


Adam Tenkins
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, Yornup & Catterick

Life's challenges aren't meant to be faced alone

At Henri's you'll find:

- A safe, welcoming and confidential space
- Connection with others who understand
- Help to grow and better navigate life's ups and downs
- Guided, evidence based, group programs

Henri's Wellbeing Centre - 16 Hester St., Bridgetown

0436 482 027 admin@henris.net www.henris.net

February 3rd 2026

VOLUME 34 NO: 5 ISSUE 361

THE MAILBAG

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

Kickin' It Country 13 - 15 February 2026

Three huge days of country with Andrew Swift, Ella Hooper and over 20 WA artists, plus the Ute and Truck Parade, Street

Carnival, WA's biggest Bush Poets Breakfast and the WA Country Music Awards.

Every February, Boyup Brook throws open its gates and becomes something else entirely. Roads fill with caravans, music drifts across the hills, and familiar faces are joined by visitors who return year after year. For three sun-soaked days, the town becomes a meeting place for music lovers, families, farmers, storytellers, first-timers and lifelong Muster die-hards. In 2026, that transformation happens again as the Boyup Brook Country Music Muster returns for its 39th year, louder, broader and more proudly local than ever.

This is not a festival you rush through. It is one you settle into. Boots collect dust, strangers become friends, and the soundtrack rolls from morning to midnight. With national headliners Andrew Swift and Ella Hooper leading a powerhouse lineup of WA artists, the Muster delivers big moments while staying true to its roots. Kicking It Country is not just a slogan here, it is a promise to the town, the artists and everyone who calls Boyup Brook home.

Around the music sits everything that makes the Muster part of Boyup Brook's identity, the Street Carnival filling the main street with colour and families, the rumble and pride of the ute and truck parade, the laughter and sharp truths of the bush poets, and the WA Country Music Awards shining a light on the talent this town has helped nurture for decades. It is a weekend that belongs as much to the community as it does the crowd, a celebration built by locals, backed by volunteers, and shared with everyone who rolls into town each February.



Andrew Swift



Ella Hooper



Codee-Lee




Sally Jane

THE RIGHT STUFF For Landholders

12 ROSE STREET BRIDGETOWN
 Call Rob on 9761 4725






Blowers, Fire Fighting Pumps Household pumps and Pressure Tanks

Bailiwick Legal.

BRIDGETOWN

Bailiwick Legal is a specialist firm in agriculture and tourism, servicing businesses across rural and regional WA

- Partnership establishment & dissolutions
- Leases & Business sale contracts
- Land access for wind farms, mining & petroleum
- Succession planning & estate disputes
- Dispute resolution including litigation

Bailiwick Legal Bridgetown
4 Steere Street, Bridgetown
(By Appointment Only)

email office@bailiwicklegal.com.au or
call 9321 5451 for an appointment



Rodney Hester

Show Talk

Hi Everyone, Another year has begun with another busy program ahead of us.

As many of you know the storm we experienced on show day resulted in varying damages to our ground infrastructure and the loss of some gazebos. We have been busy liaising with our insurance to see what can and cannot be claimed. Unfortunately, much of the ground damage is not claimable and some of our wish list items will take a step back while we repair the damaged areas.

Retirement/Stepping Down. It is always hard to have to say farewell to those who have played a big part in the progression of a community group. People who give 100 percent plus in everything they have done during their time.

Rodney Hester announced his retirement in December. Rodney joined the Society in 1978. During his 47 years, he served as President from 1985 to 1989, presided during the 100th two-day Show celebrations in 1988, been involved in major earthworks and events at the grounds, fulfilled various roles on Showday and in later years as Chief Wool Steward and fronting up to untold numbers of busy bees with his tractor...*Continued on page 15*



HAMPTON PARTNERS

— Bridgetown - Boyup Brook - Nannup —

Accountants



Taxation - SMSF's
- Business Services -
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
0437 325 299
admin@hpb.com.au



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

New Leaders at BGFF

After 17 years of dedicated commitment, Richard Wittenoom made the difficult decision to step down as President of Bridgetown Greenbushes Friends of the Forest (BGFF) at the December AGM. Alison Wright was subsequently nominated and elected as President and her partner Jonathan Steer as Vice President.

The couple joined BGFF at the 2024 Sundowner and AGM and in the year since have played key roles in the Save Dalgarpur working group, a collaboration between BGFF and Blackwood Environment Society, fighting to prevent the approval of mining exploration tenements across the Dalgarpur Donnelly forest area.

The couple have been actively involved in exploring overgrown tracks and utilising trail cameras to locate threatened and endangered species in the mining claim areas. A number of their findings are posted on the 'Save Dalgarpur' Facebook page.

Jon's latest initiative is to record and analyse bird calls at a number of sites, using specialised software that identifies bird species and the number of times detected.

This has potential for an important time based database



**Hillview Electrical
Service**
EC: 11529

Jim Elliott
P: 9761 1677
M: 0438 611 678
E: elliottj3@bigpond.com

Domestic | Commercial | Industrial

of forest bird life in an era of climate change.

Whilst Alison and Jon don't have environmental backgrounds, Alison worked in inventory / supply chain management and Jon in IT, they both bring passion and a love of the forest and creatures that live there.

Alison would like to honour the work of the preceding leaders by continuing the legacy of forest protection achieved by BGFF since its inception in 1987.

For the first 20 years Jim or Mary Frith took the helm and for a short time Eric Wheatley. However the 2008 AGM Minutes report that while Nick Dodson was elected as Vice President there were no nominations for President. Nick acted as President for about 6 months but work commitments precluded him taking the chair.

At this stage Mary Frith head-hunted Richard Wittenoom to do some work on the old web site and subsequently he agreed to take the chair.

The next five years were full of action. The mid-term evaluation of the current Forest Management Plan was open for public review...*Continued on page 8*



Beverley Walsh, Julia Boyle, Alison Wright, Richard Wittenoom, Deeren Mackman, Tania Harrison, Jon Steer

Introducing Holly – Sales Representative

Blackwood Valley Real Estate is proud to announce Holly as our newest **Sales Representative**, bringing a genuine passion for property and people to the Blackwood Valley community.

Holly is known for her honesty, kindness, and strong work ethic. With a background in community, leadership, hospitality, and tourism management, she brings integrity, determination, and a people-first approach to every property journey.

Holly's real estate experience began at 26 with the purchase of her first investment property, sparking a lasting enthusiasm for buying and selling property. She understands that real estate is more than a transaction—it's about milestones, opportunities, and new chapters.

☎ 0407 996 571

✉ holly@blackwoodvalley.com

🌐 www.blackwoodvalleyrealestate.com

It's always a journey—and Holly would love to take it with you.



BLACKWOOD VALLEY
Real Estate

☎ (08) 9761 2722

✉ zara@blackwoodvalley.com

📍 107 Hampton Street, Bridgetown WA 6255

Window and Gutter Cleaning

Fully Insured, family owned exterior cleaning business located in the Southern Forest Region

Our Services

- Roof Cleaning
- Gutter Cleaning
- Window Cleaning
- Mould removal from building walls
- General Pressure Cleaning

Southern Professional Exterior Cleaning

BOOK NOW

0424 856 800



Bridgetown RSL sub-branch is once again hosting a virtual 5km Run Army run/ walk at the blackwood river park. There had been a lot of interest from the community after last year's event to have it for 2026.

The focus is to assist legacy WA through fundraising with the shared benefit of fitness as we run or walk alongside friends and family on hopefully a fair-weather day.

The concept was instigated originally by members of the ADF serving in Brisbane and Townsville several years ago to fundraise for various charities involved with the ADF or emergency services. Members of the police, fire and ambulance along with the community as well as serving and ex defence members are encouraged to join with us for this year's Bridgetown Run Army 2026.

The 2026 Race Shirt is dedicated to all military working dogs. If you want to Register for the virtual 5km run or walk to obtain merchandise (part profits returned to charities). Check the Bridgetown RSL sub-branch Facebook page posts for details about Run Army Virtual registration.

It's a virtual event as the physical event is held in Brisbane and Townsville. What does that mean for Bridgetown, well we provide the 5km course and plenty of encouragement with individuals self-timing (for those die hards!) or simply everyone getting from start to finish. Some have asked about a timing device at the start/ finish point but it's a work in progress currently.

The event will be held at 8:30am on Sunday the 19th of April at the Blackwood River Park in the week leading up to Anzac Day. It's going Australia wide and internationally again this year with virtual events around the world and in Bridgetown.

We want to encourage everyone to participate, soldiers, families or anybody who wants to be part of a great community event. Run army is a great way to come together to show our support for Legacy WA. It's on rain hail or shine!! Not participating but want to help on the day, then make contact on 0413447958 Robert Robb

My Autosparky 0474 279 755

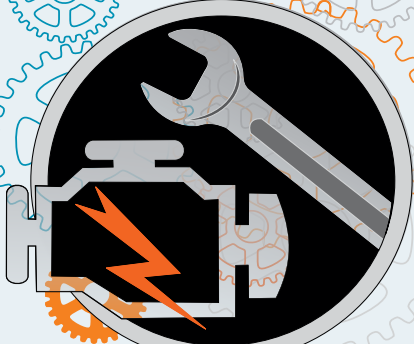
myautosparky@icloud.com

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

[e: puddletown@westnet.com.au](mailto:puddletown@westnet.com.au)

www.puddletown.com.au

Downunder Country 2026

The 13th Annual Downunder Country is on again at the Bridgetown Showgrounds 20-22 March.

A weekend of traditional country music and bush poetry, line dancing and old time dancing.

This year sees a new line-up of artists including Warwick Trant, Gav Brown pictured below, Darren Gillis, Billy Higginson, Mal Russell, and including Bridgetown locals "That Guy" and Eddy Blondel.

Other artists appearing for their second time are Connie Kis Andersen, Mindy Stacey and Dave Kent.

Kate Hindle will be back again, she started as a 12 year old in our first Downunder Country in 2011 and has performed every year since. The line-up also includes Rogue Pony and Kathy Carver.

Local singers, Sisters of Corn, will be back again for the Gospel section Sunday morning following the Bush Poets Breakfast. Bush Poets will include Alan Aitken (Bush Poet Co-ordinator), Irene Conner, Christine Boulton, Peter Rudolf, Ron Evans and Bill Gordon.

The event starts Friday 10, Saturday 10am and Sunday 8am. Any enquiries please contact David (0429 109334) Therese (0448 387878) Coleen (9761 9055)



Clovers General Store
Monday - Saturday 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-Saturday 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



Transition Bridgetown PRESENTS

Blackwood Regen Fest

Sat 21 March 2026, 8.30am-12.30pm
Ashbil Community Garden Bridgetown

WASTE FREE EVENT

Join local experts, community groups and ethical businesses for a free celebration of education, inspiration and fun
Learn empowering skills to live a more regenerative lifestyle

Free workshops and activities sharing knowledge on regenerative practices
stalls from local producers, artisans and community groups
native plant sale - electric vehicle Q & A - meet the native animals
maker's market - natural healing and wellbeing practitioners - gourmet food and coffee - upcycled clothing bazaar - kids activities and much more!

SUPPORTED BY

Rotary
Club of Bridgetown



February Update



Blast Noise Exceedance and Ongoing Improvement Work

Recent blasting activity has been more noticeable for some residents than usual, including in areas that don't often feel our blasts, such as parts of Bridgetown. We appreciate the people who have taken the time to get in touch, whether directly or through our online channels. Your feedback helps us understand what is being experienced in town and where improvements may be needed.

Two blasts in January prompted significant community feedback, both directly and online. These occurred on 11 January and 22 January.

The 11 January blast reached 124 dBL, which is above Talison's regulatory approved Sunday airblast limit of 120 dBL. The license limit from Monday to Saturday is 125 dBL under Talison's Regulation 17 noise conditions.

This is the first airblast exceedance Talison has reported since these limits were introduced in 2015. We understand that this blast was more noticeable than usual. Most of our blasts register around 100 dBL, so this one understandably stood out.

Both investigations into the blast concluded that a routine "pre-split" blast in an upper part of the mine was the cause. A pre-split blast is a technique used to cleanly break rock away from a final pit wall, which is critical for the stability of walls and therefore safety. Pre-split blasts can be significantly louder than production blasting.

Following the investigations we identified several changes we can make to the way we design this type of blast. These include reviewing and further optimising the firing sequence to reduce potential noise impacts; increasing the use of sand to cover blast holes to help muffle noise; and reducing the number of holes fired simultaneously to minimise instantaneous energy generation. Talison has implemented these changes for any future blasts of this type.

The blast on 22 January also led to increased feedback from the community. We take all concerns seriously and encourage people to keep contacting us if something does not feel right or if you would like more information.

We will continue working to improve how we manage impacts and to communicate openly with the community. If you have a question or concern, you are welcome to contact us at gbcontact@talisonlithium.com.

Follow the Progress of Talison's Stakeholder Reference Committee

Over recent years we have heard clearly that as the Greenbushes Lithium Operation grows, our engagement with the community needs to grow alongside it. While our existing engagement channels remain important and effective, it was evident that we also needed a more structured way to hear from a broader range of people.

To support this, Talison established a Stakeholder Reference Committee (SRC) last year. The SRC brings together representatives from different parts of the community and provides a regular forum to raise issues, share feedback and discuss topics such as environmental management, operational impacts, community investment and long term planning. Meeting minutes and updates are available at www.talisonlithium.com/community.

The first SRC meeting for 2026 was held on 20 January. A key topic was the 11 January blast. An overview of the blast and initial findings from investigations was provided. SRC members shared their first hand experiences and raised ideas about how we can improve communication around our blasting schedule and be more transparent with the community.

Other concerns raised included dust on homes and vehicles, traffic safety, along with lighting. Talison provided updates on work underway and discussed where additional focus is required.

The meeting also included updates on haulage options that have been explored.

While only in its very early planning stages, discussion on a proposed project looking at the long term future of Greenbushes formed part of the meeting. SRC members highlighted the need for clear communication and genuine collaboration as this work progresses. Talison agrees that planning for the long term future of Greenbushes must be led by the community, local government and state government agencies, with support from Talison.

We encourage community to follow what is being discussed and how community feedback is helping shape our operations by reading the SRC meeting minutes and updates online.

Talison Eager to Support More Community Projects

Did you know Talison's community investment and support programs accept applications all year round? Through these programs and partnerships, Talison supports schools, emergency services, youth programs, community facilities, biodiversity conservation and local events. These contributions aim to strengthen local services and help build thriving and resilient communities across the region.

As we move further into 2026, Talison is eager to hear from local organisations with ideas that can benefit the region. We welcome contact from community groups, incorporated organisations, sporting clubs, environmental groups, schools and not-for-profits, whether you are exploring a new idea or already have a plan in place. If your project supports your local community, we would be interested in hearing from you.

We will continue to invest in initiatives that improve health and wellbeing, expand education and learning opportunities, support community connection, celebrate local culture and history, protect the environment and strengthen long term community resilience. Funding is prioritised for projects that benefit people living within 50 kilometres of the Greenbushes Lithium Operation, including the Shires of Bridgetown Greenbushes, Donnybrook Balingup, Manjimup, Boyup Brook and Nannup.

In 2025, Talison committed more than \$3.1 million through the Community Investment Program, Community Support Program, partnership agreements and education support. While much of this funding supported projects in the shires surrounding the mine, additional support was provided to organisations and community groups across the wider South West.

Our Community Team is available to discuss project ideas and help guide you through the application process. Contact gbcontact@talisonlithium.com or visit www.talisonlithium.com/community.

Talison is proud to be part of this region, not only as an employer but as neighbours and community members. We look forward to working with more local organisations in 2026 to support initiatives that help our communities thrive.



Pictured: The impressive Sandakan Park in Boyup Brook, funded through Talison's Community Investment Program.

FOR A BETTER FUTURE

TALISONLITHIUM.COM

TALISONLITHIUM.COM



Tawny Frogmouth

My block in Bridgetown is home to a large variety of birds. The noisy chatter of honey eaters is always a wakeup call; they only need the slightest ray of morning light, and they are up and about.

The silver eyes also swarm in numbers at the crack of dawn making a din. My other bird residents the magpies, mudlarks, kookaburras and wrens are all up at a reasonable hour. Although, when there is a full moon, or even a glimmer of some moonlight, the magpies do chortle all night.

And of course there are a lot of visiting birds such as, 28's, red crested parrots, green parrots, willy wag tails, black cockatoos, crows, ducks and hawks all making an appearance at differing times throughout the year.

One bird, however always manages to surprise me, it is the tawny frogmouth. Several years ago, while I was mowing my paddock, I stopped the mower and got off to pick up a lump of wood which was in the way. As I reached down to pick it up, the lump winked at me, it surprised and startled me, sending me backwards cursing.

Over the years I have had less surprising but similar encounters with the tawny frogmouth, only spotting them through their camouflage when they winked.

Being a nocturnal bird, they sleep during the day. So, I managed to come across their roosting spots only quite by accident. At times when picking fruit, trimming branches or like one year I spotted a couple of them roosting on a wood



heap that I was about to set fire to.

The family of tawny frogmouths this year have now gone on to produce a couple of fledglings, and again I didn't spot them until they winked at me.

This happened as I was mowing down hill, I managed to get myself into bother when I jammed the ride on mower up against a tree, I had to dismount and while I was struggling to free the mower, I spotted four branches blinking. I assumed they were either amused by the dilemma I had got myself into, or was it a response to the fact they been rudely awakened.



When you choose *Alison..*

.. you get

All of Us.

When you choose Alison, you are getting more than just one person.

Our team, our experience, our technology, our marketing and our global reach come together to deliver a service beyond expectations.

That's All of Us, working for you.

Contact Alison to make your next move a success.



Alison Rutten

Ray White Stocker Preston | Bridgetown

0421 477 818

New Leaders at BGFF

Continued from page 3...and logging of an area of mature, intact, mixed old-growth forest in Warrup block, south west of Greater Kingstons National park, was scheduled.

BGFF prepared a major response to the process and a public meeting was held with papers by Leonie van der Maesen, Rus Catomore and Richard to a full Lesser Hall.

Despite logging commencing in Warrup, BGFF did not give up and mounted a continuing campaign, including a parliamentary petition with 1451 signatures, assisted by the WA forest Alliance, the South West Forest Defense Foundation (thank you, Beth Schultz), and in the forest itself Simon "two dogs" Pettefly and the Forest Rescue crew. Up to 90 people were present at the events in the forest.

The campaigning raised much awareness of the significance of the Warrup forest and although the government allowed logging to continue, the heightened focus no doubt helped to protect some parts of it.

During the following ten years Richard kept BGFF alive on a "care and maintenance" basis, supported by a small dedicated Committee and regular members. Time was spent on supporting the 42 sq km Kingstons Fauna Habitat Zone and representing the shire in government initiatives such as "Plan for our Parks".

Whilst the BGFF submissions to expand the Dalgarp National Park and the Kingstons National Park were not adopted by the government, the process sparked renewed interest in Dalgarp, about which most people knew little. The awareness of a small group, either long remembered or newly discovered, has made possible our active objections to the mining exploration claims.

Alison and Jon have been actively involved in the fight against this threat to our forests in the past year. BGFF will be in good hands.

If you are interested in joining BGFF, or want to learn more about the group, then Alison can be contacted at president@bgff.org.au or 0427 285 640.

Put your health first Find Cancer Early

Cancer Council WA is urging people over 40 years of age in the South West region to be aware of any new symptoms and get them checked this holiday season, as evidence shows that delays in treatment can result in poorer survival.

The holiday season gets pretty hectic, with a lot of focus on other people, so it's easy to forget about ourselves. Taking a little time to talk with your doctor about any symptoms can help you stay healthy for the moments that matter most.

The key message is to know your body and what is normal for you. If you notice a change that is not normal for you, you should see your doctor, clinic nurse or Aboriginal health worker, especially if you have coughed up blood or noticed blood in your poo or pee. People should see a health professional if they have had any of these symptoms for more than four weeks: Problems peeing; Runny poo or diarrhoea; Unexplained weight loss; Becoming short of breath; A persistent cough; A new or changing spot on the skin; An unusual pain, lump or swelling anywhere in the body.

If you have any of these symptoms, it doesn't mean you've got cancer, often, it turns out to be something less serious. It's important to get them checked straight away just in case, as treatment works best when cancer is found at an early stage.

Cancer information and support. To find out more about common cancer symptoms, visit www.findcancerearly.com.au, or if you're feeling overwhelmed and you need someone to talk to, call the Cancer Council Information and Support Line on 13 11 20.

THE
STABLES
BRIDGETOWN



WHERE THE *locals* MATTER
Keeping it Local

Open 7 days
7.30am—8.00pm
Shopping locally builds our community
Phone 9761 1044

The Stables Bridgetown IGA
Offers a large range of
Weekly Specials at
Perth Metropolitan Prices.

Come and Visit Our Friendly Staff
Who Are here to help you
with your Shopping Needs
With the Freshest of Local
Produce and Vegetables
always available

Congratulations to Wendy
winner of the last months IGA Voucher


In February 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



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

GARNS AUTOELECTRICS & AIRCONDITIONING

MOBILE SERVICE AND REPAIR



David & Sherylyn Gawel
Ph: 0400 226 721

Servicing Bridgetown and the Southwest MRB 4162 AU29953

D. HOLWAY PLUMBING & GAS



"LET ME FIX YOUR JOBBIES"
0400 033 123
 HOLWAYPLUMBING@GMAIL.COM

WATER - SANITARY DRAINAGE & GAS
 PL8794 GF013681 EW161254 B.F.7019

OUT GLASSÉD

Matthew Wheat
0460 609 027
 outglassededcleaning@gmail.com
 www.outglassededcleaning.com

Window Cleaning
 Track Cleaning
 Fly Screen Clean & Repair
 Interior House Cleaning
 Solar Panel Cleaning
 Gutter Cleaning



Transition Bridgetown

New year, new energy for Transition Bridgetown.

Transition Bridgetown is entering the New Year with a spring in its step and a determination to play its part in strengthening the sustainability of our community.

Reduce, repair and recycle is the mantra at the core of its commitment to treading more carefully on the earth.

Its regular Repair Cafés are a great opportunity for people in Bridgetown and Greenbushes to bring their household appliances and other things in for some skilled repairers to breathe new life into them and divert them from the tip.

We've had a great response from repairers for the next one at the Bridgetown Lesser Hall on the 21st of February. One highlight will be the workshop on using power tools in the home and garden for the beginner starting at 10am. While you're there keep an eye out for the short documentary on Repair Cafés we'll be running throughout the event.

We've recently applied for a grant from Transition Network International which will go a long way to helping this year's Repair Cafés a reality should it succeed. We'd like to thank them for making the process so straightforward and simple.

New shed: Speaking of grants, the shed housing the wash trailer is now complete, with thanks to Lotterywest for funding for the project.

The shed was a joint effort with the Blackwood Environment Society, which is located at the Ashbil Community Garden.

The shed also provides storage and shelter for the Bridgetown Community Landcare Nursery and its team of enthusiastic volunteers.

It was officially opened on Saturday the 31st of January with a morning tea event, where once again the Wash Trailer was put to good use.

Wash trailer: The wash trailer was also put through its paces during Talison's Christmas Party where it was very much appreciated. Our volunteers also reportedly had a great time at the event.

We're excited that its also being used in our community by Pip and Bevan Mills for the Willow Whispers music nights, thus reducing waste from the events, and helping with funds for ongoing maintenance for the wash trailer! A win-win scenario.

Recycling: The recycling hub at the library continues to prove an invaluable resource for recycling some otherwise challenging products, but recycling aerosol cans remains a problem that Transition Bridgetown will be working to solve this year.

The group now has 44 active members and hundreds more on the mailing list, but of course there's always room for more, so don't be shy about joining us!

You can also keep up to date with what's happening by keeping an eye on our Facebook page. There's always something going on with Transition Bridgetown!



BUILDING RENOVATIONS REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

CALL TONY 0400 368 323
 SERVICING THE BRIDGETOWN AREA

STALEY CARPENTRY

Junior Landcarers Program

At the beginning of 2026, Blackwood Environment Society (BES) and Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Landcare (B-GCLC) will launch their new Junior Landcarers Program. This twelve-month program focusses on providing the youth and families of the Blackwood region with opportunities to learn about their local environment, the threats that it faces and how they can be a part of positive solutions. Through hands-on activities and outdoor education, participants will gain practical skills and knowledge to assist them in becoming more aware and connected to their natural environment, installing in them the important role each individual plays in creating a sustainable future.

The Program will focus on activities that persuade young people to consider sustainability, revegetation, propagation of native plant species, local wildlife, Indigenous awareness, soil and compost, pollinators and wildflowers, nature-based craft and upcycling clothing for the slow fashion movement. With the abundance of environmentally educated, art and sustainably focused individuals living in the South-west, BES strives to create a sense of caring and responsibility for the future of the environment, through multi-generational knowledge and skill sharing. The program will utilise skills from numerous individual local people, giving them the opportunity to pass down knowledge and interact with youth in a positive manner.

The Junior Landcarer program will be run once per month for a twelve-month period to begin, with the aim of extending the program into the future, possibly creating a more permanent Junior Landcarers Program for the region. The topics covered at these events will be suitable for all age levels, some with parent participation required. They will give the youth of the area the skills and confidence to use and share their knowledge gained, continuing to spread awareness along their path to a sustainable future....

Continued on Page 13



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

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

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

ESTD. 1995

0419 964 791

TV ANTENNAS VAST SATELLITE SYSTEMS
SECURITY CAMERAS ALARM SYSTEMS

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

**BLACKWOOD VALLEY
REMOVALS & STORAGE**

PH: **0487 338 883**

30 yrs exp.

**BRIDGETOWN
MANJIMUP
PEMBERTON
BUNBURY
MANDURAH
PERTH**

Boyup Property Maintenance

- ★ Gutter Cleaning (house, Shed etc)
- ★ Pressure Washing (roofs, driveways etc)
- ★ Solar Panel Cleaning
- ★ Flue Cleaning
- ★ Fully Insured, Police Clearance

Servicing Boyup Brook and Beyond to 100ks.

Call Rob 0438 113 870

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

STEEL N CUSTOMS
WELDING & FABRICATION

Shed repairs, fabrication and construction
farm equipment - mobile and onsite welding

Deak Newton ~ Boilermaker / Welder
0418 613 953 e: dnsteelfabrication@gmail.com

For all your light and heavy vehicle
servicing requirements, call us today

- ★ VEHICLE - 4 X 4 - EARTHMOVING
- ★ BREAKDOWNS
- ★ MAINTENANCE
- ★ FIELD SERVICE

MA MECHANICAL

0418 904 888

The Repertory is gearing up for 2026 and beyond, it promises to be exciting

Bridgetown Repertory Club has welcomed new committee members this year and we have started 2026 with energy and many creative ideas flowing.

The club is grateful for the support of the community over the many years and we are looking at new and fun ways to promote and encourage drama in Bridgetown. We want to promote the arts in our community and develop the talents of our members. We would love to welcome new faces to the club.

Come and connect and have fun at our very cool and unique theatre.

We would love to see budding actors, directors and backstage crew at the theatre. So, you have an interest, an idea, a script you want to bring to life, or just have a curiosity about roles and positions, get in touch with Ray Galloway. Ray is our member 'officer' and he can provide you with information and help connect you with different people in the club. Ray - 0408082078 raymie_twd@hotmail.com

We understand that it is often hard to join a club if you don't know anyone or know where to start and we want to make it easier for people to come and be involved. So, we will be holding open days and social evenings; these will include such activities as improvisation nights, script readings, workshops, games nights. So, come along to these events and see what the theatre is about...or just have a fun night out. Keep an eye on local media for details.

Of course, the theatre has a focus on entertaining the community and we will be putting on four performances this year - one act plays, musical performances, a comic-drama and a large-scale show.

We kick off the year with two one act plays. Auditions for both plays will be held at the theatre on 8th February at 2pm.

There are varied roles for adults and roles can be altered to suit actor ages and genders. In fact, one of the plays has been solely performed by youth in the past - so any age 12+ can fill the parts. Young and old people please apply.

One-Act plays offer a less demanding rehearsal schedule and are a great way to get involved in the theatre and have a go onstage or backstage and meet people.

Plays will be performed on the weekends of March 20-22 and March 27-29

Come along to auditions or contact Glenn glennrturner@hotmail.com for more information and an audition pack.

The two plays are:

Tracks By Peter Tarsi Directed by Glenn Turner

"Ten strangers meet in a subway station after death and must decide whether to board a train that could lead to Heaven or Hell."

Tracks is a one-act play about choice, faith, guilt, and human connection. Each character shares their story and faces the question: Do I get on the train without knowing where it goes?

Themes include big life questions, emotional conversations, and moments of tension.

UXB Written and Directed by Rob Snelling

A young girl questions her grandfather about The War. He recalls his time on the bomb disposal unit, recounting the time that he attended a bombed house in London. He tells how he discovered a woman trapped under an unexploded device and he was tasked with freeing her. A poignant look at historical circumstances and human connection and the lasting effects of both.



SECURE AIRPORT PARKING

Flying out these holidays? Need FIFO parking? Make it easy and book your car in with Hamer Airport Parking - **safe, secure, convenient.** We're open from 4am on week days. Book online now enjoy your trip knowing your car is in good hands.

LOCATED AT
T3 & T4

FIFO
SPECIALISTS

UNDERCOVER PARKING SPOTS

— Get an Instant Quote or Book Now —

www.airport.com.au 9277 4775 Parking@airport.com.au

END OF AN ERA



Closing its doors after 11 years

**HUGE DISCOUNTS
ALL STOCK & FITTINGS MUST GO**

**Fabric - Yarn - Patterns - Kits
Threads - Notions - Quilts**

**FINAL DAYS
NOW TO 27th March 2026**

**Any unused Gift Vouchers must be
Redeemed before Closure**

Junior Landcarers Program

Continued from page 11... To kick off the program BES held the 'From Little Things Big Things Grow' event at the BES Community Landcare Nursery, where participants assisted our Nursery Manager Kylie with potting-on of baby seedlings, getting them ready to grow big and strong for next year's planting season. It was a great hands-on morning, learning about our local plants and the processes undertaken by our nursery volunteers to grow native plants for gardens, properties and our local reserves. All attendees will have a chance later in the year to help our Community Landcare Officer Karrie plant these seedlings at Somme Creek Parkland. Being part of the whole process is a great way for young people to understand the importance of caring for and rehabilitating our local bushland areas, creating protected habitats for local wildlife and beautiful spaces for our community to enjoy.

Our second Jnr Landcarers event, 'Who Built that Nest' will be held on Saturday February 7th the Memorial Park, starting at 9am, focusing on the different types of nests built by birds, attempting to establish which species of bird built the nest. With the help of Kylie Tizard participants will then weave their own nests out of natural fibers to take home. Participants can bring along discarded bird nests they have found to show everyone, along with any feathers or natural materials they wish to add to their own nests. Children under 12 will need to bring a parent along. Registration for this event are essential as places are limited, to register your interest for this event or be on the email list for our Junior Landcarers Program email Karrie at nrmbridgetown@gmail.com.

Wattle Grove Firewood



Sustainably sourced firewood
Choice of jarrah or white gum
Bagged or bulk loads
Free delivery for bulk orders

Card payments. Discounts available for cash
Licensed (Ps63000359) and fully insured

Brian: 0427 251 051 brian@wattlegrovefarm.com

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

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



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



Tel: 97 612 525

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

Allwood Stump Grinding

AEN 44 940 578 427

For all your stump removal
 Greenbushes & Southwest



Call for a FREE Quote today

Michael 0427 611 916

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: tucksgardenservices@gmail.com



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

Cocky's and Community Catch Up

The Bridgetown Greenbushes Suicide Prevention Network (BGSPN) is very excited to invite all within our community to an evening of friendship and fun which is to be held on the 20th February, at the Bridgetown Football Club.

Colin Booth, Rotary member and board member of BGSPN explains the theme of the evening, "This year we have engaged a guest presenter,

Giles Roberts. We envisage the evening will be light hearted and fun as well as being moral boosting and informative along with a few fun games throughout the evening.

"Everyone is welcome to come to this community event, it's for family, wives and work colleagues to come together, share a meal, have a yarn, and connect during the evening.

"A night of fun and camaraderie with some important messages to help improve mental health in the community.

"Delicious burgers will be cooked up by our wonderful Rotary Club so please RSVP so you don't miss out on one. This is all free, but please register on this link or via the QR code [https://www.trybooking.com / DIUKD](https://www.trybooking.com/DIUKD)

"This year will be third time we have held the 'Catch Up', it is really needed within our community, informing those around us of the serious nature of mental health and reminding us of the need to checkup on family members, colleagues and mates.

"The evening has been made possible by the Bridgetown Bulldogs opening up the club rooms for the evening and running the bar for anyone wanting to buy a drink.

"Australia Post has given a grant of \$6,000 towards this 'Community Catch Up'.

Colin concludes with "We can't wait to see you there."

BRIDGETOWN-GREENBUSHES SUICIDE PREVENTION NETWORK


COCKY'S COMMUNITY CATCH UP

The Bridgetown-Greenbushes Suicide Prevention Network invites you to a Cocky's Catch Up community event for locals to come together, share a meal, have a yarn, and connect and enjoy a fun evening with Giles Roberts!

Everyone is welcome.

ABOUT GILES ROBERTS

We're delighted to have Giles Roberts as MC for the evening.

Giles is a natural host with a great sense of humour and an easy way of bringing people together. He knows how to keep things flowing, set the tone, and make people feel comfortable - whether that means a laugh, a light moment, or a thoughtful pause.

With his warmth and relaxed style, Giles is the perfect person to help make this a fun, enjoyable night that feels easy and inclusive for everyone.

**RSVP BY 13 FEBRUARY 2026
TO RESERVE A FREE HAMBURGER
COLIN BOOTH 0409 965 083
[HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/DIUKD](https://www.trybooking.com/DIUKD)**







**20 FEBRUARY 2026
5.30PM TO 8.30PM**

**BRIDGETOWN BULLDOGS
FOOTBALL CLUBROOMS**



Show Talk

Continued from page 2... Rodney's wife Lorraine has also been a great support. Rodney will still be around to help us if we need advice and to share a cuppa on Showday.

Jo Moore is stepping down for a few years to try and catch up on a busy life involving work and family. Jo joined the Committee in 2019 taking on the role of Secretary through to 2023. Jo continued as Treasurer for a year and has willingly filled these positions on and off whenever there was a change of roles.

Jo's knowledge and time spent with grant applications has been invaluable to the Committee and her support with the Entertainment and ground events will be greatly missed. As a loving volunteer, Jo has offered to continue her support in a lesser capacity and to be there bright and early on show day. Thanks Jo.

Seeking a Secretary. Get Involved in Your Community!

If you love community events and have a bit of spare time, this role is for you:

Help organise the Bridgetown Show;

Assist with events;

Manage facility hire and general admin;

Work with a supportive President, Treasurer and Committee;

Receive training from outgoing secretary and be part of something that keeps our local traditions alive;

Monthly meetings | Honorarium offered | Suits part-time worker/retiree;

Helpful skills: Social media advertising, e-ticketing systems (e.g. Humanitix) Microsoft Word.

Please email your interest with your resume and covering letter to secretarybridgetownagsoc@gmail.com

Next Meeting will be on Wednesday 11th February 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 (Calls only - no Texts) or email: secretarybridgetownagsoc@gmail.com website address is www.bridgetownshow.com.au

Like us on Facebook 'Bridgetown Agricultural Show' or follow us on Instagram



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



Mobile IT/Computer Problem Solver

Bridgetown-based, serving clients across the South-West onsite and remotely.

tmb@itechwa.com.au

www.itechwa.com.au

0413 136 964

iTech WA

Refrigeration & Air Conditioning

Domestic | Commercial | Evaporative

Repairs, Service and Installation

Nick Cole

0417 938 151

Bridgetown WA

AU 51553

ABN 96 909 172 153



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 at a good price



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

0408 875 523 admin@madebymatthew.com.au

Transition Bridgetown Bridgetown and Community Landcare Nursery Shed is officially open

After a yearlong effort, Transition Bridgetown and Bridgetown Community Landcare Nursery have constructed their new shed and it is operational.

The new shed houses the Transition Bridgetown "Wash Against Waste" trailer and all the equipment needed to fit the trailer for specific events. The Bridgetown Community Landcare Nursery benefits directly from the new shed with shelving to store pots and nursery propagation equipment as well as their trailer. And there is the added benefit of having the open lean-to adjacent to the nursery which will be used by volunteers in wet weather and on market days to house tables of brochures and information for landholders.

To celebrate this important milestone the groups held an official opening of the shed last Saturday morning January 31st, at Ashbil Community Garden. Transition Bridgetown, Bridgetown Community Landcare volunteers and Ashbil Community Garden members joined to view the facility, followed by a shared morning tea. Ingrid Barker and Jenny Dewing, chairs of Transition Bridgetown and Blackwood Environment Society respectively, outlined each of the group's activities



Community Shed: David Chick, Emmanuel Podolak, Ingrid Barker, Jenny Dewing, Thelma Barge, Harry Welmink and Jennifer Schofield

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

and goals followed by Jen Schofield, Chair of Ashbil Community Garden who conducted the formal opening by cutting the ribbon, made of local native vegetation. Following the opening, the public were invited to inspect the new facility and both the Community Landcare Nursery and the Ashbil Garden. A wonderful morning tea was served in the garden.

Lotterywest funded this facility with a grant of \$33,677 with additional funds provided by Transition Bridgetown, Blackwood Environment Society, and Talison for the rainwater tank. Sheds West, Manjimup, supplied and erected the shed and site works were prepared by Danny and Monica Farquhar, DR & ML Contractors. We particularly thank Danny and Monica for helping us sort out site problems after the unexpected torrential downpour in late November.

One of the most exciting benefits of the shed construction is to have three local community groups; Ashbil Community Garden, Transition Bridgetown Inc. and the Bridgetown Community Landcare Nursery collocated together, enabling the community to access all three groups and their services on the same site. The cooperation and sharing of the three groups enhance the community activities of each of the groups.
Jenny Dewing

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.