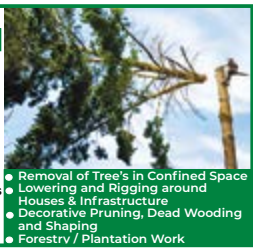


Adam Jenkins
TREE SERVICES
 Qualified Arborist
 Fully Insured
 Mobile: 0447 792 200
 Home: 9761 1128



- Large Tree Felling
- Climbing
- Tree Jacking
- Tree Bracing Installations
- Portable Sawmilling
- Disease & Pest Control
- Elevated Work Platform

- Removal of Tree's in Confined Space
- Lowering and Rigging around
- Houses & Infrastructure
- Decorative Pruning, Dead Wooding and Shaping
- Forestry / Plantation Work

POSTAGE PAID in Blackwood River Valley

FREE MONTHLY
 Circulation 3550
 Distributed to Bridgetown Greenbushes, Boyup Brook, Hester, Yorupup & Catterick

Is life challenging you? Let Henri's assist
 We offer:

- A supportive place to explore and rebalance your life
- Inspiration, guidance, and motivation to make positive changes
- Empowering evidence-based information
- A welcoming, confidential environment



Henri's 16 Hester Street, Bridgetown,
 Phone: 0436 482 027 Email: admin@henris.net
 Henri's gratefully acknowledges the support received from the Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire

December 3rd 2024

VOLUME 33 NO: 4 ISSUE 349

THE MAILBAG

Printed and Published by M.P. & J. Krauze, The Quality Shop, 125 Hampton Street, Bridgetown W.A. 6255
 Telephone: 9761 1717 - Email: mailbag@bigpond.net.au - www.thequalityshop.com.au

Exciting Upgrade Underway at Puzzletown6255: Home of Brierley Jigsaw Gallery



Bridgetown's beloved Brierley Jigsaw Gallery, now rebranded as 'Puzzletown6255', is entering an exciting phase of revitalization, thanks to a recent Forestry Transition grant. This iconic gallery, fully managed by the dedicated volunteers of the Bridgetown Greenbushes Tourism Association (BGTA), will see its interior transformed to create an enhanced visitor experience and secure its place as a major regional attraction.

Work has begun in the building's front room, previously the Visitor Centre, with support from local businesses and tradespeople.

The gallery is set to become an innovative hub for puzzle enthusiasts and tourists alike, especially with the addition of new puzzle manufacturing equipment. This development has been made possible by the generosity of a private benefactor, Grahaem Donovan, who has been passionate about the gallery's mission since he purchased and completely redeveloped Nelson's Motel, which is where Jessie Brierley's original collection was completed between 1945 and 1978. Through a collaboration with Mr. Bob Puzzles, Puzzletown6255 will soon have in-house puzzle-making capabilities, making it a unique, hands-on destination for visitors.

The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes has also extended its support to the project, ensuring the preservation and upgrading of this historic building, which continues to be shared with Blues at Bridgetown and Landcare. This project is one of the largest community-driven initiatives since the construction of...*Continued on page 15*



THE RIGHT STUFF

For Landholders Agent for  **westcoastpoly**
COMPLETE TANK SOLUTIONS

12 ROSE STREET BRIDGETOWN
Call Rob on 9761 4725






Fire Fighting Units / Pumps
Household pumps and Pressure Tanks

BailiwickLegal.

BRIDGETOWN

REGIONAL LEGAL HOT DESK

Bailiwick Legal is a commercial law firm specialising in agriculture and tourism.

Meet us at the Bridgetown CRC
9.30am - 3.30pm



Visit bailiwicklegal.com.au/regional-hot-desk or scan for upcoming dates

email office@bailiwicklegal.com.au or call 9321 5451 for a free 20-minute consult



HAMPTON PARTNERS
Bridgetown - Boyup Brook - Nannup
Accountants

Hampton Partners has been serving the local community and the surrounding districts for more than 35 years.

Taxation - Business Services - SMSF's
Estate & Succession Planning



116 Hampton Street BRIDGETOWN WA 6255 08 9761-1236 admin@hpb.com.au
21 Bridge Street BOYUP BROOK WA 6244 08 9765-2999 adminbbk@hpb.com.au
67 Warren Road NANNUP WA 6275 08 9756-3063 admin@hpb.com.au



Celebrating St Brigid's Parish Anniversary, 1904 – 2024

The 120th anniversary of St Brigid's has been celebrated throughout this year. The celebration was firstly noted by a Sunday mass on the 4 February, followed by an Irish themed supper.

Remarkably, 'Tours of the Convent', where a tour guide presented orally some of the long history around the school and church, were very successful, evoking wonderful memories for those who attended the tours with their stories adding to the history of St Brigid's.

A memory of note from one of the boarders is of the current sports oval which, when she attended the school was a paddock of grazing milking cows which enthralled and amused the students at break times.

One of the special events that was held during the 120th anniversary was the showing of the patchwork tapestry in St Brigid's Church; it was on show as part of the artwork on display during the Blackwood River Arts Trail.

The tapestry has hung on the back wall of St Brigid's Church now for fifty-one years and still remains as a colourful welcome to the church.

To commemorate the occasion of the 120th anniversary the Parish 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 monies raised from these events has gone towards the much-needed task of replacing the three double jarrah doors sets which are the entries on the church hall.

An adjunct to the 120-year celebrations of St Brigid's in Bridgetown and the final event of the year was the planting of an oak tree seedling and the installation of a commemoration board celebrating and listing the names of the twenty-eight priests who dedicated part of their lives as serving priests to St Brigid's in Bridgetown since 1899 and was commemorated at a mass held on Sunday, 15 September.

The oak tree has special meaning because St Brigid came from Kildare, 'Kildare' being Gaelic for 'place of oak trees'. The tree was planted from an acorn which had self-seeded on a local farm.

Who was St Brigid? Brigid was born in County Louth, Ireland in the year 451, two decades after Christianity was brought to Ireland. Her mother is said to have ...*Continue on page 16*



U SHIFT IT
TRAILER HIRE

14ft x 6ft FURNITURE 12ft x 6ft FURNITURE	10ft x 6ft CAGED TANDEM	7ft x 4ft CAGED
18ft x 6ft FLAT TOP 10ft x 7ft FLATTOP	14ft x 7ft CAR	8ft x 5ft TANDEM

BRIDGETOWN PAINT SALES U Shift it 0447 614 422

A Big Thank You to the Boyup Brook Medical Centre, Boyup Brook Pharmacy and the Boyup Brook Hospital staff for helping with Ron while he was in Boyup Brook.

To the Silver Chain, the Bridgetown Medical Centre, Bridgetown Pharmacy and the Bridgetown Hospital for their care of Ron.

To Geegeelup Village care facility for the great care given to Ron during his last year.

A big and special thanks to Bridgetown Bowling Club, much appreciated.

Thanks to all those who called, sent cards and condolences. Gordon, Irene, Sally and Margaret.



Hillview Electrical Service
EC: 11529
Jim Elliott
P: 9761 1677
M: 0438 611 678
E: elliottj3@bigpond.com
Domestic | Commercial | Industrial

NDIA Connecting Bridgetown

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) have been supporting Bridgetown participants with a drop-in service over the last month. We are available at the Community Resource Centre (CRC), to deliver NDIA services in the community.

CRC has become Access Point to access NDIA information and connect to digital services recently, which will provide you with access to internet and fact sheets.

Bridgetown is already supported by community partners Wanslea and APM. We are value adding to already on-the-ground supports, it is important to bring the Scheme to a community.

On the 4th of December, in collaboration with Activate, the NDIA is hosting Connecting Bridgetown at the CRC. From 10am to 3pm, everyone is welcome to attend. Various community groups and services will be on hand to chat to and discover ways to make the most from your NDIS plan. The NDIA will have a dedicate team on hand to discuss how you are able to access the NDIS.

Light refreshments will be made available throughout the day. Everyone is welcome to attend this drop-in event and take advantage of the opportunity to connect with not only the NDIA also local community and providers. Bev Nikolic



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

FROM THE TEAM AT BLACKWOOD VALLEY REAL ESTATE

.....
We hope that your festive season sparkles with moments of love, laughter and goodwill, and that the year ahead is filled with contentment and joy.

Please be advised, our office will be closing from 25th of December 2024 until the 1st of January 2025. Our office will be open again on the 2nd of January 2025.

BLACKWOOD VALLEY
Real Estate

(08) 9761 2722

sales@blackwoodvalley.com
www.blackwoodvalleyrealestate.com
107 Hampton Street, Bridgetown WA 6255



**Protect your fruit crop
this summer.**

Shadecloth
Warehouse Direct Pricing

Throwover Bird Netting

Permanent Orchard Structures

Call 9337 2211 for pricing & availability.

www.crackpots.com.au | sales@crackpots.com.au

Velvet Oasis textile exhibition

Award-winning textile artist, Cassi Jo Davis will showcase her exciting new textile exhibition, Velvet Oasis, at Busselton's Old Courthouse Complex from 29 November until 22 December, at Bond Store Gallery, 4 Queen Street, Busselton. Opening hours are Monday – Friday: 10am – 4pm and Saturday and Sunday: 10am – 1pm

This sensory exploration of femininity, earth and self-discovery draws inspiration from the concept of an oasis, both a literal and metaphorical refuge in the desert, a place of abundance, relief and transformation.

Velvet Oasis showcases a blend of unique wall art and stunning garments that have been meticulously crafted with repurposed remnant fabrics, layering textures that reflect the journey of life.

By using vintage textiles, Cassi Jo breathes new life into materials, repurposing them into works that are both artistic and personal.

Symbolising transformation and femininity through rich, vintage textiles, intricate embroidery, and sumptuous velvet fabrics, Cassi Jo's work speaks to fragility and resilience.

Floral motifs, decadent details, ornate embroidery and the tactile richness of velvet serve as metaphors for growth, fertility, and the blossoming of one's true self.

"Velvet Oasis captures the nurturing essence of femininity and the spiritual journey we all undertake to reconnect with ourselves," said Ms Davis.

"Through my work, I want to honour the strength of women, the connection to the Earth, and the importance of creating sacred spaces where we can feel safe, whole, and abundant."

Cassi Jo will share the inspiration behind her Velvet Oasis collection and the themes of femininity and self-discovery within it at the official opening event to be held at 10:30am on Saturday, 30 November in The Bond Store Gallery at the Old Courthouse Complex.

Cassi Jo Davis has been a practicing textile artist for the past twenty years since studying Visual Art at Curtin University where she majored in Textile, minoring in Painting. As such, she combines the two mediums, using applique, paint and embroidery to create multi-layered and aesthetically rich works.



Cassi Jo Davis Wall Hanging

My Autosparky

0474 279 755

myautosparky@icloud.com

FB: My Autosparky

Auto Air Conditioning

AU 39982

L 124440



Puddletown

Toys & Children's Wear

Lawralyn Lovelle



119 Hampton Street,
Bridgetown W.A. 6255

Tel: (08) 9761 1811

puddletown@westnet.com.au

www.puddletown.com.au

BGFF Sundowner and AGM

A mix of long term and new members enjoyed a Sundowner on November 16 which offered videos from 1961 and the present and talks about Dalgarp National Park and the Jarrah Park by Jenny Dewing and Eric Wheatley. The Sundowner finished with the BGFF Annual General Meeting.

At this an Honorary Life Membership was conferred on Kim Redman, who between 2001 and 2006 produced professional standard videos supporting the many forest campaigns of the day, ranging from Collie to Lake Jasper. Kim was provided with high quality (for then) camera and support gear by BGFF. As well as recording a range of our own campaigns Kim developed the BGFF website, which will soon be online again after the Westnet shutdown.

Eric Wheatley reported that a team from Parks and Wildlife had been providing 12 days of maintenance on the Jarrah Park trails. In particular a few trees had been cleaned up and blackberry thickets along the Maranup Brook removed from the Blackbutt Trail.

Meetings are being held this month to plan our campaign against the Mining Exploration Claims.

An option recommended by WAFA is a section of the Mining Act which allows for a direct appeal to the Minister for Mines to cancel the Application without involving the Mining Warden's Court. It is likely that both approaches will be taken.

Admission to the Sundowner was by the payment of a BGFF Annual Subscription. Subscription notices will shortly go to the remaining 85 persons and families on our membership list and we hope that a good response will follow, as there are going to be financial commitments from the mining claim campaign.

Richard Wittenoom



Clovers General Store & Clovers Liquor Store

Clovers General Store

7 Days ~ 7am-7pm Tel: 9761 1233

Loads of lovely local produce!

Gourmet Cheese, Honey's, Jam's, Crackers, Condiments, just to mention a few!

As well as staple grocery items including Fruit & Veg

Clovers Liquor Store:

Monday-Saturdays 10am-7pm

Tel: 9761 2017

Huge selection of LOCAL WINES of the SOUTHWEST & GREAT SOUTHERN

Plus many more Australian & New Zealand Wines

Plus LOCAL CRAFT BEERS & CIDERS

Plus! Great selection of WHISKIES & GINS

Corner Steere St & Gifford Rd Bridgetown

Caravan Friendly Parking



THE **STABLES** BRIDGETOWN

Open 7 days

7.30am—8.00pm

Shopping locally builds our community

Phone 9761 1044



WHERE THE *locals* MATTER
Keeping it Local



Seasons Greetings to All
Have a Happy
and Safe Christmas
and New Year

Closed Christmas Day
otherwise always open

7.30am - 8.00pm every day.

Congratulations to Helen
winner of the last months IGA Voucher

In December spend \$100 or more and go
into the draw to win a \$200 IGA Voucher

109 Hampton Street Bridgetown

thestables.igaonline.com.au



WHERE THE *locals* MATTER

Everyday

Seniors Card = Seniors Discount



Craig's Corner With Craig Dawson



2024 Bridgetown Show

It was an honour to officially open the 2024 Bridgetown Agricultural Show, held on 23 November 2024, on behalf of Talison Lithium Pty Ltd (**Talison**). As someone who grew up in a small Mid-West town with a population of just 10 people, I can truly appreciate the value of local events like this. My equivalent was the Northampton Show, but I can tell you, it had nothing on the Bridgetown Show.

Talison was proud to continue our support for the event by sponsoring free entry for all children under 12, and we hope it helped make the show more accessible to families across the region.

The Talison marquee was a hub of activity throughout the day, with kids enjoying chromatography flower making with our Laboratory team members, along with the ever popular sandpit and colouring station (pictured below).

In addition to the activities, the marquee served as an information point, where many visitors took the opportunity to learn about Talison's operations, employment opportunities and expansion projects. The community survey was especially popular, and we're really excited to use the feedback to help shape our community engagement in the future. I strongly encourage anyone who hasn't completed it yet to do so - more on this in a moment.

I'd like to acknowledge the incredible volunteer effort by the Bridgetown Agricultural Society that makes this event possible. Thank you for your tireless behind-the-scenes work. I look forward to seeing the show back next year - I would usually say "bigger and better than ever," but that's a hard ask!



FOR A BETTER FUTURE

TALISONLITHIUM.COM

TALISONLITHIUM.COM



Talison Community Perception Survey

Talison is seeking your input through the 2024 Community Perception Survey, open from 13 November to 13 December 2024. The survey should take about 15 minutes to complete and provides an opportunity to share your thoughts on how our Greenbushes Lithium Operation (**Mine, Site**) impacts the community.

Since the 2022 Community Perception Survey, we've made several improvements based on your feedback, including:

- increased resources to enhance community engagement;
- expanded communication channels, such as columns in local newsletters like this, along with the Greenbushes Balingup Newsletter and Preston Press;
- proactively informed the community about projects that may impact the area;
- installed mobile speed monitoring and enhanced dust monitoring activities across Site;
- built a permanent Accommodation Village to reduce pressure on local housing; and
- reduced light pollution and noise through various initiatives.

Now, we need your feedback to help us assess our progress and identify new areas for improvement. The 2024 survey will allow us to:

- understand community perceptions of Talison and the Mine;
- identify additional impacts on the community; and
- explore better ways to engage with local residents.

By participating, you also have the chance to win vouchers for local retailers. To enter the draw, simply provide your details at the end of the survey.

The survey is being conducted by Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd (**ERM**), an independent third-party consultancy, to ensure confidentiality. Your responses will remain private and results will be aggregated and shared with Talison and relevant stakeholders in a way that maintains respondent privacy.

To complete the survey, simply scan the QR code below, and please remember to share it with your family, friends, and others in the community. A broad response will help us gather more comprehensive feedback and ensure we hear from a wide range of voices.

If you have any questions, please email the Talison Community Team gbcontact@talisonlithium.com or ERMTalisonSurvey@erm.com.

We look forward to hearing from you.

SCAN



2024/25 Holiday Wishes

On behalf of the entire Talison team, I would like to extend our warmest wishes for a happy and safe holiday season to all our community members. We especially thank those who will be working over this period and the local businesses whose ongoing support helps make our work possible. Your collaboration and support throughout 2024 have been invaluable, and we look forward to continuing to work together in the coming year to help create a better future.

FOR A BETTER FUTURE

TALISONLITHIUM.COM

TALISONLITHIUM.COM



Big Smiles for Bridgetown

“My dentist asked me to open up, but I don’t know him well enough to confide in him.”

Have you ever wondered about the blue brick building, covered in Boston Ivy, nestled away neatly beside the ever-convenient BP Petrol station? I hear this beautiful creation by Dr. Bennett is a popular spot for selfies, even for the shyest of cameraman.

Some say it houses the delicate wings of the wicked and wonderous tooth fairy while others only dare to step foot inside. Some think it’s a café and stroll on in for their morning Latté Grande, only to be disappointed with the lack of caffeinated beverages. Fortunately, even the weariest find their pupils dilating after realising the new Dentist is in Town! Not to fear! Dr. Praveen is here!

Sure, seeing the Dentist isn’t the most pleasant of experiences at times, but my team and I endeavour to make yours as pleasant as possible.

Step through our brand-new lavender welcome mat from “The Quality Shop”, down the road, and you will be greeted by our bright-eyed bushy-tailed Practice Manager Kyree. You think you know it all? Let’s see you get past her gifted memory that remembers all things since the day of dawn. Well, maybe just practice related history.

As a team we strive to meet our preventative dentistry needs. Brushing and flossing are paramount if you want to vigorously chew your steak at eighty-two. Maybe the latest carnivore diet has managed to sneak into your Tik Tok algorithm and all you can think about is the medium-rare rump you have planned for your dinner tonight. Without the proper education and teeth-care, you’ll be sure to make friends with Mr. Blender and Mrs. Soup-Spoon. Meet Evan and Gabrielle, our Hygiene connoisseurs! If there is a way to prevent a filling, they know how! It all starts with a routine check-up and a blissful clean. Our new Airflow tooth cleaning system allows for a far more pleasant cleaning experience, without the need for moist foreheads and white knuckles.



Linda Noack, Kyralee Humphrey, Praveen Liyanawaau, Helen Ross, Evan Carter and Gabrielle Barber

So, you ate too many lollies and indulged in one too many pieces of pork crackling last Christmas; now your tooth is hurting. Come and see the delightful Dr. Praveen and his charming nurse Helen. We cure all ailments pertaining to your dental troubles! Sure, there may be the occasional pinch to numb the area, but we will endeavour to make it as comfortable as possible for you. We even use a special gel to put the gums to sleep before the ever-looming, impending local anesthetic. Dr. Praveen is always up for a chat, so no question is ever too long or too tall.

Like a large glacier amidst a vast Icelandic ocean, we house our dental laboratory downstairs. This is where the real creative magic happens. Thanks to our fancy in-house crown machines and denture flasks, we will be sure to put back any tooth we took away from you. With the help of our lovely Lab Technician Linda, we can fabricate almost anything to put a smile back on that dial. Anyways, who doesn’t like German-built technology?

So, pop in and see us at 45 Hampton Street and we will make sure to keep you at ease. The Bridgetown Dental Team.



MERRY
Christmas

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

A heartfelt thanks to my wonderful clients and community for your support over the last year. Wishing you a very happy holiday season, may the new year be filled with love, laughter and joy.



Scan to check out my current listings!



0421 477 818

Level 1, 100 Havelock Street, Perth WA 6005
PO BOX 1171, Bridgetown WA 6255
alison@alisonruttentinrealestate.com

@alisonruttentinrealestate

eXp Australia PTY LTD v/a eXp Realty - License No. RA78459



CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Did you know?

Bridgetown residents are eligible for a rebate on the cost of purchasing, replacing, or plumbing in an existing rainwater tank to your toilet and/or washing machine? You can also exchange up to two of your old showerheads for new water efficient ones for free! Visit www.watercorporation.com.au/waterwise offers to find out more.



Meet the Member

It was wonderful to host a "Meet the Member" event at Henri Nouwen House and spend time doorknocking around Bridgetown. Thank you to everyone who came out and shared what matters to them! We had some great discussions on a variety of topics, including aged care, conservation, electricity credits, mountain bike trails, playgrounds, domestic violence support, traineeships in trades, gardening, local schools, and suicide prevention services. I appreciate everyone who took the time to chat - your insights are invaluable.



Police Station Museum

Thank you to the Bridgetown Historical Society for such an insightful tour of the Bridgetown Police Station Museum. With a \$49,927 Community Small Grant from the Cook Government, the Society will transform the museum's rear tin shed into an orcharding museum featuring 24 interpretation panels. The old 'exercise yard' will be bituminised, and restroom facilities updated. The Society's commitment to preserving and sharing the complex history of this site, including the treatment of Traditional Owners, is invaluable. Special thanks to Mary Elgar and Elder Sandra Hill for bringing this important project to life.

Student Assistance Payment

Bridgetown families have received \$93,600 in cost-of-living support through our WA Student Assistance Payment. This program saw payments of \$150 for primary school students and \$250 for secondary school students paid directly into parent's bank accounts, this is on top of a \$700 Household Electricity Credit.



If you have a local community event that you'd like me to attend, or an issue you need help with don't hesitate to get in touch.

My team is always happy to help!

Jane Kelsbie MLA
MEMBER FOR WARREN-BLACKWOOD



5/78 Strickland St, Denmark




9848 3171



Follow me on Facebook and Instagram for more community updates

Authorised by J Kelsbie, 5/78 Strickland St, Denmark WA 6333.



FISHERS TYRE CENTRE

STEVE FISHER
"Your Local Independent Tyre Dealer"
 LICENSED REPAIRER MRB 1084
9761 1184

ALL BRANDS OF TYRES • WHEEL ALIGNMENTS & BALANCING • MUFFLERS
 TRUCK & CAR TYRE REPAIRS • SUPERCHARGE BATTERIES

OPPOSITE THE FIRE STATION
UNIT 6-7, 168 HAMPTON STREET • BRIDGETOWN

BLACKWOOD HEAVY TILT

- 11 Tonne capable slip + tilt
- Machinery movement up to 11 tonne
- Farm cleanup - conditions apply
- Sale of sea containers - 1 trip - near new
- Sea container movement
- Sea container Hire and Storage

Mob: 0410 026 072
 e: blackwoodheavytilt@gmail.com



GARVS AUTO ELECTRICS & AIRCONDITIONING

MOBILE SERVICE AND REPAIR

David & Sherylyn Gawel
Ph: 0400 226 721

Servicing Bridgetown and the Southwest MRB 4162 AU29953



BLACKWOOD WELDING & FABRICATION

- CUSTOM DESIGN & FABRICATION
- WELDING REPAIRS
- GENERAL & STRUCTURAL WELDING
- MODIFICATIONS
- MOBILE WELDING (RESTRICTED DURING FIRE SEASON 1)

0408 075 054
[BLACKWOODWELDING@IYANOK.COM](mailto:blackwoodwelding@iyanok.com)



Southern Forest Carpet Cleaning Service

Stephen Murphy
 Servicing the Warren Blackwood Area

We Specialize in: Carpets - Lounges and Cleaning and Re-Sealing of Tile and Vinyl Flooring

Phone **0408 922 053**
 email: elite.murphy@outlook.com
 27 Arnott Street, Manjimup. W.A. 6258




Waste reduction is a focus for Transition Bridgetown
 With the silly season looming and the New Year just around the corner it's a good time to reflect on the achievements of Transition Bridgetown and the work of its dedicated volunteers to build a sustainable future for our community.

This is the last report for the year and so it's only fitting that we should thank the many volunteers who've supported the work of the group.

The work goes on, and there's plenty to look forward to in the coming year, including our first Open Space for 2025 on Sunday the 23rd of February.

One date you'll definitely want to mark on your calendar is Saturday 22nd of March for the Regen Fest. A strong and resilient community is about diversity, just like the natural environment, and you'll find plenty to do at the 2025 Regen Fest, as well as some great practical ideas for walking more gently on the earth.

Naturally, there'll be a strong focus on reducing waste. That's also the challenge for the newly formed Waste Warriors, who are developing a strategic plan to address the "Five Rs" – that's the refuse, reduce, repair, recycle hierarchy – while working to extend and streamline the town's existing recycling facilities.

Last summer was long, hot, dry and exhausting, wasn't it? While we're all hoping for a reprieve this year, heatwaves are inevitable in the face of climate change. Keeping cool and healthy is an imperative when the heat's on, and there are many ways to do that.

Remember to stay hydrated by consuming ample fluids, such as water, diluted juice, and electrolyte drinks. Your body can lose around 4 litres of water during hot temperatures.

If possible, stay indoors with air conditioning or a fan. Ensure good ventilation if you are using a fan, if not, close those windows and doors to keep the heat out.

Keep out of the sun, especially during peak heat hours, including midday. And remember to slip, slop, slap by wearing a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, and by seeking out shade whenever possible.

If it's hot at home, why not head for the library or anywhere else that's air conditioned and comfortable?

If you rely on medications, then wrap refrigerated ones in foil or heat-resistant containers with an ice pack in case of a power outage. Talk to your pharmacist about other ways of keeping your medication cool if you don't have access to a refrigerator.

These and other measures will help you get through another hot summer and into the new year.

Speaking of which, have a happy and safe Christmas, and try to make it a low waste one.

We'll see you in the new year. If you'd like to join Transition Bridgetown, then we'd love to hear from you, so please email us at transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com for membership details.



AJ STALEY Carpentry SERVICES

HOME RENOVATION AND MAINTENANCE

- ✓ General Home Maintenance
- ✓ Building Renovations
- ✓ Kitchen & Bath
- ✓ Cabinetry Installations

Call Tony 0400 368 323 for a FREE Quote
 AJ Staley Carpentry

Blackberry and Cotton bush

The season is upon us and Blackwood Biosecurity are busy working with landholders to manage these declared plants among others.

Blackwood Biosecurity, is a not for profit organisation that supports landholders to manage declared pests on their property within the Shires of Bridgetown Greenbushes, Boyup Brook, West Arthur and lower portion of Donnybrook Balingup.

Blackwood Biosecurity are gearing up for a long hot summer of managing invasive weeds including Blackberry and Cotton bush, both declared pests in Western Australia.

Blackberry is native to Europe and was introduced to Australia as a food source. Whilst the berry of this plant is packed with amazing health benefits to humans, the plant is not packed with amazing benefits to the environment if left to its own devices. It invades pastures, riverbanks and creek lines, forming dense thickets that harbour other invasive declared pests such as foxes and rabbits. It starts flowering in late spring, with white flowers noticeable by November.

Cotton bush is also detrimental to our environment in many ways. Native to South Africa, and introduced in Australia as a garden plant, this pest displaces native plants and pastures and is toxic to livestock and humans as it contains cardiac glycosides. The plants grow to 2m tall and seeds are dispersed by wind.

Blackwood Biosecurity staff ask that landholders keep an eye out for these highly destructive weeds, and to contact them for information, advice and hands on support in managing them. Trish McCourt



METAPHYSICAL CRYSTAL SHOP
 In house Services offered by
 Priestess Seraphina
0424 679 791
 20 min Intuitive Readings
 Bio-Frequency Scan Technician
 Reiki Attunements & Healings
 Property Clearing & Shielding
 Workshop, Courses & Events
 Healing & Development Circles
 Spiritual Counselling
 Fremantle Holistic Expo

Shop 1 84-86 Hampton St., Bridgetown WA 6255
www.facebook.com/TheSanctuaryBridgetown

Wattle Grove Firewood



Sustainably sourced, dry, split, jarrah firewood delivered to your door.

Card payments. Discounts available for cash.
 Licensed (PS63000359) and fully insured.

Brian : 0427 251 051 brian@wattlegrovefarm.com



AU:61785

OVERLAND AUTO ELECTRICAL

MINING - CIVIL - AGRICULTURE

- Heavy Machine Breakdowns
- Diagnostics and Repair
- Air Conditioning Repair and Service
- Caterpillar, Komatsu, Hitachi and More

Servicing the Greenbushes and Bridgetown area

0407 464 398 | admin@overlandautoelectrical.com.au

Danny & Monica

DR & ML Contractors

0429 611 029

**Bitumen Driveways, Shed Pads
 Excavator & Bobcat Site Clean-ups
 Sand and Gravel Supply, Garden Kerbing**



ALLWEST ANTENNAS
0419 964 791

BARRY LEE SECURITY AGENT Lic No 77358
 ANTENNA INSTALLER AND REGISTERED CABLER
 ★ BRIDGETOWN AND THE SOUTHWEST
 ★ 0419 964 791 or 9761 1966
 ★ allwestantennas@gmail.com



Agents for
WATTYL
 paints & accessories
 Reticulation & Design
 Electrical
 Fittings & Lighting,
 Tiles & accessories

Craig & Nadine Pitts
 46b Rose Street, Bridgetown
Phone: 9761 4422
btncpaint@bigpond.net.au



**Service & Repairs
 to All Vehicles
 Penrite Oil Stockist**
 Geoff Larkworthy
 Tel: 08 9761 1226
 101 Hampton St., Bridgetown

Jim Double

PIANO & PIANOLA REPAIR & POLISHING



Phone: 0417 963 007
Tuning • Repairs • Restoration

PO Box 518 Donnybrook WA 6239

**ROGER MACHIN
 LICENSED SURVEYOR**

"The only Licensed Surveyor resident in this region"

p: 0498 644 015
 a: Shop 5, 159 Hampton St Bridgetown 6255
 w: www.bridgetownsurveying.com.au
 e: roger@bridgetownsurveying.com.au

*"Servicing the Lower South West
 and Central Great Southern since 1978"*

Official Opening of the restored Bridgetown Railway Station

This article is taken from the speech given at the opening by Bridgetown's Shire President Jenny Mountford.

"Designed by legendary WA engineer CY O'Connor and opened on October 7th 1898, this busy little Railway Station continued in use for 90 years until it closed in 1988. When I say little, it was the largest station on the Donnybrook-Bridgetown Railway line, which finally ceased service completely in 2005. Today it is one of two surviving stations on the line.

Since the ceasing of services, locals watched the decline of the building with great sadness and a strong desire to see her restored. The journey to that restoration by the Shire began as far back as 1999. The first milestone achieved was its heritage listing in 2001.

Discussions around the building being fitted for use as our Visitors Centre first began in 2014. The timing wasn't right then, and it continued to be utilised for office space and for a time as an artists' exhibition space.

With the station condition deteriorating badly, the Shire recognised the need to access funding and reignite the process of restoration. This was one of Council's Growth Strategy Projects and was identified by the community as being of high importance during consultation in 2019. In 2021 the Shire engaged Stephen Carrick Architects – who specialise in heritage works – to commence the conservation and adaptation works. Local builder Bridgetown Residential Contractors was contracted in that same year.

With a renewed desire to upgrade tourist services in Bridgetown, Council began re-considering the station's use for that purpose. Being an iconic attraction in itself, and with the long-term view to develop the Railway Reserve as a Cultural Precinct for the town, we could see it made perfect sense to have it once again become a place for travellers, the time was now right for the Visitor Centre to be relocated here.

The large amount of funding needed was secured with both State and Federal Government grants. Complemented by funds from Lotterywest, Talison and a small contribution of Shire funds, together this gave us the just over \$1 million required to bring the Railway Station back to its glory – and what a result has been achieved.

It was always Council's desire to give the building a use that would allow all of the community to enjoy and engage with it. It is – as it began – now a public building. The two beautiful little galleries are a key element, allowing us to showcase local artists, exhibit the work of artists from beyond our Shire and to continually have on show the extensive Shire collection of local art in an ever-changing exhibition.

Congratulations to the many people who have helped bring her back. The architects, designers, building and trades people, Shire staff and the funding bodies. I'm sure you will agree she looks as good, if not better, than new.

It warms my heart to see her restored and so well prepared for her next 100 years of service to the community."

Merry Christmas

We want to express our sincere gratitude to all our clients for choosing to collaborate with us over the past year.

Wishing everyone a joyful and safe holiday season—may you enjoy this special time with your loved ones and travel safely if you're on the road. We look forward to reconnecting in the New Year and are excited to see what 2025 has in store for all of us.

From all the Team at

Harcourts Heartland

NAIHarcourts

Oliver & Angela Kietzmann
Business Owners

(08) 9761 1566

126 Hampton Street, Bridgetown
Unit 1, 36 Warren Road, Nannup
admin@harcourtsheartland.com.au



Ouch Festival performers back stage

Ouch Festival 2024

A belated Ouch festival was held on November 2nd this year. Normally Ouch is held in the middle of the year as part of the Winter Festival but the organisers were busy doing other things this year and let it slip back to November.

Several bands had been practicing hard and were keen to show off their work. Mark De Vattimo had three bands he had been teaching. 'The Crocs', 'Teenage Zombies' and 'The Cuttlets' pumped out some great rock and roll. They were a real credit to Mark's teaching ability and I am sure we will be entertained by them for years to come. One of the performers (Timon Barker) is the son of Cam Barker who performed in the first ever Ouch festival in the year 2000.

Tess and Pia opened the show with a great self devised comedy skit which had the audience laughing. Young Tor Klaassen-Norris did a great version of a Pearl Jam song and accompanied himself on his very specky guitar. Linden Hyde sang two classic songs and accompanied himself on the piano His band (the Floorboards) then pumped out some great heavy rock. Oscar rounded out the show with a wonderful song he had written "Why am I a Monster?" which got a great audience response when he asked "Will you be my Friend?"

Next year we will be moving Ouch back to the middle of the year so if you want to show us what you can do, why not get involved? This is a great first performance opportunity which has started many young performers on their entertainment path. Chris Shedley



For all Tree Removal and Tree Care Services

Including:

- ★ Hazardous Tree removal
- ★ Climbing & Confined Space Rigging
- ★ Fruit tree pruning and Training
- ★ Plantation pruning
- ★ Chain Saw Milling & Consultations

Fully insured

Atul Tel: 0459 689 518

Josh Tel: 0458 774 941

facebook @parkschainsaw

e: parkschainsaw@gmail.com

Parks Chainsaw & Tree Services
Atul Parks & Josh Allan

Souwest Glass Service

24 Hour Emergency Repairs

Glass Repairs
Shower Screens
Timber Glazing
2nd Hand Windows
Lead Lights
Mirrors
Safety Glass
Fly Screens



Steve Hawkins

Glazier - Glass and Lead Lights

Phone: 9764 3663

Mobile: 0428 953 753

e: stevehawkins@westnet.com.au

W: www.souwestglass.com.au

TIMBER & HARDWARE



**BRIDGETOWN
TIMBER & HARDWARE**

Tel: 97 612 525

Lot 46 Rose St., Bridgetown
btstimb@bigpond.net.au

Allwood Stump Grinding

ABN 44 940 578 427

For all your stump removal

Greenbushes & Southwest



Call for a FREE
Quote today

Michael 0427 611 916

JACK'S I.T. SOLUTIONS

Servicing the Warren Blackwood region

Have a slow Laptop or Desktop Computer?

Trouble with your Device?

0499 618 600

support@jacksitsolutions.com.au

TUCKS

- LICENSED HERBICIDE WEED SPRAY CONTRACTOR
- FIRE BREAKS
- GENERAL WEEDS
- CHIMNEY SWEEPING
- GUTTER CLEANING
- PAMPAS GRASS
- BLACKBERRIES
- TREE LOPPING

Call David on 0427 647 513

email: davidtuck@westnet.com.au

SOUTH WEST

FITOUTS & MAINTENANCE

CEILINGS • WALLS • WINDOWS • DOORS

... and more. We specialise in the fitout, repair & maintenance of domestic and commercial buildings

Call Chris Miller

📞 0488 745 964
✉️ info@southwestfm.com.au

Civil Celebrant

Bridgetown

Marisa De Vattimo

admin@mdvent.com
sms: 0404 788 160

Boutique Weddings

Elopements - Micro Weddings

📱 insta/married_by_marisa

www.mdvent.com

CDAN Survey: A Range of Issues in Bridgetown

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to the consultation and survey process. Your voices are driving meaningful change. Congratulations to Gracie Lee (pictured here with Ace) the winner of our \$50 prize.

CDAN is committed to advocating for more sustainable and accessible solutions that benefit the entire community.

Over the past year, the Community Disability Accessibility Network (CDAN) in Bridgetown has conducted a series of community consultation workshops and a comprehensive survey to gather insights into the needs and challenges faced by our local community.

One of the key issues is the lack of accessible and affordable transport.

For many individuals in our community, particularly those living with disabilities, reliable transport is essential. However, the survey revealed that a large number of people still depend heavily on friends or family members for transportation, which can be limiting and unsustainable.

For those that do have NDIS or My Aged Care plans, their allocated funds are being depleted on transport costs—funds that could otherwise be allocated to essential health services or even social activities that promote mental well-being.

Accessible and inclusive community events are vital for fostering social connections, which we know are crucial for supporting mental health and reducing isolation.



Unfortunately, current transport limitations make it difficult for individuals to fully participate in these events and extend their time beyond the hours they spend with support workers.

Our next steps will focus on sharing our findings with local and regional groups to explore options for improving transport services.

Together, we will continue to work towards making Bridgetown a more inclusive and accessible community for all. Amy Marley

Christmas Train Exhibition

A very talented group of our Blackwood River Arts Trail artisans have come together to present a unique pop-up shop in the form of 'The Christmas Train' exhibition. The exhibition will be opening on the 2nd of December at the Goorbilyup Gallery in the Old Train Station, Bridgetown-Greenbushes Visitor Centre, 11 Stewart Street Bridgetown.

At the exhibition you will find a dazzling selection of handmade gifts from ceramics to weaving, paintings, prints, mosaics, journals and books, jewellery, stunning handmade cards and more.

This year for Christmas, why not buy handmade and support our local artists so they can keep creating. All items are beautiful and unique, made with love, saving the environment and not lining the pockets of huge corporations with mass produced wares.

Don't miss the train, visit this pop-up exhibition early as these are all one-off pieces, and enjoy Christmas shopping in a beautiful location of the Old Train Station. Karen Hill

Blackwood Rural Services

13 / 17 Steere Street, Bridgetown WA 6255 Tel: 9761 1777



FIREGUARD[®] COMPACT FIRE FIGHTING UNIT

SIZE & PRICE: 600L \$6,094 | 800L \$6,292 | 1,000 L \$6,490

EASY & SIMPLE TO USE
YOUR ALL-IN-ON UNIT INCLUDES

- Polyethylene water tank, lightweight yet strong & durable
 - Cast aluminium hose reel, fast winding with a reel lock and easy guide rails
 - Performance Davey 5155HV fire pump, capable of maximum pressure of 580kpa
- OPTIONAL UPGRADES Davey Twin Impeller 5265HV with maximum pressure of 1000kpa
- Reliable Honda Gx160 5.5HP engine powers the Davey pump
 - Galvanised steel skid frame, easy to slide on to a ute, complete with front & side forklift pockets & tie down points
 - Easy control hose 30m x 25mm with adjustable variable flow nozzle
 - Self-Filling capability with a 6m suction hose assemble, fast and efficient to fill at any dam, pool or large body of water



800L FIREGUARD[®] \$6,292
COMPACT FIRE FIGHTING UNIT INC GST

Exciting Upgrade Underway at Puzzletown6255:

Continued from cover... Geegeelup aged care centre, promising to enhance local tourism and community engagement for years to come.

"Puzzletown6255 remains open daily, thanks to our dedicated volunteer team. Visitors are welcome to follow the newly created path to the back door to enjoy the current exhibits", says Tessa. President of the BGTA. For those interested in getting involved, please contact Tessa at 6255tourismassociation@gmail.com.

"Revitalize, Contemporize, Merchandize, Socialize, Tantalize, Mesmerize" Come join us in creating a vibrant future for Bridgetown at Puzzletown6255 – a new name, a new era, and endless pieces of community spirit. Tessa

St Brigid's Parish Anniversary

Continued from page 2... been a Scottish slave who was baptized by St Patrick; so, Brigid herself was born into slavery but as a Christian.

Brigid is recorded as having founded a number of monasteries most notably in Kildare where she also founded a school of art which produced the Book of Kildare, a hand painted book of the four gospels. Sadly, the Book of Kildare has been lost.

Brigid legacy however is very apparent in Australia with a number of Collages and Schools right across Australia with the name St. Brigid's.



Call Today
0404 264 064

ALZ AUTO
MOBILE SERVICES

Licensed Repairer: MRB 11698
All Passenger Vehicles and 4wd Repairs
Boyup Brook to Bridgetown
and surrounding area
Quality Repairs carried out a good price

KULIKUP CONTRACTING

HAY CONTRACTING

Mowing, Raking, Bailing & Silage Wrapping available
Single bale silage wrapper

Fully auto, 1000 bale/day capacity.

CAT 972H LOADER

Padock Clean Ups, Fence Lines Etc, 5m Rake,
Bucket and Log Grab. All Areas

SPEED TILLER CONTRACTING

Builds soil up, Effective weed control, No burning
9.5m width, Competitive rates

Boyup Brook, Darkan, Kojonup and surrounding areas.
Call Luke for info or quote: 0428 673 053



MByM
MADE BY MATTHEW
CABINETRY - FURNITURE

Made By Matthew specializes in custom furniture and cabinetry.
From farm house to city suburbs, we work with our clients to create a design that suits your home and budget.

www.madebymatthew.com.au
0438 879 523 - admin@madebymatthew.com.au



HOWARD I. EVANS

BARRISTER & SOLICITOR
NOTARY PUBLIC

Serving the Lower South West for over 40 years
A wide range of services is offered including
Wills, Estates and General Legal advice
Home or Hospital visits can be arranged when the need is there.

7A Brockman Street, Manjimup

Office hours 9.30am - 1.30pm & from 2.30pm - 4.30pm

Monday to Friday

Ph 9771 1599 | Email howardevans@westnet.com.au

PRINTING SERVICE

The
Quality
Shop

All Aspects of General & Commercial Printing

- ★ Business Cards
- ★ Invoice Books
- ★ Fliers
- ★ Brochures
- ★ Envelopes
- ★ Direct Mail

125 Hampton Street, Bridgetown Telephone: 9761 1717
mailbag@bigpond.net.au | mailbag@thequalityshop.com.au



BKS REFRIGERATION

& AIR CONDITIONING PTY LTD

For all your Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Needs

Call Benn Scott

Mobile: 0407 389 858

Phone: 08 9761 4324 Fax: 08 9761 4098

Refrigeration & Air Conditioning

Domestic | Commercial | Evaporative

Repairs, Service and Installation

Nick Cole

0417 938 151

Bridgetown WA

AU 51553

ABN 96 909 172 153

2R Electrical

Richard Avard
Electrician
Domestic
and Commercial

Dardanup to Bridgetown

Mobile: 0419 046 225

Home: 9764 3090


EC 11899

e: avards@inet.net.au

A Place of Healing

Ray Murphy
Dip App Sc MATMS
Naturopath

- Dorn Spinal Therapy
- Dry Needling
- Hair Analysis

Call 0420 939 838 

Bronwyn Whiteford
Adv Dip WHM MATMS
Herbalist

- Herbs & Healing for Women
- Herbal Blends
- WA flower Essences

Call 0487 193 815

Allen's Window Cleaning

Tel: 0436 413 550

'Sing Christmas'

Come along and enjoy the singing of Christmas Carols at St Paul's Church on Monday 23rd December starting at 7pm. It's a wonderful evening to look forward to, and one that should not be missed. All are welcome.

There will be individual performances by Mary Evans, and the Jubilee Singers. Other soloists are to be finalised. And, of course, there will be many favourite carols for people to join in and sing along too.

The 'Carol Band' is made up of local musicians. Dale Kerber will play organ and Rosemary Wells on keyboard. The wind section will be Brody and Callum Dale on a range of wind instruments, and Tim and Sarah Streeter playing trumpet and clarinet respectively.

The strings section will be Joel Sheard and Tabitha Dale violin, Hannah Dale cello, Mary Evans and Adrian Williams guitars and Dave Bardsley electric bass.

The percussion section will be Sue Williams bodhran and Daun Crozier bongos. So, the 'band' is in fact a mini-orchestra. Hilary Bardsley, Conductor, has the job of keeping them all in order.

Reverend Sue Kemp will be leading the Carols. At St Paul's there has always been a carol service held in December. The service acquired its name 'Sing Christmas' around eight years ago. Since then, every year it has attracted more musicians to perform and take part in the concert.

Last year Ashley Karafilis joined the violin section. It's hoped he and a few others will be part of this year's 'Sing Christmas'.



Dale Kerber, Daun Crozier, Mary Myfanwy Evans,
Tim Streeter and Adrian Williams

People come together at the service to celebrate the great Christian festival.

St Paul's is one of the best performance venues in town. The acoustics are wonderful. Each year a 'wall of music' from the band is met with a 'wall of singing' coming back. It's magical, it's something you can feel.

Tim Streeter, the trumpet player, says, "It's my favourite musical event of the year".

The performance runs for an hour and a half. Tea, coffee, Christmas cake along with joyous conversations will be offered after the carols.

Everyone is most welcome to attend. St Paul's seating capacity is 120. Be early to be seated inside.



Are you moving soon

Call Us at South West Removals and Storage
Local and family owned

Weekly Perth deliveries, all South West areas and North West. Short or long term storage, Everything wrapped in woolen blankets, whether we're going 400m or 400 kms.

9725 4766

South West Removals & Storage

"on Time, on Budget, every time"

You'll see our trucks passing through

www.swremovals.com.au

email: sales@swremovals.com.au



Advertisements, Advertorial and Community Editorial copy in The Mailbag are the responsibility of the author. The views expressed are not necessarily those of The Mailbag. While The Mailbag makes every reasonable effort to ensure that no misleading claims or statements are made, responsibility is not accepted by The Mailbag for statements made or for failure of any products or services to give satisfaction. Inclusions of a product or service should not be construed as an endorsement or recommendation by The Mailbag. Any pricing or agreements can be reviewed at the discretion of The Mailbag, with notification to our advertisers as soon as possible after that review has been made.