Dalgarp National Park) has been lodged, wrapping around Dalgarp and extending around the Donnelly Village tenement.

The new claim, identified as 'E 7006654' includes the whole of the Bridgetown Jarrah Park, which is now the best tourist access to our community's remaining intact forests.

The closing date for objections to this claim is August 22 – two weeks away. I hope to organise a meeting this week of interested groups and people. Please call me on 0427 611 511 or email: [president@bgff.org.au](mailto:president@bgff.org.au) if you are interested. Richard Wittenoom

## St Brigid's Parish Paving Brick Fundraiser

*Continued from back page...* "The doors are in such a parlous state the front ones cannot be opened.

"We are about to order the timber for the doors and we have engaged Jim Fletcher to make the new doors for the hall."

A donation of \$50 for a paving brick will provide you with a personalised engraved paver which will be laid in the new path.

You can obtain an order form by emailing [stbrigidbridgetown@bigpond.com](mailto:stbrigidbridgetown@bigpond.com) This fundraiser will close on Friday 20 September 2024.

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# Wildlife In The Home

## Paddock

As you may have already heard, Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Landcare (B-GCL) has been facilitating some fabulous workshops this year, through our 'Wildlife in the Home Paddock' series, thanks to funding from Talison Lithium's Community Support Program. To start the series off B-GCL hosted the Carnaby Crusaiders at St Brigids Hall on the 2nd of April, where Dean and his feathered friends made quite an impact on the 40 plus attendees. Dean's passion for the species was evident as he spoke about the issues our three Black Cockatoo's face and showed us how to build two different styles of Cockytubes.

The second workshop for this series 'Living with Possums', was held on the 25th of June at the Bridgetown Public Library, where participants learned all about our two local possum species, legislation surrounding the species and the best way to entice them out of roof spaces and into their own space.

On Sunday July 28th we celebrated National Tree Day with 'Talking Trees', yet another fantastic workshop for the series. Participants spent the morning at Greenbushes CRC, learning all about, you guessed it, trees. Joly Elliott from ArbSkills WA once again captivated the audience with his passion and knowledge of tree biology, health, pest and diseases and ground-based tree evaluation.

We are more than halfway through the year now, with still a number of events to come for this series, so please keep an eye out on the Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Landcare Face Book page for updates on our next lot of workshops. Advertisement will soon go out for our next 'Dams to Wetlands' workshop which will be held at the start on the 7th of September, this workshop will cover the importance of water sources for wildlife, how to turn an old farm dam into a thriving wetlands, the best native plant species to plant around dams for creating protected habitat along with information on our native fish species, why they are in decline and what can be done about it. We will have a number of presenters for the day along with a field tour in the afternoon to demonstrate the positive outcomes of revegetation around dams.

Sunday September 15th will be an afternoon you will not want to miss, Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Landcare, Blackwood Environment Society, Transitions Town Bridgetown and Owl Friendly Margaret River will come together to present 'Night Calling' for the residents of Bridgetown.

"When award-winning film maker Sue Taylor and husband Bob built a retirement home in Augusta, they reconnected with well-known local ornithologist Boyd Wykes and offered their assistance with an Owl Friendly campaign he and colleagues had established to alert their community to poisoning of wildlife from widespread use of 'one-dose kills' rodent baits.

Two years later, the resulting film, Night Calling captures the heart breaking and heart-warming highs and lows of Boyd's nocturnal dedication to researching a previously little-known local population of the enigmatic Masked Owl. Together with equal dedication by the Owl Friendly group to educate our community about ways to control rodents without harm to owls and many other wildlife.

The Owl Friendly campaign, embraced by the Augusta-Margaret River Shire as a declared Owl Friendly local government, has inspired communities and local governments around Australia to follow suit. The screening of 'Night Calling' will be held at the Uniting Church Hall on Sunday September 15th at 2pm, the documentary runs for around 40 minutes with

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call 9321 5451 for a free 20-minute consult

two short presentations afterwards. Guests are then invited to join us for afternoon tea, registrations for this event are essential and can be done by contacting Transitions Town at [transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com](mailto:transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com) or 0432 105 754.

Towards the end of September and the beginning of October B-GCL, along with Erica Shedly will be hosting two 'Walk with the Wildflowers' events, these will be held at Maslin Reserve and the Wandoo Walk. Walkers will be able to experience the wonderful wildflowers, whilst hearing everything about them from Erica, these events will be a great way to get out into our local bushlands and enjoy all they have to offer in springtime. For any information or to register for the upcoming events please email the CLO at [nrmbridgetown@gmail.com](mailto:nrmbridgetown@gmail.com)

## Free Skin Cancer Screening

Lions Club of Bridgetown, as a joint project with the Lions Cancer Institute Inc. will conduct a Free Skin Cancer Screening in Bridgetown on Saturday 24th August 2024 at the Library Carpark in Steere Street in Bridgetown.

To make an online screening appointment [lionscancerinstitute.org.au](http://lionscancerinstitute.org.au) or Scan QR Code or Phone: Trish 0419 226 236.



# Bee Gees Update

The Bridgetown Greenbushes Suicide Prevention Network (affectionately termed the Bee Gees) is thrilled to have it's own website now up and running. Please pop on and take a look <https://www.suicidepreventionbridgetowngreenbushes.org/>

This is a comprehensive resource outlining where you can receive immediate support and treatment both online and in person if you are experiencing suicidal distress. The site also provides up to date information on training courses and events, an insight into the local Executive Members and updates on the upcoming Safe Space.

The development of The Blackwood Safe Space at Henri Nouwen House here in Bridgetown is progressing well.

This will be a non-clinical, drop in style place for those in suicidal distress (or their caregivers) to find nurturing and compassionate support. The space is being created through a partnership with Roses in the Ocean and will be one of 14 Safe Spaces across Australia.

The Space will be run by volunteers who have a lived experience of suicide and have been trained to use this experience to support others. It is planned to be open once a week initially and the group is now at the stage of seeking volunteers.

To become part of the volunteer team of ideally 10-12 people, you must be prepared to be available at least 3 hours per month, available to complete online training – at your own pace – as well as 1.5 days of online workshops. You would also need to be able to commit to a minimum of 12 months. If you are interested in finding out more you can email [safespace@suicidepreventionbridgetowngreenbushes.org](mailto:safespace@suicidepreventionbridgetowngreenbushes.org) and the Volunteer Co-ordinator Ari Frichot will be in touch.

The Bridgetown Greenbushes Suicide Prevention Network provide a regular, comprehensive newsletter covering all their latest and affiliates initiatives, farmers events, training options, updates on the Safe Space, Youth News and more. You can have this newsletter sent direct to your email inbox by registering through the Contact Us button on the website.

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## St Brigid's Parish Paving Brick Fundraiser

St Brigid's Parish is celebrating its 120th anniversary this year. To commemorate the occasion, the Parish has organised a 'brick paver' fundraising opportunity.

A proposed new brick path will be placed in the garden which is located between St Brigid's Church and the Convent.

Individual names can be etched onto the bricks that will be used to make up the path, giving those taking part in this fundraising venture an opportunity to secure a piece of history for themselves, their loved ones, and those who are dear to their hearts.

"The eleven members of the parish council are all enthusiastic about this new fundraising idea," Yvonne Ward, Parish Secretary explains.

"This idea was announced to the parish council by Carlo Pardini, the headmaster at St Brigid's school, he'd seen a similar successful venture which was undertaken at the Pemberton School.

"We are hoping for 4,500 bricks to be purchased to complete the path with the monies raised going towards the cost of replacing the three wooden double doors on the church hall.

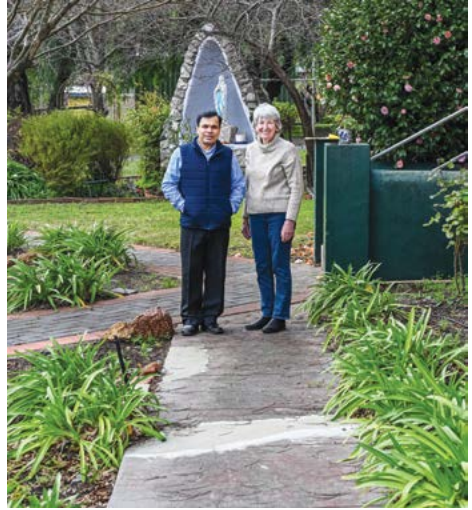
"The paving brick path will replace the existing concrete path which is in a sorry state.

"We have arranged for the work of removing the old concrete path and the laying of the bricks to be carried out by the pre-release prisoners from the Bunbury Prison.

"The garden area into which the paving brick path will be laid is a really attractive area. We foresee it will be a nice place to come and contemplate, a place of remembrances, and one of discovering relatives' names.

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Father Roshan Fernando and Yvonne Ward

"In the 120th anniversary of the St Brigid's parish we have undertaken several fundraising activities; a high tea, tours of the convent and now paving a brick path with all the monies raised going to replace the three double doors which are part of the church hall. The replacement cost of these doors is around \$26,000...continued page 14.

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