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THE MAILBAG

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Telephone: 9761 1717 - Email: mailbag@bigpond.net.au

132nd Bridgetown Show

SATURDAY, 27th NOVEMBER, 2021
Peninsula Road

Celebrating FAMILY & COMMUNITY



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In a few weeks the 132nd Annual Show at the Bridgetown Showgrounds will come to life after an absence of one year. It has been a challenge to bounce back. The pandemic has placed many unforeseen obstacles in our path, yet as a close-knit group we have found strength and with amazing support from sponsors, members and volunteers we have put together an entertainment program full of fun and excitement featuring "Family and Community" with a multitude of free rides, workshops, exhibitions and displays. What is really pleasing is the diverse number of local groups who have come forward to be a part of this wonderful family event.

There are so many highlights to look forward to and it is impossible to list them all here. There will be information flyers around the grounds and most of the events will have times listed in front of their venue. The pavilions for cattle, sheep, poultry/pets and wool are always an interesting stop off with local exhibitors competing for prizes. Enjoy tastings and sales in Rowan Hall. Centenary Hall always astounds the visitor; the competition is fierce and the standard of the exhibits is to be commended. The fun classes always produce works that show great imagination. You can spend a lot of time in here and not see it all.

The Bridgetown P&C will provide teas and lunch in the Junior Farmers Hall and alongside in the Open Shed the 'Community Makers, Creators and Growers' will provide watercolour/art creative workshops, flower crowns, basket weaving, props and photo booth, planting activities and various crafts. Have a Selfie with a Fantasy Pony, Jamie the Clown or Super Heroes Owlette, Bluey, Bingo, Hulk and Ninja Turtle.
Continued page 15



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The Tapestry

With the Bridgetown Art and Craft Centre recently celebrating its 55th year milestone, one of the projects of note the members of the club have pride in is the Bridgetown-Greenbushes Bi-Centennial Tapestry.

In 1986 a meeting was held of the members of the Art and Craft Club and Joan Krauze put a proposal to the meeting that they stitch a tapestry tracing the history of Bridgetown and Greenbushes as their Australian Bi-Centennial project.

This was discussed at great length as it would be a huge commitment by all members who wanted to participate. All matters were discussed, such as size, design, content, who would carry out the work, finance, etc. as it needed firm support to carry the project through.

What was decided on was a 'Creative Tapestry' showing the history of Bridgetown and Greenbushes over the past 120 years, from a time when the district became gazetted as a town on 4th June 1868.

The design starts in 1868 with bushland with Aboriginal settlement on the banks of the river with pristine country showing wild flowers, bush animals including kangaroos, possums, snakes, numbats, birds of the area and Jarrah trees to feature right through the tapestry.

Then comes settlement with Bridgedale with horse and cart, the old bridge, sheep and cattle.

Then progress with bullock team and whim, apple trees, timber mill, railway line and train, packing shed and mining with the church in and about the middle.

Then coming into the present time, with orchards in the background, pines, the Blackwood Marathon, today's bridge, canoes, tourists' tents, caravans, and featuring the crafts with a potter's wheel, spinning wheel, wood turning up to the ending date of 1988.

The tapestry is 4.5 metres long by 650mm deep.

Quotes taken from the book 'The Bridgetown-Greenbushes Bi-Centennial Tapestry' reveal that "To create this Tapestry



Tapestry being sewn together by Joan Krauze in the 'Wool Shed' at the Bridgetown Show in 1987 at a 'By-Gone Days' Display

the design was cut into 20 pieces for stitching, and then rejoined into one piece. The small pictures at the bottom show our lifestyle in 1988.

"Colours were chosen by the individual member stitching the canvas with the exception of the continuing colours of the sky, river, border and background of small pictures.

"Not all members were interested, not all were stitchers, but the majority of members agreed to go ahead with the project, work commenced at once and an application was made to the Bi-Centennial Committee for funds to cover the cost of materials.

"The Tapestry was stitched with conservation in mind, following a few simple rules. The work was kept as clean as possible, keeping each section in a plastic bag or covered with plastic, when not being stitched.

"Not only the canvas itself but also the yarns used to stitch with. Hands were to be washed thoroughly before stitching or handling, this is to remove the acidity from skin as this has a damaging effect on fibres.

"All yarns used on the canvas were washed in a special solution which was obtained from the WA Museum, this is for the same reason, to remove the acidity.

"The Tapestry took hundreds of hours of work to complete and it was the dedication and commitment of all the members who became involved, some did a huge amount of work, others a small amount, each contributed what they could.

"Put together, it amounted to the Magnificent Tapestry that we have today as a lasting memorial to the Bridgetown Art and Craft Club and to its members and to those members who have passed on."

The completed tapestry was presented to the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes at the Annual Exhibition of the Bridgetown Arts and Craft Group on the 29th April, 1988, and is hung in the Shire Offices on Hampton Street, in the passage, on the left as you walk down the slope to the Shire's reception.

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SES Team Deployed in Bridgetown

Bridgetown SES is Recruiting

Bridgetown State Emergency Services (SES) is looking for 'Search and Rescue Team Members' and 'Communications Team Members'.

SES team members volunteer their time to assist the community during natural hazard emergencies such as floods, storms, cyclones and earthquakes.

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John Tonai-Moore, SES spokesperson talks about being part of the team, "SES meets once a week, each Tuesday at 7pm for ongoing team building and training exercises.

"Keeping our skills fresh with different situation scenarios training is very important, knowing what to expect and how to use the tools and equipment the SES has, is ongoing.

"On the search and rescue side of the SES, members do need to be physically fit and to be able to complete standard SES training courses.

"We also have other duties which are not so demanding but just as important, Communications Team Members with manning the radio and administration work.

If you would like to find out more about the Bridgetown SES unit contact Unit Manager, Richard Bothe: SES@bridgetown.wa.gov.au 0429 611 879 or visit www.dfes.vol.org.au for information on emergency services volunteering.



BRIDGETOWN'S AUTHENTIC COUNTRY PUB

Blues Weekend Band Line Up

Friday 12th November

7.00 – 8.45 **Stumptown**

9.00 – 11.30 **Zack Linton Band**

Saturday 13th November

WAM FINALISTS

12.00 – 12.40 **Danny Haines (WAM)**

1.00 – 1.40 **Shae Digney (WAM)**

2.00 – 2.40 **Latehorse (WAM)**

3.00 – 3.40 **Kiera Jas (WAM)**

6.00 – 8.30 **Jeremy and Rupe**

8.45 – 11.30 **Jamaica Scream**

Sunday 14th November

12.00 – 3.00 **Black Robin**

STUMPTOWN

Black Robin



Zack Linton



Jeremy and Rupe



Bookings 9761 1725 Email us for further information admin@freemasonshotel.net.au

Change and Loss

The Greenbushes CRC is hosting a free workshop on 'Change and Loss' on Friday 26th November from 9.30am to 4.30pm which includes lunch.

Most of us are familiar with the saying 'the only constant in life is change', yet we don't necessarily associate change with loss.

Change is a part of life, and when you think about it, we are continuously faced with changes that are accompanied by a degree of loss. It could be due to life experiences such as redundancy, retirement, illness or more serious upheavals such as separation and death.

Relationships Australia WA's Change and Loss workshops give participants the chance to reflect on their own personal journey and make some positive adjustments to better deal with loss.

Rhett Toppliss from Relationships Australia, believes anyone who is experiencing or has experienced change and loss will benefit from this course.

Rhett said, "Grief is the normal reaction to loss and in our course we explore how we can come to terms with change and loss. We will also introduce participants to a variety of resources and supports to help them in moving forward".

This workshop is facilitated by Relationships Australia and funded by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal, and is a one day workshop.


Participants are introduced to the two tasks of dealing with loss. The part that grieving plays in this process will be outlined.

Participants are invited to consider how they have learnt to cope with loss, what has been helpful and what, if anything, hasn't, with different frameworks for understanding the grieving process presented.

Participants are introduced to Mindfulness as a gentle way we can support ourselves when we are grieving a loss.

The workshop is limited to fifteen people, you need to be quick to get a place.

To register, please contact reception@greenbushescrc.net.au or call 97643575.



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New tenancy education project

A major effort to improve the understanding of renting rights in vulnerable communities has been launched with the release of a specially-designed educational toolkit.

The Tenancy toolkit uses imagery to assist visual storytelling of complex legal issues with the aim to improve the understanding of tenancy laws and processes.

The toolkit contains material using visual art, plain language and storytelling as the basis to reach Aboriginal people as well as those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

It covers a wide range of tenancy issues such as property inspections, rent owing, getting things fixed, emergency repairs, property standards and escaping a tenancy for family violence reasons.

For more information on the resources or to obtain a kit, contact the Consumer Protection or Legal Aid WA officers in your region, or email consumer@dmirs.wa.gov.au. The full resources are also freely available to download via the Legal Aid WA website <https://blurredborders.legalaid.wa.gov.au>

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Wonderful World of Oz

Chloe Astill is playing the lead role of 'Dorothy' in the Pantomime 'Wonderful World of Oz'. Dorothy, along with her Aunt Em, her dog Toto and the farm house are all sucked into the sky by a tornado and deposited into the 'Wonderful World of Oz', landing on top of and killing the Wicked Witch of the East thus freeing the Munchkins from slavery, and so the story begins, as they wind their way down the yellow brick road hoping to find their way home.

Chloe who is very talented in acting and singing came to Bridgetown three years ago from Kalgoorlie, where she was involved with the Goldfields Repertory Club.

Since coming to Bridgetown she has taken up acting roles in a number of plays at the Bridgetown Repertory Club.

She acted in 'One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest' and then she performed major roles in the pantomime 'Treasure Island' and the play 'Darling Buds of May'.

"I relish being on stage, although I feel anxious in my normal life, once I'm on stage and playing a role I feel energized and comfortable.

"I find the theatre to be a very supportive community, I love acting in front of locals, the encouragement I get when I'm performing is truly invigorating.

"Margie is a wonderful director, and when I tried my costume on, it fitted beautifully the first time. Along with the support of other members of the cast and crew, I feel I'm at home when I'm at the theatre," Chloe thoughtfully expressed.

Sue Bottomley has been cast as the 'Wicked Witch of the West', a role she is taking great delight in playing.

"I find playing the part of a villain, which is so far outside of my personality, a challenge, I also find it is wonderful to experience the power in a villain's role.

"It's a bit akin to wearing a mask, on stage I'm evil, scary and nasty and as soon as I walk off, take off the mask,



Chloe as Dorothy and Sue as Wicked Witch of the West

I'm my normal self again.

"Having an acting role and playing a character well, is just the best experience you can have.

"I also have a song to sing, I started my stage career as a singer. Although I'm nervous before a performance, I feel I'm most comfortable performing."

Sue is also the Wardrobe Mistress for this production, "I have hardly stopped sewing since being asked to make the costumes for the pantomime.

"Some costumes are easier than others, Dorothy's costume, which is so well known, is one which had to be just right. ...Continued page 15

Harcourts Bridgetown Real Estate Matters

Real Estate Sales Growth Set to Continue

Sellers in regional areas of WA continue to share big-time in the spoils of the COVID 19 pandemic driven property market. Many sellers are experiencing multiple offers on sale of their property.

Available listings have declined substantially over the past 12 months with buyers experiencing for the first time in many years the shortage of choice and sellers experiencing a quick turn around in sales. REIWA figures show that the whole WA market listing choice is down about 40% since 2019.

There is a huge amount of confidence in the market at present and with low stock availability, low interest rates and strong competition sellers are being rewarded with high sale prices. Lengthy wait times in new builds is also helping fuel the existing home sales market.

Ex pats coming back and eastern state buyers are also providing a boost to the WA market with figures showing a positive interstate migration of plus 1650 as at March quarter.

As border restrictions ease there will be an increase in interstate migration due to worker shortages in the mining industry and returning Australians from overseas. Greenbushes alone is looking to employ over 600 workers.

This will increase demand for housing, tightening the depleted stock levels even further with the potential of driving up prices. The past 12 months has seen an average price increase of approx. 8% to 10% within the region, which is great news for sellers coming off a very low base pre COVID19.

So, in summary; Yes! We will continue to see reasonable growth in sales in our much sought-after Blackwood region.

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By John Ranieri
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Staffing Positions Available

Geegeelup Aged Care Facility currently has vacancies for more residents. But, before more residents, must come more staff.

There are positions available for full-time, part-time and casual staff.

Geegeelup Village is also looking for nurses, enrolled and registered, for part-time and casual positions with a wide variety of shifts and rosters available.

Sean Mahoney, Geegeelup Village General Manager goes on to explain what is required; "The Geegeelup workforce is extraordinary, compassionate, caring, competent and is always stepping-up to maintain the quality of care that Geegeelup is renowned for.

"Geegeelup Village is calling for people within the Shire to come and join this amazing workforce.

"We're looking for newcomers to health and aged care, and semi-retired people to come back to the industry.

"If you join our workforce we offer a career pathway, in an industry where you will be satisfied and rewarded. You will also get to work with an exceptional group of people who all enjoy their work immensely.

"There are also opportunities where you could be trained into a supervisor role with higher pay and extra responsibility.

"Recent pay increases indicate Geegeelup is serious about acquiring good staff who will maintain quality care for our most deserving community members.

"I'm sure you will leave every day with positivity at the difference you have made to someone's life.

"We need people for domestic duties such as cooking, cleaning and laundry. We're looking for Carers who wish to provide personal care to our residents, with training provided. *Continued page 13*

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Rotary invests in our community

The Rotary Club of Bridgetown is a small club of about 20 members who work hard to support our town and surrounding towns.

“We are always looking for new members, Mike Fletcher Rotary spokesperson explains.

“There is no restriction to being a member of Rotary, membership is open to both women and men, you can be neither to old nor too young.

“We meet once a week on a Monday night for a 90-minute meeting, which is only interrupted whilst we are having a meal.

“Being able to commit to our ongoing events is a must, but we welcome new people with fresh ideas and enthusiasm.

“If you know someone who is a Rotary member you can come along as their guest to a meeting to see firsthand if you would like to become a member of this fellowship.

“If you feel like minded and would like know more about the Bridgetown Rotary club, we meet at The Bridgetown Hotel on Monday nights at 6:30 for a 7pm start.”

Funds raised by the Rotary Club of Bridgetown are invested in our community and international projects.

Bridgetown Rotary’s major fundraising events are the Rotary Blackwood Marathon Relay and Rotary Tour of the Blackwood cycle ride.

Over the previous year here are a few ways Rotary has invested in our community; \$100,000 towards the extension of Geegeelup Village Nursing Home, \$25,000 towards the Blackwood Youth Action 3 tier mental health program, \$31,194 towards Blackwood Youth Action social worker assistance, \$2,004 to the Bridgetown Hospital Axillary to fund needed medical devices, \$5,000 to the Bridgetown Agricultural Society to improve their roads and paths, \$2,000 in end of year award donations to local schools, \$2,000 to the local Bushfire Legacy fund, \$1,000 towards Shelter Box, disaster relief shelter kits and \$950 towards the Perth Hills bush fire recovery effort.

This list is by no means all that Rotary have supported, Rotary are always looking at ways to build our community and assist projects that would otherwise go unsupported.

If you would like to become a member of the Bridgetown Rotary Club contact Rotary via email to secretary@bridgetownrotary.org or SMS 0427614079.

Mental Health Week at the BFCC

Mental Health Week was from 9-16 October, to acknowledge and celebrate Mental Health Day on 10 October. This year’s theme was Mental Health starts with our Children.

We were lucky enough to receive funding from WA Mental Health Commission and supported by WAAMH (WA Association for Mental Health), to allow us to host extra art classes for children and families. New Bridgetown residents Kathy and Yve were our artists in residence, who led both Playgroup and after school art activities open to children of all ages. Parents were invited to participate – or enjoy the mental health benefits of leaving their children

in our capable hands. Bridgetown Family & Community Centre (BFCC).

There was painting, cutting, gluing and colouring in. While individual pieces were created, the highlight was a joint project of coloured wings. Everyone got involved in decorating feathers that were put together for this amazing creation.

We are so fortunate to have support of small event funding through WAAMH so that we could host extra programs that are free of charge, making them accessible to everyone. Keep following us on Facebook or email btcommunity@westnet.com.au to be added to the mailing list. There is still plenty of more activities coming up before the end of year.

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Bridgetown Lawn Tennis Club

From its humble beginnings in 1928, the Bridgetown Lawn Tennis Club has slowly expanded. With the extension of the original club house out from its verandas to the later major addition of bar room area embellished with an impressive parquet floor, and of course the creation of more courts it has served the community well as a place of social interaction and healthy exercise.

A robust number of members in past decades has however slowly declined with the ever increasing choices of sporting activities available and the busyness of mums' and dads' lives.

The infrastructure does despite this remain and is supported by a dedicated few members. It is the Club's greatest desire to make this fabulous resource more available and more fully utilised by the surrounding community.

To pursue this goal we are on a membership drive to make people more aware of the opportunities it can provide. The Bridgetown Tennis Club is having its season OPENING DAY on Saturday 6 November from 2pm on.

We would love to have all those thinking of giving Tennis a go to come down and have a try out. You may not have played for a while or feel nervous about being able to play well enough but don't let this stop you. We wish to help you find a comfortable ground and are offering a free trial period up until Christmas, after which time if you decide to join it will be at a reduced introductory rate.

We also hope in the near future to procure a coach to help both children and adults in their skills.

If you can't get to the Club by 2pm on a Saturday afternoon that's OK too as we are flexible in fitting in players when they can get there. There is also a group that plays on Thursday

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Our Land, Our Lifestyle, Our Livelihood

2020-2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
5pm, Thursday, 25 November
The Cidery, 43 Gifford Road, Bridgetown
RSVP: Requested by 17 November
Please contact us for RSVP, membership or other:
E: info@blackwoodbiosecurity.org.au
P: 0477 049 967 or visit our website



evenings if that time suits you better.

Generally we don't get too serious as the overall goal is to enjoy some healthy activity and social interaction.

If you have any questions you can contact Anne Carr (BLTC Secretary) on 0428 713463. Like us on Facebook


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Transition Bridgetown

There was a lovely gathering at our October Open Space, with Bridgetown Energy Transition updating everyone on their progress. A huge thanks to Jim Dixon for explaining the Energy Audit process and continuing to offer his time to help local residents. If you're interested in finding out how your home is currently performing and seeing if anything could be improved, contact Jim on 0497 557 646. This is a free service, with the option to donate to Transition Bridgetown or another local community group. Email bridgetownenergytransition21@gmail.com or transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com for more details.

We are excited to announce an upcoming event organised by Transition Bridgetown, the Bridgetown Family and Community Centre, SUP Tonic and Keep Australia Beautiful Council. Please put 9am on the 9th of January 2022 into your calendar as 'Bridgetown River Clean Up'. The event was inspired by the wonderful Maree at SUP Tonic who has been organising river clean up events in the Swan River through her Stand Up Paddle Boarding (SUP) School, board hire business and paddle boarding clubs. When we learnt how much rubbish is under the water and caught along the riverbank, we decided to apply for some funding through Keep Australia Beautiful Council's Community Litter Grants to clean up our local section of the Blackwood River, the Bridgetown River Foreshore.

With the support of the Bridgetown Family and Community Centre (thanks Jo and Jenni), we were successful in our grant application. We have partnered with SUP Tonic who will travel down for the weekend with a crew to run the event. They'll kindly provide boards and equipment for the clean up on Sunday morning. Paid taster sessions will also be offered on the Saturday before at the river foreshore, for anyone new to paddle boarding or just a bit rusty. SUP's will be provided free for the event Sunday morning, as well as canoes donated by the Bridgetown Caravan Park. Feel free to bring your own water vessels. Non-water bound volunteers are welcome. A free BBQ lunch will be provided at the end of the event for volunteers at the River Park. Look out for Facebook events and posters in the coming month.

DID YOU KNOW? The Bridgetown Skate Park is now closed while the Shire nominated contractors, Environmental Industries, renew and upgrade the area now referred to as the "Youth Precinct". Watch how the space grows and look out for posters with the designs for the two staged project.

Planet Arc's National Recycling Week is the second week of November. For ideas to celebrate check out <https://recyclingnearyou.com.au/nationalrecyclingweek/>. Perhaps you would like to host an upcycling workshop or make some changes in your workplace?

If you have excess produce from your garden or kitchen, or general items you want to pass on, there is a fortnightly Bridgetown Produce Swap at the Bridgetown Family and Community Centre. See their Facebook Group for details, or come to their November swaps on Sunday mornings on the 7th or 21st.

Our next TBR Open Space will be held on Sunday 28th November at 4.30 - 6.30pm at the Ashbill Community Garden Bridgetown. We will be screening the film "Seed - the Untold Story". As biotech chemical companies control the majority of our seeds, this story is about farmers, scientists, lawyers and indigenous seed keepers fighting to defend the future of our food production.

Ring/text 0432 105 754 or email transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com to register. We hope to see you there.

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Page Guille and Ivon James, in front of Foundation Stone

Freemasons

By Tony Domoney
In the July issue Tony wrote of the history of the Freemasons world wide, how the fellowship came about and why it is still relevant today. In this issue Tony writes in this issue about Freemasonry in Bridgetown.

Bridgetown Freemasonry.

On the 17th July in 1899 a small band of Masons got together and held a meeting at the, then, Mechanics institute with a view to forming a Lodge. Those present were well known and respected Bridgetown families whose names are remembered on Street/Road names., Williams, Rowe, Dickenson, Flood, Beadle, Allnut, Rossitter, Daw and Rev Hart.

The reason for the meeting was to "form a masonic lodge" under the Scottish constitution. The Lodge was called United Nelson Lodge and was consecrated on September 27th 1899. Meetings were also held at the Wesley Church before the present building was used.

Various meetings were held in Greenbushes and Bridgetown and at different venues until land in Bridgetown was precluded and the current Lodge built.

The present site was bought in 1908 for 100 pounds sterling. In later years an "organ" was purchased for 27 pounds.

In 1903 a decision was taken to leave the Scottish constitution and join the West Australian constitution under the Grand Lodge, Perth. The first meeting in our Bridgetown Lodge was held in September 1910.

A prominent Bridgetown member was Mr. R Williams whose descendants still reside here. In 1919 the name United Nelson Lodge was changed to that of the Bridgetown Lodge. Bridgetown Lodge has held regular meetings since that date.

Membership of the Lodge reached 75 in the mid 1970's. Currently we have 21 members of whom 10 to 15 regularly attend our monthly meetings. Needless to say we would welcome Men of good standing to join us.

Whilst we meet once or twice a month it is a fact that our Family welfare and Employment commitments always comes first before attending Lodge meetings.

What is a Lodge?

Back in ancient times the practicing Stone Masons formed 'Lodges' to protect their profession and created secret handshakes for identification purposes. (Remember that there were no telephones, newspapers, electricity in those days and travel was on foot or horseback.). Apprentices spent 7 years to qualify in Stone masonry, 7 years working for a Tradesman and then had to seek permission from the 'Master' to travel and work elsewhere. Identification of qualifications was by documents and special signs. Today these so called 'secrets' are used solely as a ceremonial means of demonstrating that one is a Freemason when in Lodge meetings. All ceremonies are symbolic gestures of the ancient traditions.

Continued page 13

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Showing The Way Coleen Russell

1888

With the discovery of tin in Green Bushes (Greenbushes) on 5 July 1888 by David Stinton, the population was growing. Police Constable Stokes would report larger discoveries by Stinton at the Green Bushes field in 1889 as being "as large as an egg."

Lewis Charles Moulton, son of Abraham and Esther, cattleman drover, farmer, gold prospector and Government Land Guide, had reasonable success with tin prospecting.

He had married Helen Giblett, daughter of John and Anne, of Balbarrup in 1887, living in a small mud and clay brick cottage with a shingle roof.

In 1888, their home 'Allview' was built where they raised their son and four daughters. The home overlooked the Geegelup Brook and John Blechynden's home. Violet Zoe Ladhams (nee Moulton), the Author's Grandmother, and third child of Lewis and Helen, recalled how as a child, she would watch her father row across the Geegelup Brook below the house and meet John Blechynden at the fence, 'for a good yarn.' 'Allview' is still today used as a private residence.

The third bridge to be constructed over the Blackwood River Bridgetown was built in 1888. Henry Thomas Doust (son of Henry Doust) of 'Spring Hill' Winnejuip would later confirm this date recalling that a Mr Floyd, then living in Bunbury, erected the bridge at the contract price of £997. The whole of the decking and all of the timber up to 6 inch by 12 inch was pit sawn, with the 12 inch by 12 inch stringers being hewn with the broad axe. All the ironwork was made at the site. As a fourteen year old it was H. T. Doust's first job after leaving school and he was the striker (wielder of a sledge hammer) for Moriarty one of the local blacksmiths.

The 4th Annual Show held on Wednesday 22 November 1888 saw a great show of cattle, with Thomas Giblett's imported Angus Bull attracting considerable notice. At the luncheon that afternoon in the Farmers Home Hotel, chaired by D.R. O'Meehan, Foulkes Taylor sang a 'Hunting Song' and toasts were proposed to the success of the Society, the President and Vice Presidents. J.R. Walter sang "A Gallant Barque" and John Allnutt toasted the Judges and Secretary.

One hundred and eighty entries were received and with the cash received and money paid away, a balance of 18 shillings and 7 pence remained.

The Secretary noted there was a need to enlarge the Show Yard and although they already owned the land, the funds of £20 set aside for this purpose was insufficient. At the AGM the following day, A.W. Moulton took the chair in the absence of the President. Mr Dixon proposed that in future a ploughing match be held and that Sir James Lee-Steere be invited to become a Patron of the Society. Although now residing in Perth, Sir James agreed and continued to support the Society by attending the shows until his death in 1903.

The newly elected President was William Keith Adam Esq., Resident Magistrate, with W.A.G. Walter, James Inglis, J.W. Layman and Godfrey Hester joining the Councillors. After the luncheon, a hurdle race was arranged.

Ten horses were entered with First Prize of £3 15s. being won by Lindsay Armstrong's 'Pilot' and Second Place to C. Fox Roberts on 'Sultana'. A concert was held in the evening at the Mechanics Institute in aid of funds for the Institute.

On the Friday morning A.W. Moulton's auction of stock took place on the Show Grounds, the Cricket Club versus Visitors played a match in the afternoon and the Annual Ball was held in the evening.

It was around this time that 19 year old Robert Charles Williams, having a few years earlier arrived from South Australia with his family, (Robert later became a President and Life Member), walked his horses from Greenbushes (some owned by his brother Maunder), to compete at the show.

As with many of the stock entered in the show, they were left at the grounds overnight to be walked home the

following day. Robert's son Jack Williams later related from his Father's diary, that, "unfortunately one of the horses, 'Cowra' got into a shed and fed on a bag of wheat and she came to an unhappy end."

1889

A whisper was spreading that Mr. Knox Brown would shortly intend to sever his connection with the Society with which he had been intimately associated ever since its inauguration in 1885.

"It will be extremely difficult to meet with anyone who will throw such energy and enthusiasm into the work, and without such essentials it is feared the Society will gradually lose its popularity and dwindle into a fourth-rate Show, like others have unfortunately done."

"Will our new blood, Messrs. Walter and Jephson come at once to the front and make an effort to fill up some of the gaps which have been created by the removal of such prominent men as Sir James Lee Steere and Mr. Knox Brown," stated the Western Mail Saturday 23 February.

A splendid discovery of a new deposit of tin had been made about a mile North West of Stinton's claim. The discovery was made by two Germans in conjunction with Messrs. Knox Brown and D.A. Hay of Bunbury. The wash dirt said to be superior to anything yet found.

At a meeting on 1 March 1889, being preoccupied in his new found fame, A Knox Brown resigned as Secretary and Maynard H. Jephson was appointed. Jephson had arrived in the Colony with friends W.K. Adam and W.A.G. Walter in 1886. In 1890, in partnership with J.R. Walter, he bought the Peninsula from A. Knox Brown. At the half-yearly meeting of the Central Southern District Agricultural Society on July 25, A. Knox Brown was made a Life Member.

A tender by William Coverley to alter and enlarge the Societies Show Yards for the sum of £44 was accepted. The Showground was later enlarged to twice its former size and ten new pens were erected. Several new members were elected, and the proceedings terminated.

It was afterwards determined by the sixty persons present, that it was advisable to form a political association for the district. After some discussion on the subject Mr. John Allnutt was elected the President, Mr. M. H. Jephson Secretary, and a committee was elected from among the most prominent residents of the district.

Two petitions were drawn up and signed by a large number of those interested in the development of the tin fields and in the Blackwood District generally. The first saw the necessity of the establishment of a telegraph office on the tin field, where such a convenience would soon become an absolute necessity.

The other asked for the appointment of a warden of the tin fields to put a stop to the frequent number of illegal practices happening. The Secretary was ordered to forward these petitions at once to Mr. H. W. Venn, M.L.C., the member for the district, for presentation to His Excellency the Governor before the close of the present session of the Legislative Council. Alfred Doust offered the use of some of his land at 'Woodlands' Bridgetown, for the first ploughing competition, which would become a feature for many years to come. The Western Mail Saturday 14 December reported the ploughing match as "In spite of the forebodings of so many of the leading agriculturists of the neighbourhood, an undoubted success was achieved, and great interest was shown in the competition." The Show's main event was the ploughing match, which was held the day before the show. There were six competitors, four using the wheel ploughs and two, the old-fashioned swing machines.

The general excellence of the work done was so well appreciated by the public that the judges, Messrs Thomas Dickson Snr and Charles Brockman, determined to award prizes to all the competitors. Edmund Moore (swing plough) and George Fox (wheel plough) were the two most successful ploughmen.

Freemasons

Continued from page 11

What do Masonic symbols mean?

The most widely recognized symbol in Freemasonry is the Square and Compass. Members wear the symbols to remind themselves of their obligations to the lessons learnt in their Lodges and to identify themselves to other Masons. Some directly relate to the Stone mason craft and others symbolically used for the need for order and direction of life.

Why are Women not accepted?

A deeply entrenched Constitutional decision going back to the early 1700's Global cultures are so diverse and vary dramatically in terms of social structure and gender relations making this change to our Constitution very difficult.

Women have an alternative Fraternity called the Order of the Eastern Star and the Order of Armaranth whose Constitutional characteristics are similar to ours.

Our Lodge extends a very warm welcome to all persons and visitors from other Lodges. If any Bridgetown families would like to see inside our Lodge rooms and learn more about our Craft please contact The Lodge Secretary, Tony Domoney, 0468900971.

Staffing Positions Available

Continued from page 7

"Comments from staff members include: 'the best job I've ever had', and 'the most rewarding position I've ever held'.

"Apart from the paid positions we are seeking more volunteers to sit and talk, read or entertain our residents to improve their quality of life.

"Most people in Bridgetown will be someone, or know someone, who helped create the Geegeelup Aged Care Facility.

"All those people, from the mid-1970s to the present and going forward, putting in extraordinary effort, time, money and collaboration to give Bridgetown something unique - a self-funded, volunteer-run, not-for-profit facility of the first order."

Geegeelup Village has developed from the modest beginnings of a couple of Apex units, to the current state-of-the-art facility catering for the permanent care needs of up to 32 elders of our community.

Why? So that people who grow old in this Shire are able to remain here in the midst of people and places they love as they grow frail and need care. So that they can remain close to their family, their friends, their community.

Everyone in this Shire can be proud of this achievement. Geegeelup Village is an astonishing asset of our Shire.

Call Elke, the HR Manager on 9761 1366, or email: HR@geegeelup.com.au. Geegeelup Village will talk to everyone interested in any role who wants to join the most passionate group of people in the Bridgetown-Greenbushes shire.



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Primary School Review, How Did the School Do?

Greenbushes Primary School was established in 1893. The school has been at its current site since 1896 and fosters strong links and partnerships with the local community and industries.

During this time the school has seen a lot of changes.

The recently proposed expansion of the local mining industry has created the potential for an increase in the town's population.

Currently, there are 47 students enrolled from Kindergarten to Year six.

Greenbushes Primary School has just had a 'Public School Review'. The first Public School Review (PSR) of Greenbushes Primary School was conducted in October 2018.

In this 2021 PSR report Greenbushes Primary School did especially well, Kylie Loney who has been at the school for the last three years and is the school Principal talks with pride about the results,

"There have been vast improvements since 2018 across the whole school structure.

"I'm incredibly proud of the hard work and effort from all those involved, their commitment has produced this result.

"Community support for the school is demonstrated through the work of the active School Council and Parents and Citizens' Association (P&C).

"There are around eight families who are very involved with in P&C. If there is any event in town they get involved as a way to raise money for the school.

"The School Council is made up of parents, staff and community members, all of whom work hard in improving



the school programs.

"The image and reputation of the school is reflected in the desire of the School Council and P&C to ensure the school's appearance is that of a community asset.

"The school continues to benefit considerably from the generous support of the local mining industry and allied contractors. This, together with successful grant applications, has provided students with access to contemporary digital learning options together with specialist Arts and Craft teachers, specialist sports coaching opportunities and Indigenous cultural experiences.

"Bruce Vernon from Talison is on our school council. He is always keen to know what the school needs and if Talison can assist, they will.

"The school chaplain, Lynley Horlock, has been amazing, she has had a significant impact on students by providing access to a variety of programs, including mindfulness activities designed to build student emotional and social resilience.

"Managing students' emotions and behaviour by embedding 'Zones of Regulation' as a whole-school program underscores our commitment to consistent and predictable behaviour management processes for the students.

"A very important area for me and my staff is the health and wellbeing of students in the educational context.

"Students who are feeling safe, valued and supported are able to achieve their best in the school environment.

"We are continuing to build on the school-wide belief in the importance of understanding Aboriginal culture and local histories.

"One major change in the past three years has been the integration of modern equipment. We updated all of our computers and had interactive projectors installed in all classrooms, enabling teachers to demonstrate concepts to students in real time, on a large screen. This not only saves teachers preparation time, it also provides for greater levels of engagement, participation and understanding for students.

"We have given our students the opportunities to develop their public speaking skills, with some notable success.

"Greenbushes Primary School has only small staff consisting of four classroom teachers, three education teachers, two specialist teachers, office staff and a gardener but we are doing a wonderful job.

"The report's conclusion was overwhelmingly positive and a validating one to receive."

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132nd Annual Show *Continued from cover*

Enjoy musicians around the grounds while the littles take a ride in the Lions Train. Step back in time with the Blacksmiths, Motorcycle Club, Vintage engines and Veteran and Vintage vehicles. This latter Group are featuring an International Harvester Company, products display (IH or IHC) of any agriculture or construction equipment, automobiles, commercial trucks, lawn and gardening products, household equipment and more. Bring along on the day to display on the Arena.

Kids Know Your Show Passports including interactive displays and questionnaires will this year be available at the Secretary's Office. Blackwood Youth Action will have a Chillout Zone, the Bucking Bull with Richfeeds \$1000 Comp, Grand Parade, Log Chopping, Sheaf Tossing, Horses in action, Mike Cornish Inflatables and the OPTUS Soccer Game. Critters Up Close - a wildly Educational Experience with aquatic touch pool & more, the weather will determine what wild creatures come along for the ride.

We are excited to have the RAC Rescue Experience attending - experience a Virtual Reality Rescue Mission on the Arena. Joining them, Essential Services - Our Local Heroes - who have some action up their sleeves. Keep an eye out for the guessing comps, puzzle pit stops and Transitional Bridgetown Recycling - the "Bin Fairies" will encourage you to think recycling. The evening activities will include a DJ and our famous Fireworks.

Remember to assist the staff by getting your entry forms in early. The last day for entry forms is Monday before the Show. Follow entry form and section information. We thank everyone associated with bringing our "Family & Community" together and look forward to seeing you on Saturday 27th November.

The next Meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th November 7.30pm in the Presidents Room at the Showgrounds. If you wish to contact the Ag Society, Jo Moore can be contacted on 0437 602 836 or email info@bridgetownshow.com.au or follow us on Facebook "Bridgetown Agricultural Show". Stay Safe.

Wonder World of Oz

Continued from page 5

"The Tin Man's costume is certainly a difficult one, but with flexible ducting for the arms and legs, knee and elbow pads acting as joints and silver spray paint it's just about sorted.

"We had a Lion's costume in wardrobe. I think though, I have now become affectionately known as the 'wicked witch of the wardrobe'.


"Bright and colourful costumes, some amazing special effects, and scenes that are absolutely stunning are all contributing to a wonderful pantomime.

"The pantomime will have a touch of magic and mystery, adventure and friendship and of course, love."

The pantomime will be presented over the first two weekends in December. It will be a show not to be missed.

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Blues at Bridgetown is Almost Here

Have you got your ticket or are you going to enjoy the other things around town?

There's a stage, food court and stalls in Memorial Park. It's called the Lotterywest Community Hub.

Our special free concert for local schools starts the Lotterywest Community Hub's very busy two days. All the schools in the area have been invited to come to a concert by Two Dollar Dog, with Deb "Spoons" Perry jumping up for a song or two with Two Dollar Dog. Once the concert is finished we're moving in all the stalls to be ready to open up to everyone at 2pm, with local youth performing before the Official Opening at 4.00pm. The opening will include a Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony, and will lead into our first performer of this year's Blues, Theona Councillor.

As the sun sets on the park the Albany Blues Club is going to take the day out in style. Grab your tea from a food vendor or use the time to have a dance with the great crew from Albany. They have come all the way from Albany and have made it very clear that they are going make Friday night something special.

The next morning the venue opens at 9am ready to welcome the schools onto the stage at 9.30. The day is full of up and coming young local performers until 3pm when they hand over to the professionals from the blues clubs.

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OFFICIAL OPENING of Blues
 Friday 4-4.30PM
 Local youth bands from 2pm



Blues clubs performing are Hills Blues Club (being represented by Wooden Fox), Northern Blues and Roots Club (Leigh Aldersea), South West Blues Club (Big Bagga Blues, Smokin Joe, and Stage Left) and taking out the night will be the Perth Blues Club. The blues clubs usually perform on the street but this year you have the opportunity to sit and really take in their talent.

On Saturday you can do a workshop to make a bee hotel, or perhaps participate in some cultural awareness activities or have a go at playing spoons with Deb "Spoons" Perry.

The Lotterywest Community Hub is a free, family friendly, fenced, COVID compliant venue. Open 2pm - 8pm Friday, and 9am - 8pm Saturday

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