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Dad's Army

Bridgetown Repertory's next production, Dad's Army, is a stage version of the well known and loved television series written by Jimmy Perry and David Croft.

Their show features a group of mostly aging men, who were not able to go away and fight for their country, however, they are part of the home guard defence.

The play is to be directed by Rob Snelling, Rob talks about how he his managing to produce the show, "There was a real buzz around town when it became known that Dad's Army was to be our next production, people started reciting those memorable popular lines from the show to me. 'Stupid boy' Pike, 'Don't panic, don't panic' Jonesey, 'Doomed, we're all doomed!' Fraser, "May I be excused, sir?"

"We will be performing three of the most popular shows from the series, ones that have become classics, the first act will be Dad's Army, second act Mum's Army and the third one Floral Dance.

"We have fifteen male roles which surprisingly we have managed to fill, I have combined a couple of roles into one role, the vicar and the verger roles are now one, there are also five female roles, with just a little rewriting it is all coming together well.

"With help from Robert Benson-Perry and his connections to the different amateur theater groups, Robert and Sue Bottomley traveled to Perth to see what they could gather in the way of military uniforms.

"Getting the uniforms was one thing but making them fit opened another tin of worms. Since returning with the uniforms Sue hasn't stopped pinning, altering and sewing them to make them all fit.

"I also found I couldn't borrow any stage weaponry; the theatrical groups which had weapons didn't want to let any guns they had out of their sights.



Bruce Carlson with his weapons

Alan Wilson, Jude Sutherland and Sue Bottomley

Continued page 11

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Codee-Lee Down

Be Brave and Chase your Dreams

At Boyup Brook on Saturday, 11th June the inaugural Country Music Awards were held. On this night Codee-Lee Down took away four awards. She won the EP of the year, the single of the year, she was awarded the song writer of the year and the people's choice of the year.

A truly successful year for a musician who has worked hard to be where she is, so where did it all begin?

At the age of eight and whilst living in Dongara, Codee-Lee was encouraged by her mother to have music lessons, the music teacher warned, "I will give her a trial, two music lessons, and we will see how she goes."

Codee-Lee instantly discovered a passion for music, so when she was asked to practice the guitar for at least thirty minutes a week, she would do around three hours, endeavoring to improve quickly, and so the lessons continued.

In 2008 her family moved to Bunbury, here Codee-Lee and her family would go and see any and every live music concert they were able too.

One concert they attended had a huge influence on Codee-Lee's future. That concert was the Harvey Dickson Music Show in Boyup Brook. What was being performed on stage that night was the 'Telstra Road to Tamworth heat' competition. After watching the show, a very confident Codee-Lee declared to her mother, "One day it will be me up on that stage."

Codee-Lee entered that competition the next year and at the age of thirteen won the 'Junior Talent Award', which then lead to her travelling to Tamworth to compete.

Tamworth is the Home of Country Music in Australia, and being there was a truly awe-inspiring place for Codee-Lee to be. In the competition she made it through to the semi-finals in that year, after which she attended the Country Music Academy in Tamworth which refined her talents.

....Continued page 15



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Home Coming

Sharon Hinchliffe will be holding her first solo art exhibition, 'Home Coming', at the Jenny Mountford Gallery in the Rabbit Hole Community Arts Hub, on the lower level at 87 Hampton Street in Bridgetown from August 13th to 29th.

Sharon's artistic background is one of graphic design, it's the industry she has worked in for a number of years. Recently Sharon has been involved in creating murals in Pemberton, Busselton, Bunbury, Margaret River, Perth and Australind.

Her art style is contemporary with the bias of an illustrator's background. She paints using mixed media, acrylics, inks and pen which she uses to create wonderfully complex and colourful paintings from which the viewer can glean wonderfully imaginative stories.

In the exhibition Sharon will have on display around forty pieces, there will be twenty canvas paintings, twelve drawings and sketchers and various 'mini house' series sculptures.

Sharon's partner Cameron Hibberd makes the mini houses using locally sourced recycled jarrah, much of which has come from old buildings.

"The mini house sculptures range in size and are each painted with a unique design. Sharon says.

"My paintings and illustrations invoke imaginary story lines, which may vary from the different perspectives of the viewer.

"The works are painted in many layers and elements to add interest.

"I have always been drawn to create art from a young age and have reached a time in my life where I can devote a lot of time to my art and see where it will take me. I consider this a great time for me to exhibit, especially in Bridgetown which has been such an influential place for many years.

"I love painting murals as much as smaller works on canvas and paper and enjoyed designing a panel on our VW Kombi which Cameron and I plan to travel to Tassie in later this year."

This is an exhibition which should not be missed, it will surprise and delight you.



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Bridgetown Historical Society

The early development of the Bridgetown Historical Society, (BHS), seems to have been motivated by Major H M Whittell., pictured right.



In April 1948 he successfully moved at a Ratepayers meeting of the Bridgetown Roads Board that the Board appoint a small sub-historical committee. Major Whittell further stated that when he was last in Perth, he had copied out from the archives six original letters written by Surveyor Carey when he was surveying the Bridgetown district. He suggested the board get a copy of the original township plan which was available from the Lands Department.

By December 1948 the small sub-historical committee had progressed to a Historical Committee and Major Whittell had obtained many documents associated with the foundation of Bridgetown and arrangements by the Historical Committee would need to be activated for the filing of historical records.

June 1949 and there was a little progress – The Blackwood Times Friday 24 June 1949 reported.

A letter from Major H.M. Whittell read to members of the Bridgetown Road Board pointed out that many documents dealing with the early history of Bridgetown and surrounding districts were being gathered together by the Bridgetown Historical Society and it was necessary to have a filing cabinet of some description to house them.

After some discussion as to the cost of such a cabinet, it was decided that the matter be left in the hands of the board's historical committee with power to act and purchase if a suitable cabinet can be procured for £10 or less.

The chairman, Mr. M. Scott, suggested that only members of the historical committee and Major Whittell be permitted to peruse the files until the indexing was completed. Board agreed that such steps should be taken.

In 1950, The Blackwood Times noted the St. John Ambulance Sub- Centre action: Major H. M. Whittell, who is secretary of the Bridgetown Road Board's Historical Records Committee, was granted the use of the sub-centre's minute books dating from 1933, and they will be filed in the special cabinet in the board room for safe keeping.

Sadly, in February 1954 Major H. M. Whittell died, and it was reported that: Bridgetown Loses a Most Valuable Soldier Resident

Ex-Servicemen of many units marched again at Bridgetown when the funeral of Major Hubert Massey Whittell, OBE, took place on the Tuesday afternoon, with military honours. Major Whittell, who was 70 years of age, passed away at Nannup District Hospital on Sunday, after a long illness during which time he also received treatment in city hospitals. He came to Bridgetown in 1926.

From these small beginnings the BHS has grown to a flourishing Historical Society and now has more storage than a solitary filing cabinet. A Museum, an archive shed, a dedicated BHS headquarters and most importantly a copy of the original township plan surveyed by Thomas Carey. A township that Carey described could only be "a mere country village".

Mary Elgar, Chairperson of BHS used this description from Thomas Carey as the title of her book published in 2018. "A Mere Country Village" celebrated 150 years of history and development from 1868 to 2018. Perhaps Major Hubert Massey Whittell, OBE, would be well pleased. Lee Wittenoom

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Bridgetown Rotary Club

On the 27th June the Bridgetown Rotary Club elected their new president, Colin Booth. He will be in the position for the next two years.

Colin and his wife Allison moved to Bridgetown around two years ago, mostly with the idea of a 'tree change' life style. Colin grew up in Wagin so he wanted to return to the country.

They purchased a 112-acre property along the Winnejump road and are running 'UltraWhite' sheep which is a breed of sheep that is a mix of Pole Dorsets crossed with the Dorper sheep.

The UltraWhite is a wool shedding, meat producing sheep. The development of the UltraWhite breed started in 2005, when Dawson Bradford Snr saw an opportunity to breed a high performance, fast growing, low maintenance, wool shedding sheep called the 'easy care'.

Colin joined the Rotary Club around twelve months ago, and jokingly said, "When it came time to elect the new president volunteers were asked to step forward, mostly those around me stepped backward leaving me in the spotlight."

"It's a position I welcome, pretty much I see it will be business as usual with our main fundraising events, The Blackwood Marathon, The Tour of the Blackwood and Up Close and Classical.

"One of my first jobs was to hand over the monies raised from the Rotary Tour of Blackwood. The monies raised from this event support Youth Mental Health in the region most of which will go back into the community via Blackwood Youth Action Inc (BYA).

"Bridgetown Rotary Club has committed \$60,000 for the coming financial year to support youth mental health programs across the Warren Blackwood region.

"For the sixth year running, \$25,000 of the funds raised will support psychological services for young people struggling with mental illness. This year, an additional \$35,000 has been committed to provide seed funding for a youth worker in the



Colin and Allison Booth

new BYA youth space which is anticipated to open in September 2022.

"Boyup Brook Mental Health has also been assisted with a \$5000 commitment to help fund the bicycle trailer project.

"One of my major priorities over the next two years is to increase our membership which will enable us to continue all the good work the Rotary Club is doing within our community."

The Rotary Club of Bridgetown would love to hear from anyone who would like to join the Club and help to continue this good work. Please email president@bridgetownrotary.org



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TALISON – SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

Talison is pleased to support community groups across the Shires of Bridgetown- Greenbushes, Donnybrook-Balingup, Boyup Brook, Nannup and Manjimup in 2022, enabling organisations to host events, activities and projects or purchase equipment to make a positive impact. These donations are administered by the Community Team through the Talison Sponsorship and Donations Programme and include in-kind assistance or a cash donation.

Sponsorships and donations queries for GBContact please email GBContact@talisonlithium.com

Thank you to members of the Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Landcare group’s Helping Hands Bushcarers and Perup Nature’s Guesthouse who joined with Talison personnel to plant native seedlings on a property purchased by Talison which adjoins the South-Western Highway. Ninety percent of the seedlings were raised from Talison’s seed bank and collected from the local area.

Talison is pleased to be able to support a number of community groups through the Sponsorships and Donations Programme in August including the Nannup Local Drug and Alcohol Group Youth Zone, Greenbushes RSL Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration, Bridgetown Bulldogs Football Club- Reserves Football Jerseys and the Upper Blackwood Agricultural Society SciTech Entertainment at the Dinninup Show.



Talison Geologist Renae Reilly and Talison Graduate Safety Advisor Kate Mann joining in the planting with community volunteers



Talison invites you to participate in our Community Perception Survey 2022



Follow the QR Code below, or go to <https://survey.sogosurvey.com/fric7gkE3> to provide your input.

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Talison Lithium Community Perception Survey 2022

Talison Lithium Pty Ltd (Talison) owns and operates the Greenbushes Lithium Operation at Greenbushes.

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With an increase in the demand for lithium, Talison is planning to expand its operations.

Talison is committed to operating in a responsible and sustainable manner and critical to this commitment is working with the communities in which we operate to achieve positive outcomes now and into the future.

Talison is undertaking a Community Perception Survey to understand how Talison is perceived in the community, how communities surrounding the mine may be impacted and how best the company can engage with these communities.

Talison has engaged Environmental Resources Management Australia (ERM) as an independent third party to conduct this survey.

Making a New Life for Themselves

Marisa and Mark DeVattimo moved to Bridgetown some five years ago, they were newly married, they were well travelled, loved all things Japanese and they both shared a love of music.

They formed a business partnership, MDV Music. In this business they are performing artists, Marisa sings and Mark accompanies the performance on guitar.

The other arm of the business, MDV School of Music is one where Marisa holds vocal lessons and teaches basic piano and Mark teaches guitar, bass ukelele and drums. They conduct the lessons four days a week and have a wide diversity of students with ages ranging from eight years of age to over seventy years of age. Currently, they are in the process of gathering expressions of interest into forming a contemporary singing ensemble

Whilst performing at a garden party on New Year's Day for a newly engaged couple, there were discussions going around about the impending marriage, a 'Chinese whisper' was started that proclaimed Marisa was also a marriage celebrant. Although squashing the rumour as nonsense it planted the seed of a new business venture which would seem an easy fit into the abilities that Mark and Marisa possessed.

"The possibilities seemed endless, and a natural progression where I could offer not only to be the celebrant, but we could also provide an extra option of performing together as a live duo and MC on the day," Marisa was happy to explain.

"So now I'm a qualified and practicing Civil Celebrant, which has turned out to be quite a rewarding and positive vocation.

"There is of course a lot of preparation which goes into getting married, behind the scenes requirements, the preparation and lodgement of legal documents, planning sessions are required to make sure all the bases are covered along with making it a bespoke ceremony, along with the all-important rehearsals making sure it runs smoothly.



Marisa and Mark

"I've also found we have it all here in the district. My idea now is to promote Bridgetown Greenbushes Shire as a 'Boutique Marriage Location' where destination wedding packages could be offered in a post-Covid-19 world."

The ever-increasing expenses and the overwhelming stresses involved with planning a traditional wedding are the driving forces that are having couples redefine their priorities.

"In the past 12 months my booked weddings have changed to elopements or to micro-weddings. Changes in lifestyle are forcing people to seek a more affordable, less stressful alternative.

"Eloping doesn't have to be a secret ceremony; a smaller and more intimate weddings allows for budgeting for future things in life.

"The local district is the ideal place for this niche market, for those wanting a modest marriage ceremony. Locally we have it all, florist, caterers, makeup artists, hairdressers, photographers, videographers, function centres and other wonderful garden venues and bush locations in which to get married.

"We're endeavouring to bring all that is needed for a wedding in Bridgetown and the surrounding areas onto the same page and offer it to our clients."

Recently, Marisa and Mark have been able to purchase their first home in town. So, as it is with all new businesses in the district 'we wish them every success'.

The new arm of the business is called 'Married by Marisa', it seems it is full of endless possibilities for those wanting to get married in Bridgetown and the surrounding areas.

Marisa can be contacted by email on admin@mdvent.com or by phone on 0404 788 160.

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Shitbox Rally 2022

Bridgetown's 'Outback Lassies', Michelle Wright and Kathryn Holland are taking part in the Spring Shitbox Rally which will be held from October 15th to October 21st 2022, travelling from Mackay to Darwin via the Savannah Way.

The Rally is not a race, rather it's a challenge to achieve the unthinkable, to drive a 'shitbox of a car' worth no more than \$1,500 across Australia via some of its most formidable roads, all in the name of charity.

The 'Outback Lassies' is a two-person team which needs to raise a minimum of \$5,000 to participate in the rally. They are currently trying to find their 'shitbox of a car' in preparation for the start of the event in Mackay.

There are other stipulations apart from the vehicle being valued at less than \$1,500. It also must be road worthy; the car has to be a two-wheel drive and be able to hold four people.

This is just in case they will need to pick up other fellow competitors whose car may have conked out along the way.

Across the seven days they will drive around 3,300 kilometres, roughly 600 kilometres a day.

All this excitement and adventure is in order to raise money for the Cancer Council as well as to bring attention to the work and support the Cancer Council gives to those who are affected by cancer.

Michelle Wrights talks about why she is taking part in the rally, "This will be a fun way for me to 'give a little back' to such a supportive organisation.

"Many of us have been affected by cancer in one way or another. Whether it be parents, family, close friends, people we know or ourselves that have battled or are battling cancer, it's an awful disease, a disease which has the ability to touch us all.

"Charities such as Cancer Council make the tricky cancer journey that little bit easier.



Harlow, Adalynn, Michelle Wright and Kathryn Holland

"During the rally we will be travelling in a convey of around twenty vehicles, this of course is to foster friendships and cooperation, it is also to allow the other entrants to be alongside, so they can be there to lend each other a hand for when things go awry.

"I'm no bush mechanic, but when things go wrong, as they do in life, plenty of support always makes the situation easier.

Kathryn Holland was delighted to also explain, "We not only want to raise awareness and money for Cancer Council, but also want to offer support and a friendly ear to those that have suffered or are suffering from cancer.

"I've found, since announcing I'm taking part in the rally, others in our community who have been affected by the disease have come and shared a little of their story with me. *Continued Page 13*

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All the Gear and All the Tools

Feeding Your Soil Microbes With Simple Home-Made Recipes

Adrian Williams

In this series of articles I have written much about why agriculture needs to change. In this article I offer four recipes I am assessing that seem to be having favourable effect - the photo of the 8-week-old cabbages is an indication. I have prepared a similar article for the Blackwood Valley Small Landholders newsletter, and I included these recipes on my handout accompanying my talk at the recent Post Bushfire Workshop put on by Blackwood Biosecurity Inc. Recipes 1-3 come from 'Soil Food Web Australia' in an article by Simon Webster. You can find the original at: <https://www.organicgardener.com.au/articles/how-make-compost-tea> I heard about recipe 4 at a workshop a few years ago run by Nicole Masters, a specialist in soil microbiology.

Below are the four recipes. The quantities quoted are aimed at the small producer but can be scaled up by farmers who want to cover large areas with boom sprayers. The equipment you will need are a brewing vessel (I use a plastic dustbin), an aerator (I use an aquarium air pump) and a measuring cylinder as well as buckets and watering cans. The only other thing you will need is a 'bag' to put the compost in. A small muslin bag would be ideal. The materials you will use are Fish hydrolysate, Liquid Kelp, small quantities of reasonable Compost, Molasses, and a small amount of Lucerne hay. All the equipment and materials are available in Bridgetown. Fish hydrolysate is made from whole fish, broken down by enzymes rather than heat. It contains fish oils that are good food for fungi. 'Hydrofish' is a locally available example. The more commonly found fish emulsion is less effective at growing fungi but will suffice as a substitute if necessary. Rainwater is better than town water because it contains no chlorine (microbes don't like chlorine). If you only have town water available bubble air through it for 30



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minutes to remove the chlorine before adding anything. You will see that you don't need very much compost tea to cover a large area.

Recipe 1: General purpose tea (Balanced fungal-bacterial brew for any use)

Twenty litres water, 80ml fish hydrolysate, 40ml liquid kelp and 200g compost will produce a tea concentrate enough for one acre.

Add water to bin. Add food (fish and kelp juices) to water.

...continued page 14



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Transition Bridgetown

How did you go with Plastic Free July? It's not easy, but every bit helps!

Simple changes like: buying in bulk, using your own keep-cup and using crockery instead of plastic at events and morning teas will make a positive difference. Several businesses in town stock some beautiful pottery keep cups. Also, you can also find keep cups available in our wonderful local Op Shops.

Obviously we do need to buy something made from plastic, our suggestion is to try to avoid plastics that are not recyclable. Anything that is a composite of different plastics is not recyclable. Tetrapak cartons, for example, are not recyclable as they are made from several different types of plastic. There is more detailed information on the Transition Bridgetown website and Facebook page. Check it out!

In 2019 the WA Government received over 9,400 submissions indicating strong support for reducing the impacts of single-use plastics. As you are no doubt aware, as from 1 July 2022, businesses cannot supply any plastic shopping bags, disposable plastic utensils, plastic food containers or expanded polystyrene food ware.

Did you know that it is also illegal to release a balloon into the air? From 1 October 2022, businesses will not be allowed to supply disposable plastic cups for cold drinks. Planning for the next round of bans begins 1 January 2023 and are expected to be enforced by 1 July 2023. If you run a business, you can contribute to the consultation/planning process. Register on the website plasticsbanwa.com.au to receive updates on this consultation process.

Our Open Space for this month will be on Sunday 28th August 4.30 - 6.30pm at the Bridgetown Repertory Theatre. Join us for a screening of "Regenerating Australia", the new film from Damon Gameau and the team behind "2040" and "That Sugar Film". You can find the trailer here Regenerating Australia | Official Trailer

Produced in partnership with World Wildlife Foundation Australia, "Regenerating Australia" is set on New Year's Eve 2029 and takes the form of a news bulletin reflecting on the decade 'that could have been'. A decade that saw Australia transition to a fairer, cleaner, more community-focused economy. The film is based on a four-month 'listening campaign' with a diverse group of Australians who shared their hopes and dreams for the country's future. It is a new story for our nation, a story of empowerment. A story of solutions. A story of regeneration.

Come along and learn more about our many proactive community groups who are looking at Regeneration at a local level - community gardens, permaculture, landcare, seed savers, community energy, recycling, alternative housing and more! Yes, we really do have it all happening right here in our shore!

Bar open for drinks to be purchased, hot drinks provided. Transition Bridgetown and the Bridgetown Repertory Theatre look forward to seeing you there! Please register by texting 0432 105 754 or email transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com



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Dad's Army ...Continued from cover,

"I also found I couldn't borrow any stage weaponry; the theatrical groups which had weapons didn't want to let any guns they had out of their sights.

"I asked Bruce Carlson if he would give me a hand to jigsaw out a few gun profiles, he has taken the job with aplomb, the weapons he has produced are wonderful, grenades with removal detonators, a Lewis gun and a Sten gun and hand pistols all made from steel and looking like and feeling like the real thing.

"The major roles are being performed by experienced actors, Alan Wilson, Hugh Liston and Antony Flemming, all of whom are playing their parts to a tee.

Chris Shedley and Ray Murphy are playing supporting roles.

"The play is being managed by Jude Sutherland, me and Jude have always worked well together and she is doing an amazing job.

"The large cast is getting on well together; I can honestly say the rehearsals are fun all the time. Having a large cast presents us with a whole new set of problems, not all can be there on every rehearsal night but others take over their roles, giving them an insight into how the other roles are played.

"Aaron McKnight, the repertory president, has managed to secure funding to improve the lighting. All the stage lights are now LED which allow us to have the best light stage we have ever had. There is also a very good 'supertrooper' spot light which will make those highlighted on stage dazzle."

Dad's Army is humorous and nostalgic. The actors who will be bringing this show to life have all commented on how much fun they are having with the production of the play, which guarantees that audiences will have a lot of fun watching it.

The show runs over two extended weekends: Thursday 11th to Sunday 14th August and Thursday 18th to Sunday 21st August, with Friday 12th August being a special gala night that includes nibbles and champagne beforehand to celebrate the Bridgetown Repertory Club's 90th year.

Tickets available on trybooking.com and at the door.

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Showing The Way Coleen Russell

1894 Fruit and Produce Show

...Continued from last issue, The town, the district and the Society continues to prosper.

On Thursday 29 November 1894, the 10th, Annual Show was held at the Societies Show Yards with a large gathering including the Hon. Sir John Forrest (who opened the Show) and Lady Forrest (this being her first visit to Bridgetown) who arrived by horse and carriage, the Hon. Sir James Lee Steere, the Hon. J.G.C. Foulkes M.L.C., and R.C. Sholl, a Post Master General.

The weather was delightful, the exhibits were both numerous and of excellent quality. The Southern Times reported on "the large amount of energy and enterprise infused into this rapidly progressing and prosperous Society resulting in a display of healthy and sound growth and vigour which has not been equalled this year by any other Society in the colony including the Royal Agricultural Show at Guildford."

Accommodation was not in over demand as per other years as many brought their accommodation with them and tents were to it be seen in all directions.

A great incentive was a combined £20 prize for the Exhibitor with the greatest number of exhibits donated by, The West Australian, Messrs. A. Knox Brown, G.W. Hester, J. Allnutt (President) and the Society. Great credit was afforded to two exhibitors, J. Allnutt, a resident of the district, who won the prize with 95 exhibits and R.H. Rose Jr., J.P., who conveyed 86 exhibits a distance of 70 miles. To show his exhibits, Mr Rose had to walk his sheep and horses to the grounds and conveyed the remainder by horse and cart.

A feature of the show was stock whipping conducted by Nannup, an aboriginal well known for his prowess, "excited admiration with his command of the whip while testing the exhibits for the prize whip." All exhibits far surpassed anything previously displayed.

Horses 118 - competition, in the light horses and draught horses was keen and the judges Mr R.A. Gholi and W.E. Asha were most careful awarding their decision.

Cattle 163 - these were well worth seeing, representing Hereford, Polled Angus, Jerseys and Shorthorn.

Sheep 80 - attracted much attention and Messrs. Lee Steere and Hester and Mr Rose divided the honours between them. A. Muir Snr judged these sheep and the Pigs.

Pigs 10 - not numerous but of good quality with R.H. Rose Jr. taking out the prizes.

Wine 9 - these splendid samples came as usual from Mr Allnutt's cellar and were judged by W.K. Adam. Dairy

Produce 72 - Classes were fresh butter, salt butter, side of bacon, ham, bread, cheese and eggs. Mrs W.K. Adam judged these along with the Flowers.

Flowers 19 - the cut flowers, was awarded to J. Giblett, with, J. Allnutt taking out 2nd prize and the collection of pressed bush flowers was awarded to Maud Doust.

Produce 140 - cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce, peas, broad beans, onions, carrots, beets, radish, turnips, parsnips and mangel were judged by H.I. Farrell and it was noted that due to the peculiar dry season many samples were of stunted growth.

The wheat was of exceptional standard, chaff was very good, maize, barley and oats good.

Poultry 40 - judged by E. Woodrow, the Leghorns and Plymouth Rocks were good as also the Turkeys with other breeds being Brahma, Spanish and Hamburg. The most frequent winner's names being J. Allnutt, R.H. Rose Jr., H. Doust and R.C. Williams with H. Layman taking out the pair of Crossbreed Fowls. W. Stephen took out the prize for hand-made stockwhip (new) not less than 14ft (4.267metres) long.

The President J. Allnutt held a luncheon reception in the Farmers Home for Sir John and Lady Forrest with members of the Society present and about fifty leading Settlers of the District. Discussions focussed around Policies of the

Government of this country and the construction of the railway from Donnybrook to Bridgetown costing £100,000.

The following morning, the Annual Meeting of the Nelson Agricultural Society was held in the Mechanics Institute. Over forty attended. A letter was read from the Wellington Agricultural and Pastoral Society recommending an amalgamation of the Southern Agricultural Societies.

W.A.G. Walter moved that this not be entertained at present. John Allnutt J.P. was unanimously re-elected as President with R.C. Williams as Secretary, noting that, "at such short notice of three weeks prior to the show, Mr Williams had taken up the business in a most able manner and carried it through successfully." Messrs W.A.G. Walter and H. Layman were appointed as Auditors. It was voted the Show luncheon be moved from midday to an evening affair.

After a long dry spell of very hot weather and Friday 7th December topping 100 degrees Fahrenheit in the shade, the heavens at last broke with 50 points (12 ½ mm) being recorded by 9am on the Monday morning. The local Correspondent reported in The Southern Times; "The rain fell in torrents and by Tuesday is still continuing. The long spell of dry hot weather has caused much sickness and the rain was most welcome, not only to quench the thirsty land but to clear the air. Some, who have hay about, will suffer damage. Although the Nelson Show has been the most successful of any in the colony this year, it would have been more successful had it been held a few weeks earlier. With an increase of 100 exhibits over and above last years, we feel proud, and justly so, to think we have excelled over the Royal. Our Society, with only 10 years standing, without the facilities of railway, has exceeded our own expectations."

The Correspondent noted the large number of farmers now having reapers and binders and doubled furrow ploughs and he felt as soon as the railway extended to Bridgetown there would be a great increase of machinery. The Society needed to increase prize money as an incentive in the future for such machinery. James Scott, late of the Farmers' Home Hotel had opened his store, J. Smith had moved to his new building and the town now had three large stores. A Syndicate was being formed to erect a Steam Roller Flour Mill and Saw Mill combined.

The Best Managed Farm for 1894 had only three entries, from B. Needs of 'Perup, Walter of 'Peninsula' and J. Allnutt of 'The Grange'. Overall totals were Needs 564, Walter 563 and Allnutt with 394.

The Judge, W.E. Ash of Harvey, tabled his report to the Society in January of 1895. Everything noted on the farm was allocated points. Livestock, Implements and Machinery, Fertilizer, Crops, Cultivation, Orchard, Vineyard, Garden, Farm Buildings, Land Drainage, Fences, Gates, Bridges, Water Supply, Fodder, Bookkeeping, Management, Rotation of Crops, Dairy Management, Subsidiary Aids and Experiments. Points were allocated for each section and then totalled to give the overall winner. Mr Ash suggested future additions include a class of 'Agricultural horses' and a prize for 'Farm team in Harness'. He noted "the French farm horse 'Percheron-Norman' is a model agricultural horse and many of our WA Agricultural Societies would do well to copy some of those in Canada and the United States by importing some of this breed." Mr Ash felt an improvement in cattle breeding was needed and he was surprised at the absence of sheep on all the farms. Each farm lost 20 points for this oversight. He found many other defects in the farm possessions but stated that this same problem existed throughout the colony and farmers were not to blame, "a good/arm wagon is not yet obtainable in Western Australia at a reasonable price." Mr Needs was the only competitor to own a butterworker machine (Chemy's make) but he was deficient in a cream separator, which the others possessed.

Shitbox Rally 2022 *continued from page 8*

"Sure, the rally is not for everyone, but it will be an adventure, and we will have fun along the way, it will be something different.

"Through others' past experiences with the rally we have been told that because we are taking part in something which is both rewarding and memorable, we will make new life-long friends, but most importantly, we will be raising much needed money for the charity.

"Trust us, this is going to be great fun," we have been told. Together so far, the 'Outback Lassies' have raised \$1,800.

The next fundraising event they will be holding is an afternoon High Tea which is to be held at 'Dalmore Farm' in Bridgetown on the Saturday 3rd September which will begin at 2pm.

It is planned to be a fun afternoon with raffles, auctions and games being held to entertain the whole family throughout the afternoon.

There will be a bus service for those wanting transport to the farm, it will be departing from the Town Square Carpark.

If you would like to attend High Tea, bookings can be made at: events.humanitix.com/bridgetown-high-tea or you can contact Margaret Wright on 0438 907 479.

This event is officially endorsed and supported by the Cancer Council. Shitbox Rally is the largest community lead fundraiser for the Cancer Council in Australia and is now in its 13th year. The fundraising is the hard part, so any donation you can give is greatly appreciated.

Bridal Creeper: managing the spread of this invasive weed

Bridal Creeper flourishes in the winter and we watch with dismay as this aggressive weed spreads on our properties, nature reserves and waterways. This perennial climber is native to southern Africa and a declared weed in WA.

There is a short window of opportunity in the treatment of Bridal Creeper which occurs in early August. This is when the 'rust' fungus is at its most prevalent and can be harvested for use in the management of the weed, and before the berries appear, reducing the spread by birds.

Blackwood Biosecurity Inc. is providing free hands-on workshops in our operational area on making rust spray to manage the spread of Bridal Creeper. This easy to make spray is a biocontrol method using the rust spores from the plant itself and is an effective and safe management method.

The workshop for the Bridgetown area will be held at the Ashbil Community Garden on Saturday 6th August at 10-11am, followed by time for questions.

If you have access to any Bridal Creeper with visible rusty spores, please bring it along. We will also cover the use of low dose Brushoff for use on larger patches. The workshop will be presented by local expert Jenny Dewing. For enquiries, please contact Denyse MacNish community@bbisouthwest.org.au 0455 522 750, or Jenny Dewing mdewing@iinet.net.au 0428 828 746.



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How Could We Have Forgotten

In our cover story in the last issue, Queen's Birthday Honours, there was an OAM recipient who was not mentioned, Patrick Scallan.

The story was meant to have read as follows: Robyn McSweeney is now the sixth person in Bridgetown to receive the OAM. Bernard O'Reilly was given the medal in 1986 for his services to St. John Ambulance, William Harold Rowan-Robinson was awarded one in 1987 for service to the community, Patrick Scallan was awarded one in 2015 for service to local government and the community, Thomas Nigel Jones was awarded one in 2018 for his service to medicine as a general practitioner and Adrian Elder was awarded one in 2021 for service to the community of Bridgetown. Pat's omission was quickly brought to our attention.

Feeding Your Soil Microbes With Simple Home-Made Recipes

Continued from page 9.... Put compost into 'tea' bag and place in brew and turn on aerator. Brew for 24-30 hours. Dilute between 1:10 and 1:20 and apply. (You cannot apply too much.)

Recipe 2: Vegie patch / grass tea (Bacterial brew for annual vegetables, pastures, and lawns)

Twenty litres water, 30ml fish hydrolysate, 60ml liquid kelp, 10ml blackstrap molasses, 200g compost. Brew and apply as before.

Recipe 3: Orchard or plantation tea (Fungal brew for trees, fruit trees and shrubs) - A bit more complicated.

Step 1: Two hundred grams compost and 10ml fish hydrolysate mixed with 20ml water. Three days before brewing, feed compost by mixing 10ml fish hydrolysate in 20ml of water and sprinkling this over the compost. Keep compost in a cardboard box (the cardboard will absorb any excess moisture and allow compost to breathe) and keep in a warm spot (20-30°C). After 2-3 days the compost will have a 'fuzz' growing over it - this will be laden with fungal spores.

Step 2: Twenty litres water, 80ml fish hydrolysate and 40ml liquid kelp. After the compost has 'fuzzed' add the 'tea bag' of fuzzed compost to the water and nutrients and brew like the general-purpose tea, above.

Recipe 4: Lucerne Hay tea (Protozoa brew). These are larger soil microbes including amoeba and small flagellates and ciliate lifeforms that are important to soil health. (Ideally you would use lucerne hay that has been produced without chemicals.)

Just 250g of lucerne hay in ~20 litres of water. Bubble air through this mix for 36 hours, dilute and apply as with other brews. Application of this will encourage the soil protozoa. The protozoa consume soil bacteria and in the process release plant-available Nitrogen. This is a lot cheaper than Urea that is currently around \$1,400 / tonne!

The original article advises: In hot summer weather reduce food and brewing time. With overnight temperatures above 20°C, brewing will take only 18 hours and food should be halved. In chilly weather you might give the brewing a little more time. Teas should be used within four hours of brewing and turning off the air pump, before oxygen and microbe levels drop.

If you have been using chemical fertilisers in the past it is not advised to make a sharp change from fertiliser to compost teas. There should be a period of weaning away from chemical fertilisers to avoid a drop in production until the microbes have taken over. Some people recommend halving the quantity of chemical fertilisers each year over 3-4 years while applying the compost teas. After 3-4 years of halving the amount of chemical fertiliser each year their application can be stopped. By that time the microbes should have taken over.



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Be Brave and Chase your Dreams

Continued from page 2..... Over the next fourteen years she worked very hard, travelling around, honing her craft and making music her full-time job.

While living and working in South Dakota in America she met and married her husband Devin, bringing him back to Bunbury to where they now live.

It hasn't been all plain sailing, around three years ago Codee-Lee suffered a crisis in confidence, after gaining weight and being more concerned with what other people thought of her, those who might be judging the way she appeared and the way she dressed, together with the huge load of others people's expectations all led to a very anxious time for Codee-Lee.

"Be Brave and Chase your Dreams; because that was what Devin told me to do," is the philosophy she now tells to her eight and half month-old son during those special comforting moments, it was also the saying she gathered so much courage from.

The EP of the year, the single of the year and the song writing award were for the song 'Who I Am'.

The song is a reflection of her life through the troubled times she has lived over the last three years. It was a time when she thought she was playing a life role of someone else, chasing the dollars and letting the weight of others expectations weigh her down.

Codee-Lee talks about her journey, "As a song writer I bare my soul to tell my stories. 'Who I Am' tells a story of me coming to terms with the way I was living my life and then me reorganizing to the way I live my life today, which is a way better life.

"Whilst recording the song I became aware I was pregnant with my first child, giving even more meaning to the words in the song 'I smile a little bit brighter'.

"A 'fun little tip' I would like to pass on to all new mums, you should record yourself singing a song, on CD or on the phone, I've found the sound of my voice singing is the best way of stopping my son crying, my lullabies on repeat work every time.

"I have found I can be a mum; a musician and I can chase my dreams. Of course, a lot of this is down to my husband

and my family who are my biggest fans and cheerleaders, my sister is the best guitar carrier roadie that's ever been in the business and of course to my family of loyal fans around the world."

It has been said; The best Country music is created with three music cords and the truth.



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Operation Christmas Child

It's that time of the year for people to put together their shoebox gifts for Operation Christmas Child. A time when we can have the fun of putting together a shoebox filled with gifts for children in countries where children have really very little in their lives.

Remembering or imagining the childhood joy of your children as they open their presents on Christmas morning; now, imagine that joy magnified tenfold as a child who has never received a present, who might have suffered the effects of either a war, a natural disaster, poverty, illness or maybe neglect receives a shoebox overflowing with gifts. Bringing joy and hope is what the Samaritan's Purse project is all about.

The boxes can be filled with a variety of items from 6 categories. 1. Something to love; a soft toy or doll, 2. Something to play with; a Yo Yo, marbles, tennis ball, skipping rope, etc. 3. Something to wear; T-Shirt, beanie, thongs, etc. 4. Toiletries; soap, face washer, brush, comb, toothbrush etc. 5. Stationery supplies; pencils, coloured pencils, sharpener, eraser, exercise books, etc. 6. carry bag to keep their treasures in. Also include \$10 per box to cover the costs of getting the gift into the hands of the child, or pay online and follow your box with a bar code to its destination.

The Samaritan's Purse project is a non-denominational evangelical Christian Organisation providing physical and spiritual aid to hurting people around the world.

Brochures can be obtained from The Quality Shop, as well as Shoe boxes to be filled. The boxes can then be returned to The Quality Shop in October. Don't forget to put a rubber band around the box. Think about it now and start filling your box, some child will love you for it.

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal 2021



In 2021 The Quality Shop did manage to participate in the Operation Christmas Child, but, as you may have imagined, Covid-19 had its impact on our efforts. It also undermined this endeavour right across Australia.

Bridgetown, Boyup Brook, Greenbushes and Balingup residents who were familiar with this worthwhile cause contributed without any prompting and were once again very generous with their support for the Operation Christmas Child 'Christmas Shoe Box Appeal'. In November 2021 our community contributed around 85 boxes, it was a wonderful effort.

A great many thanks go to the people, the families and the groups who participated in last year's Christmas Shoe Box appeal, also to the individuals and companies who donated money and gifts to fill and send the boxes.

Are you moving soon

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