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Greenbushes Fun Run 2024

Greenbushes is gearing up for the annual Greenbushes Fun Run and Mountain Bike (MTB) Event.

The Greenbushes Fun Run and Mountain Bike event will be held on Sunday, 26th of May 2024. This is the ninth year the event has been held and has grown bigger and better with each passing year, attracting approximately 300 participants from all over the southwest region and Perth.

The Fun Run and MTB event is promoted as an inclusive, healthy, and active family event, which includes opportunities for a run, walk or mountain bike ride. The event is open to juniors U12, youth 13 - 17, open 18 plus and features a 10km run, 5km run / walk, 15km mountain bike ride or 5 km mountain bike. Prams and dogs are welcome. Registrations at <https://entryboss.cc/races/20304>

The Greenbushes Fun Run and Mountain Bike Event is coordinated by volunteers from Grow Greenbushes Incorporated with assistance from Talison Lithium, Greenbushes Community Resource Centre, and many more local businesses.

The picturesque course begins and ends at the Greenbushes Sports Complex and traverses bushland around the sports ground and north-western areas of town. The event starts early morning and presentations will be held midday with cash prizes. Prizes will also be awarded for the best dressed.

Greenbushes Primary School PnC will be holding a food stall to raise money for the local school and Tasty Edibles will be there with their famous sausage rolls. The event also features a mini field of pink ladies to commemorate people who lost their lives to breast cancer.

In 2023 the event raised \$11,482.50 for Breast Cancer Network of Australia and Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia when close to 280 people registered for the event across the various categories.

...Continued on page 15



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Charles Mauges, Emily nursing Francis Anly their youngest photographed with other settlers in Balingup

Old Shed History Exhibition in Balingup

The current exhibition in the Old Shed in Balingup shines a light into the lives, the hardships endured as well as the contribution made by the early settlers to the establishment of Balingup and the surrounding towns.

The early settlers came by horse and buggy and eventually by train to a community where there was very little infrastructure.

Word had got out that the land in the region was arable and of good quality and those looking for a new start in life arrived in Balingup taking up land for farming, orchard and dairying, and after the World War 1 some were granted land as part of the Soldier Settlement Scheme.

With that came industry and trades, blacksmithing, timber felling, garage service, general store, stage coach, and mining in nearby Greenbushes.

Those early settlers not only cleared and fenced their own land but had to become part of a small community and create a social environment for their families.

Stories on display are of: women having to travel by horse and buggy to Greenbushes or Nannup to deliver their babies or to have a home birth; families having to deal with miscarriages, childhood illness and death; having to bury their children on the properties, various accidents, broken legs and the like, but the stories are always looking ahead to improve their future and that of their children.

Their stories give an insight into how they lived and thrived on isolated properties, a completely different life to the one we live today, but showing, in time, we have come a really long way in a relatively short space in time.

One of those stories is about Charles and Emily Mauerger and their arrival in Balingup in 1906.

Charles was held in such high esteem and regard as a Constable of the Parish of St John's in Jersey, his home town, that on his departure he and Emily were awarded an album and 'purse' from the local community to ensure a good start in Australia...*Continued on page 14*

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Safeguarding our community

Our 2024 Influenza Season

While last year's flu season seemed to drag on longer than usual, experts are warning that this year may be worse. As we brace ourselves for the looming influenza season, it's crucial to recognize the importance of the flu. With the year thus far yielding 33,325 reported cases from January 1 to April 7 (as per the NNDSS), this is higher than the same number of cases for last time this year.

The flu is a viral infection that causes symptoms like, fever, cough, muscle/body aches, sore throat, fatigue, and nausea. In some cases, the flu can cause complications such as secondary bacterial infections like pneumonia or hospitalisation.

One of the best ways to combat complications from the flu, is to vaccinate. Vaccination is recommended annually for anyone over 6 months of age. Unfortunately, last year, we only saw about 30% vaccination rates.

So, to combat the surge in flu cases, the Western Australian government has unveiled measures such as: Providing complimentary flu vaccinations for individuals aged over six months and offering free vaccinations from May 1st to June 30th.

Given the typical span of the flu season from May to October, it's imperative to ensure safeguarding during this peak transmission window. The vaccine's strongest and most effective immunity lasts for 3-4 months after administration. However, there is no need to wait, you can get vaccinated as soon as the vaccine is available.

Flu vaccinations for 2024 are now accessible at Pharmacy 777 Bridgetown, offering tailored vaccines for various



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risk groups. Vaccines are also tailored for the predicted emerging flu strains for this flu season. Engage with one of our pharmacists today to determine the most suitable flu vaccination for your needs.

In addition to vaccination, let's collectively contribute to the well-being of our community with the following practices that can help reduce the transmission of the flu: Wash your hands regularly.

Cover your coughs and sneezes. Then bin your tissues. Minimize close contact with individuals displaying symptoms.

Keep surfaces clean such your phone, keys, and door handles.

Refrain from venturing out if feeling unwell you can treat mild symptoms at home.

Consider wearing a mask if exhibiting any signs of illness. And consult your pharmacist or doctor if you are very unwell or need assistance.

Together, let's fortify our community and bolster resilience against this year's flu season. Sehaj Johal

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The apple queen float at the Bridgetown festival, April 7, 1958. Supplied: State Library of Western Australia

Bridgetown Historical Society

Once upon a time in the South West of Western Australia the Western Australian Government Railways decided that this regional area had something special, interesting, beautiful and productive to show to visitors to our State. So, the concept became a reality when they put this idea into practice and organised a special train to take and show the visitors.

The train became known as the 'reso train', officially the State Resources Train, and in 1928 a group of sixty Victorian industry and business leaders were the first travellers to explore our natural resources on a 'hotel on wheels'.

Trains and apples have combined on several times in the history of Bridgetown. The purpose of the petition in 1894 by residents of Bridgetown to the Parliament of WA for the extension of the railway from Donnybrook to Bridgetown was to provide a more suitable means of transportation to Perth for the ever increasing supplies of apples from the ever increasing orchards.

One of the projects BHS is managing this year is turning the shed at the rear of the Police Station Museum into an Exhibition Shed to display all the historical orcharding equipment and writing interpretive panels to tell the story of orcharding, in particular apples, in Bridgetown.

One of the tasks for this display is to create a book of recipes – Heritage Apple Recipes from Bridgetown and we would welcome recipes you might have stored away in a back cupboard. If you would like to be a participant in this project email them to bridgetownhistory@inet.net.au

Back to the link to the reso trains – "In the 1950s and 1960s, the apple festivals in Bridgetown and Manjimup in Autumn also inspired special tours.

"In 1962 there was a major apple festival around the Bridgetown district to mark 100 years since the first commercial apple orchards were planted in that district. That was the high point of the apple festivals."



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From the Naughty Side

Whilst discussing some of the local history stories on exhibition in the Old Shed in Balingup with Nolene King, one of the curators of the display, a tourist by the name of Shirley who had dropped in for a coffee break, overheard some of the conversation, and she wanted it to be known by me that she was related to the Dousts through marriage, instantly catching my attention with the remark, "I'm related to the Rutherfords, I'm a descendant from the naughty side of the family.

"The naughty side' is explained in the book 'The Rutherfords and their ilk'. It tells the tale and explains the life of those who lived on the border in communities along the Anglo-Scottish border.

"The Rutherfords lived in Jedburgh, a Scottish border town where they lived a life being 'Border Reivers' the verb reave meaning 'to plunder, rob': they had a predatory mode of living, stealing from the English. When raiding, or riding, as it was termed, the reivers rode light on hardy nags or ponies renowned for the ability to pick their way over the boggy moss lands.

"In that book an English sentencing Judge remarked 'If the hay stacks had legs, those Rutherfords would have driven those away as well'.

"My Great Grandfather was Richard Hopwood Rutherford; he was a Lawyers' Clerk who migrated to Australia and married Mary Docherty. Richard Rutherford died whilst living in the Wimmera in Victoria, at Nhill, after which the surviving family members came over to WA to start a new life.

"One of their children was May Louise Helen Rutherford, she married Frank Earnest Doust in Bridgetown. Later her mother Mary moved to Bridgetown and lived with Doust family in her declining years. She died in Bridgetown, March 23rd 1905...*Continued on page 13*



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Economic Contribution Update

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

In 2023, Talison paid a total of \$3.277 Billion to Local, State and Federal Governments and Government agencies, including:

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

Lithium royalties paid to the WA Government by Talison of \$570 million eclipsed the totality of royalties paid by the entire Gold Industry of WA.

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

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

Talison makes this investment in local communities for no other reason than it is where our employees live and Talison wants those communities to be strong and vibrant places to live for them and their families. Talison takes immense pride in the significant economic contributions stemming from its Greenbushes Lithium Operation (Site, Mine). While Talison continues to play a crucial role in the Global transition to cleaner energy, it is also committed to giving back to the communities that support Mine personnel and that are impacted by its operations.

\$2.254 Million For Bridgetown-Greenbushes Through Partnering For The Future Program

I was pleased to recently announce the projects funded through the 2024 Partnering for the Future program. This collaborative program with the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes will see an investment of \$2.254 million from Talison aimed at enhancing community infrastructure, civic buildings, recreational areas and youth spaces.

Working closely with the Shire, Talison has again prioritised the continued delivery of the Greenbushes Transformation Plan specifically to fund enhancements to public amenities, parks, sporting facilities, footpaths, roads and drainage.

Bridgetown will benefit from funds for the installation of air conditioning and state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment in the Bridgetown Town Hall, as well as the development of engaging interpretive displays in the soon to be relocated Bridgetown Visitor Centre, located within the newly restored Bridgetown Railway Station, and an energy sustainability project which will see the installation of solar panels and batteries on civic buildings in Bridgetown.

A component of the funding will be used for Project Management which ensures the Shire has the capacity and resources to deliver the Partnering for the Future 2024 initiatives. For a full list of projects funded visit talisonlithium.com/news.

The Partnering for the Future program is funded through the Talison CIP, which was introduced in 2023 and provides larger investment opportunities for Local Government and community organisations to deliver strategic projects across the categories of quality education, sustainable environments and biodiversity improvements, health and wellbeing and vibrant and sustaining communities.

I encourage incorporated not for profit community groups, Local Government, education and training providers in the Warren-Blackwood region and surrounds who have ideas for projects which may fit the criteria for funding under the Talison CIP to contact Talison's Community Team via email: gbcontact@talisonlithium.com.

New Parental Leave Guideline

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

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

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

- reduced Eligibility Period: Employees are now eligible to take parental leave after just six (6) months of service with Talison;
- 26 Weeks of Paid Parental Leave for the Primary Caregiver: Permanent employees designated as the primary caregiver will be entitled to 26 weeks of paid parental leave, with the option to take it at half-pay;
- continued Superannuation Payments: Primary caregivers will continue to receive superannuation payments for up to 12 months, even while on both paid and unpaid leave; and
- Fertility Treatment Leave: Recognising the importance of fertility treatment, eligible employees are entitled to up to five (5) days of paid fertility treatment leave per calendar year. Furthermore, employees supporting their partners undergoing fertility treatment can access up to two (2) days of paid fertility treatment leave.

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

Annual Noise, Dust and Water Report Presentations

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

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

ANZAC Day

I had the great honour of being able to honour the ANZAC tradition and lay a wreath on behalf of Talison at the ANZAC Day Dawn Service held in Greenbushes. The service was very well attended with the crowd being by far the largest I have experienced in my six (6) years living in Greenbushes. Well done to the team at the Greenbushes RSL who once again put on a fantastic service.

Heritage Rally

There was an excellent turnout for the inaugural Warren Blackwood Heritage Rally celebrating the Bridgetown-Greenbushes Heritage Festival run in the picturesque South-West in April.

The interclub event combined entrants from the Donnybrook, Collie, Boyup Brook and Warren-Blackwood Veteran Car Club branches and saw 35 vehicles take part in the day run through Bridgetown and Greenbushes.

It started at the picturesque Bridgetown River Park where the fortnightly markets were in full swing and the Veteran Classic Car Club (VCCC) cars ranging from classics to veteran added extra colour and excitement to the riverside setting. The run ended with a show and shine at the Bridgetown Railway car park in the centre of town.

The Heritage rally, run under the auspices of the Warren-Blackwood VCCC, was sponsored by Talison Lithium mine from Greenbushes through its Community Funding Program. The local Mitre 10 provided sponsorship of a quiz drawn up by one of the Warren Blackwood Veteran Car Club members for the navigators. It was a jolly Sunday jaunt with sirens and hooters broadcasting their appearance as they drove through the Bridgetown and Greenbushes communities.



Noel Holdsworth's, 1916 Dodge

Show Talk

At the April AGM, Roger Gutteridge was unanimously re-elected as President, Adrian Elder Snr Vice President and Hayley Thorpe Jnr Vice President.

In his report, Roger thanked his fellow Councillors and our many volunteers, for a most successful year. Special thanks were directed to Adrian and Hayley, Treasurers Jo and Leigh and Secretary Corinne for their outstanding support throughout the year.

Jo has brilliantly taken on many office bearing rolls over the past few years and has now joined as a Councillor. The 2023 Show was a great success, with fantastic social media feedback, a record number of competition entries and the sideshow, food and markets areas all packed. We already have interest in bookings for the 2024 show. With sadness we have said farewell to Councillors Barry Shephard (who with his wife Wendy, have moved to Perth) and to Kiara Muellner, but we know that they will continue to support us whenever possible.

Easter Tennis Camping was very successful and we thank all those who made use of the facilities, for their support in keeping the grounds clean and tidy. Note, the Showgrounds is a great venue and is available for hire. We have a fully functional Industrial Kitchen suitable to plan any sized event. Pricing and booking information can be found online www.bridgetownshow.com.au or ask at the Bridgetown Newsagents.

The entertainment committee is working hard with preparations well under

way for another amazing show in November. The theme is still under wraps, but all will be revealed in the coming months.

As for the future, we have set up a working group to look at longer term major projects and to follow up on grant opportunities...*Continued on page 14*



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Transition Bridgetown

When is the rain coming? As we move into our cooler months with climate change becoming more and more evident, we can make a difference by choosing to reduce waste which is a big carbon emitter. Repairing, Repurposing, Reducing and Recycling are all things we can do to help each other to live more resiliently and more gently on the earth.

In keeping with this theme, Transition Bridgetown's Repair Cafe Open Space was held on Sunday the 21st of April. Our guest speaker was Mitch Hawks who is a member of Repair Cafe Bassendean and treasurer of Repair Cafe Bunbury. He delivered an engaging and inspiring talk on the many benefits of repair cafes including reducing landfill, promoting community education and upskilling, building social capital and challenging producers to create products that are designed to be repairable. Stay tuned as Transition Bridgetown will be conducting surveys to decide if there is substantial appetite and expertise in our community to pursue this further. Please get in touch if you are interested in being a part of a repair café in Bridgetown.

We have our Open Space events organised for the Fridgefest program so please mark them in your diaries and come along to join the conversation. Topics to be discussed are supporting the resilience of our town with climate change impacts, heat and drought vulnerability and the future of coping with waste in our shire. We have some knowledgeable guest speakers to present information.

Sat June 22nd Transition Bridgetown Open Space "Zero Carbon Footprint/Climate Positive Bridgetown" 2pm - 5pm Uniting Church Hall

Dr Brad Pettitt [MP] has been reimagining WA's biggest city, Perth, as a liveable and connected zero emissions city through the Climate Positive Perth Project. The project will now focus on regional towns like Bridgetown, exploring how to make them low-carbon, liveable and connected. This event will discuss energy, transport, greening, and built-form choices for addressing climate change impacts. To register email transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com or via Humanitix/ Bridgetown Events

Sun July 21st Transition Bridgetown Open Space "Heat Vulnerability and Drought" 4.30-6.30pm Uniting Church Hall

It might be winter in Fridgefest, but remember how hot and dry it was from January to April? Carole Green, from the WACOSS heat vulnerability project, will share the results of her research into heat vulnerability in WA and lead a discussion on how we can help our community develop effective heat resilience. Come and share your ideas! To register email transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com or via Humanitix/Bridgetown Events

Sun Aug 25th Transition Bridgetown Open Space "Waste Reduction in Collaboration with the Shire" 4pm-6pm Uniting Church Hall

Changes are afoot about planning for the disposal of waste in our shire, how much we dispose of and where we dispose of it. Come and get informed about the latest updates on what's going to affect us all with what we currently 'throw out'. Bring your practical and creative ideas on how we can reduce/reuse and recycle our waste! To register email transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com or via Humanitix/Bridgetown Events

We hope to see you soon! The Transition Bridgetown Committee.

Possum Boxes

Gordon Perry and his wife Justyna have recently arrived in town. Gordon, who is 78, has a passion for local native animals, and has seen a need within our town and that need is to build suitable habitat for our local wildlife.

The couple came to Bridgetown by chance, Justyna is an astrologist, and by a reading she concluded that their next path in their life was to be in Bridgetown, and so they came.

Gordon is an advocate for our local wildlife and he explains, "I build possum nesting boxes using recycled and repurposed materials converting unwanted materials into nest boxes.

"The materials I use are old boxes, plywood, and chests of drawers and the like.

"Most people don't realize that veteran tree-hollows require several hundred years to grow and form, the tree hollow habitat is important for our local creatures.

"If you live in a house with open access to your roof, nocturnal native possums are opportunists and will use your inside roof space. Actually, you are on their land.

"A solution that can benefit both you and these beautiful native animals and stop your possums living in your roof space and causing you headaches, is to give the possums an alternative place to sleep, a new home.

"Have your possum entrance blocked and offer them a nesting box. Maybe offer them two nest-boxes.

"Install one in an appropriate backyard tree and a second nest box under your verandah near their current entrance that is to be blocked or in the roof entry point.

"This can be your practical way to learn first-hand about the local natural history of native animals, and grow a passion for your environment, develop care and respect for these creatures and create a strong sustainable custodianship for your local wildlife.

"Possums will move from nesting site to nesting site and will have several within their territory.

"Trapping and relocating possums does not work because most will likely die, either from stress or because their new relocation site is already occupied by other possums, resulting in territorial fights.

"I construct not only possum boxes but I also make homes for bats and reptiles, as well as bird nesting boxes from recycled materials, old boxes.

"With this in mind, do you have any old material that might be recycled such as: wooden boxes, timber, plywood, paint, wire, chain, old hose or irrigation pipe to cover tree hanging wire?

"If you just want to help by gifting these creatures a home, I build and install the nesting boxes. I also offer a guarantee that if wild swarming bees kick out your possum, we will remove your bees and then replace your nesting box with a replacement box so your local possum can move right back in."

For further information and costings of his services you can contact Gordon Perry on 0480 445 043.

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GP down south

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Community Presentation

My Health Partnerships

DATE: Tues 11th June 2024

TIME: 1pm

VENUE: Bridgetown Community Resource Centre

GP down south are holding the first annual presentation on their Innovative Models of Care funded program 'My Health Partnerships'.

The aim of the project is to strengthen collaboration between service providers and therefore improve health service access & delivery.

We would like to invite community members' along to our presentation event to hear an update on My Health Partnerships Care Coordination program, by Program Manager Rae de Russett, followed by an update from our Independent Evaluator Professor Alex McManus on the Model of Care project and its progress to date.

*For catering purposes, please RSVP by contacting
GP down south Manjimup office on 9771 2260.*

BYA and the RYDE Program: Unlocking Freedom

Living in the country offers a unique set of challenges and opportunities. For many young people in rural and regional areas, obtaining a driver's licence can be a significant milestone that opens doors to newfound freedom and independence, and more importantly, employment and training.

In many country areas, public transport options are limited, so having a driver's licence is often essential for accessing education and employment opportunities. It also opens doors to part-time employment, allowing young people to gain valuable work experience and financial independence.

One of the fantastic benefits of having a driver's licence is the freedom it gives for you to explore your surroundings. Unlike suburban areas and city living, where public transport is often readily available, country living often requires having family or friends with a car and the time to provide lifts to and from appointments, training, social and recreational activities. With a driver's licence, a young person can venture beyond the confines of their immediate surroundings, discover new places, and engage in community events with greater ease.

Obtaining a driver's licence symbolises independence for a young person. No longer reliant on parents or friends for lifts, they gain the ability to manage their schedules, seek employment and participate in activities without logistical constraints. This newfound independence fosters confidence and self-reliance, empowering young people to take on responsibilities and navigate into adulthood more smoothly.

How Can You Help?

Not all young people have access to parents or friends who are able or have the means to assist a young person to achieve the 50 logbook hours needed to sit their driving test. To help our young people, BYA has taken on the RYDE Program. This is an established Driver Assist Program aimed at supporting learner drivers to gain on-road driving experience. The program seeks to connect experienced drivers in the community with learner drivers who require supervision to fulfill their logbook hours.

We are seeking interested community members to become involved in this program by volunteering as Driver Mentors. By dedicating some of your time to accompany a learner driver on supervised driving sessions, you can make a meaningful difference in their life. All the young people who sign up to the RYDE Program have had lessons from professional driving instructors and have been deemed competent and capable drivers. You do NOT have to provide driving instruction to the young person; all we ask is for your time, driving experience and knowledge, to support a young person to gain valuable on-road experience. We have a manual and an automatic car and all driving sessions start and return from the BYA youth space in Manjimup and Bridgetown.

Whether you're retired or only have a small window of time to give, your participation in the RYDE Program as a Driving Mentor can help shape the future of a young person and help them to gain confidence, independence and an opportunity to contribute to the community.

If you would like to know more about becoming a Driving Mentor, please do not hesitate to contact Kath at BYA on ph 9741 4215, email programs@blackwoodyouthaction.com.au or pop into our space in Manjimup or Bridgetown. You can read all about the program at ryde.org.au and if you have any questions, we are here to answer them.

Kath Wisken

Bridgetown Historical Society

“At Easter time, there was a special reso trip to Bridgetown and to Manjimup, and they would name the carriages after different types of apples. You could hop on the granny smith or the golden delicious.”

All of these interesting items (not the reso train itself) and more will be on display in the new Orcharding Museum. Lee Wittenoon

From the Naughty Side

Continued from page 5...

“Their children were Raymond, Norah Louise, Neil Leonard and

Geoffrey Doust.

“When my father, Charles George Rutherford was born on 25th April 1910, his mother died soon after, so his father George took his eight children, down to Bridgetown to be cared for by his sister May where they lived with her family.

“My dad’s sister Eva Ethel Rutherford, known as Doll, having the nick name because of her beauty, told me her fondest memory of that time was that she loved living with the Dousts because they had ‘a surrey with the fringe on top’.”



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Old Shed History Exhibition in Balingup

Continued from pge 2...Their eldest son, Charles Jnr, had married Mabel Gaugin just before leaving Jersey and she accompanied him and the rest of the family on the journey to Australia.

Charles, Emily, his seven daughters and three sons and daughter-in-law arrived in West Australia aboard the liner 'SS Runic' in 1906. Emily along with their seven daughters and daughter-in-law, remained in Perth for some months while a search for a suitable property in the South West was made by the men folk of the family.

In 1906 a Balingup property belonging to a Mr. T. Waddingham, 'Allendale' 4 kms from Balingup on Jay's Road was decided upon despite a very inadequate house to meet the needs of the large family. There were many problems until extra rooms were added.

'Allendale' was most suitable for dairy farming and the nucleus of a fine dairy herd was purchased from a leading breeder of Jersey cattle named 'Padbury'. The young girls of the family had to help milk the cows, sitting on stools and wearing bonnets. Their milk cans were enormous jugs with handles which they had brought out with them. An orchard was then planted containing a good variety of fruit suitable for marketing and the family made their own apple cider crushed with a machine that they had also bought out with them.

One of the fruits they grew was called a Medlar, an unusual fruit, brown in colour which had to be quite soft before being eaten as well as Pomelos, a large citrus fruit. The family also bought a considerable quantity of their English furniture including a beautiful grandfather clock.

Charles was the first President of Balingup Agricultural Society and became known, for his high standard of quality stock, and the introduction of 'old-world' methods of cultivation in many of the departments of farm activity.

He was a judge of Jersey cattle for the Royal Agricultural Society and his judging services were often required at other districts' Agricultural shows.

Their daughters made a considerable contribution through teaching.

Jessica was an outstanding business woman and teacher, and she married Edgar Woolcott of Perth. They set up the first accounting firm to visit farmers on the land.

Constance Mary was a school teacher at Balingup School and also ran a small private school in Balingup and taught painting.

Ada Eliza was a music teacher who played the piano and sang beautifully and Maude was a teacher who served in various high schools for many years teaching Domestic Science at Perth Girls School. On retirement she lived in Balingup with her sister Lillian. She did not marry.

Charles Mauger (Sen) died in 1917 and he and Emily are buried in the Greenbushes Cemetery.

The historical display in the old shed is a wonderful insight into the life of our early settlers.

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Show Talk

Continued from page 8...

Our mission remains to use, maintain, and improve our facilities on behalf of the community.

Members and Sponsors letters: These will soon be sent out via email or post to those currently on our mailing list. We hope that everyone will be happy to continue their support.

Our next Meeting will be on Wednesday 8th May 7.00pm, in the Presidents Room at the Showgrounds. If you would like to know more about the Committee or the Agricultural Society's role in the Community, contact mob. 0437 602 836 or email: info@bridgetownshow.com.au website address is www.bridgetownshow.com.au like us on Facebook 'Bridgetown Agricultural Show' or follow us on Instagram.

New WA firearm laws are imminent.

Changes will impact your firearm ownership.

Make a decision now about utilising the buyback scheme. Consider these impacts:

- Numeric limits
- Enhanced storage
- Compulsory health checks
- New licence types
- Written authority (property/club letters)
- Introduction of disqualifying offences.



Act now, Buyback Scheme ends 31 August 2024. For accurate information visit police.wa.gov.au/firearmsactreform



DROUGHT SHOWERS

We understand some members of our community are currently struggling with water supply issues. The Shower Facilities at the Bridgetown Leisure Centre are available to those in need during the following hours:

- Monday 8:30am to 6:00pm
- Tuesday 8:30am to 8:00pm
- Wednesday 8:30am to 8:00pm
- Thursday 8:30am to 8:00pm
- Friday 8:30am to 6:00pm
- Saturday 8.30 to 10.00am



Greenbushes Fun Run 2024

Continued from cover...

In 2023 the event raised \$11,482.50 for Breast Cancer Network of Australia and Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia when close to 280 people registered for the event across the various categories

The funds raised from the 2024 event will be donated to Breast Cancer Network of Australia, the Greenbushes Fun Run's founding charity.

Since its inception in 2014 the event has raised almost \$65,000 for Breast Cancer Network Australia (BCNA) as well as \$12,000 for the South-West Autism Network, \$4,195 for Sock it to Sarcoma, \$4,593 for Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia and \$11,513 for the Telethon Kids Institute.

For more information see the Greenbushes Fun Run Facebook page or reach out to greenbushesfunrun@gmail.com.

Looking forward to seeing you there dressed in your very best pink outfit. If you can't make it we would love you to donate using the BCNA QR Code on the posters around town.



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Probus proudly going to the dogs

Continued from the back page...

Probus activities are for retired people, new members and guests are very welcome to attend these events and are asked to book by contacting Stephen Blackman on 0400 403 778 or by email to bbvprobus@gmail.com

Stephen concludes "There will be carpooling by prior arrangement from the Spencer Street car park to make it easier for those wanting to attend."

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Probus Proudly Going to the Dogs

To celebrate the Bridgetown Probus Club's 10th birthday a couple of very special events were planned.

The first was an outstanding success when on 17 April the club extended a warm invitation to its members and guests for a special gathering at the Community and Recreation Centre on Warren Road in Nannup with twenty-four members and nine guests attending.

They heard from guest speakers from Guide Dogs WA: two supervisors and a volunteer who brought along three trainee dogs.

Over the day those who attended delved into the remarkable work of raising and training these incredible working dogs which support people with low or no vision, with disability or illness, and discovered firsthand how these magnificent dogs are transforming lives and making an indelible impact within our communities.

Stephen Blackman, Probus Club President, stated, "We wanted an event both special and meaningful, this meeting surpassed all our expectations."

The second special event is planned for the 21st May and will take place at Shimmy Downs Kelpies, WA's premier training facility for livestock working dogs based near Busseton. Shimmy Downs Kelpies is a Kelpie breeding and working dog training family business which is run and managed by husband-and-wife team, James and Michelle Carr.

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Stephen explains the day, "On arrival at the farm a 'tail gate' lunch will be provided. The day will consist of two one-hour sessions with a comfort break in between.

"Those who were enthralled when watching the 'Muster Dogs' television series will get to witness the dog training procedures in real life and this will sure to be an experience on another level.

"James will have several Kelpie dogs on show in an arena, all of differing ages, to demonstrate the skills the dogs obtain as they mature in mustering sheep in the arena.

"There will also be a chance for three people attending to have 'a go' and try their hand at training one of the kelpies, this will be decided by a raffle.

"With a lifetime of experience on farms, James has always had trusty kelpie companions on his team and he will demonstrate the value of a well-trained farm dog, an employee who really likes his work and is eager to please, and one who has a quieter mustering technique which results in calmer and less agitated stock."

...Continued on page 15



Laura and Jill Guide dog Instructors with Thia

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