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September 6th 2022

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The Rotary Blackwood Marathon

Now in its 43rd year, the Rotary Blackwood Marathon Relay is on again on Saturday, 29th October 2022. So, it's time to get your teams together and get training!

Bridgetown's Rotary President Collin Booth speaks about the event, "The Marathon is one of the Bridgetown Rotary Club's major fund-raising events for the year, we are excited to see it back without any Covid-19 restrictions.

"Being new to town, I was a volunteer at last year's event, so I got to witness first hand the reason the marathon has been so successful through the years, the competitors come from all over the south west and metropolitan area to compete and they just love this event.



"This year the organizing committee have had to make a few changes to the course because of safe public access at certain points, the canoe leg this year will be shortened by around two kilometres, it will start at Jaye's Road near Terry Road Bridge, go upstream and then do a U turn and come back down again to the bridge for the change over to the swimming leg.

"The running leg also has been moved to run along Terry Road to keep off the main road but is the same length.

"This year we are also in planning for some 'Post Event' entertainment.

"We are grateful to have our regular caterers return, including Tony Practico's ice-cream van, Lion's food van, the football club's bar and the Cidery.

"This year we have ongoing business partners sponsoring the event: Talison, the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes and Healthway Live Lighter. We appreciate their support as it helps make the event such a successful one.

"So far this year we have over fifty-six teams that have registered, which is well ahead of where we were last year, so the indications are we will have a well-supported marathon, so now's the time to get your teams together and get training and get registered. *continued page 11*

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Mike Kaye, Tracy Lansdell, Adrian Williams, Mike Christensen,
Alexa Tunmer Ingrid Barker

Our Shire's Sustainable Advisory Committee

By Tracy Lansdell

This will be the first of many monthly articles to come from members of Shire's Sustainable Advisory Committee (SAC). As a group of passionate locals, we wish to share our knowledge with the community through regular articles kindly published here in the Mailbag. The article topics will vary greatly, eg. minimising waste at local events, regenerative agriculture, plant pollination, verge trees and much more. Essentially, they will be informative articles revolving around ways we can individually and collectively approach climate change mitigation and adaptation, plus discuss sustainability topics in general.

As an introduction; SAC is an advisory committee to the Shire Council and our role therefore is to advise Council on issues of sustainability that affect, or could affect our region and residents. Committee members are locals drawn from many walks of life, all with skills and experience in matters of sustainability – environmental, economic and social, including two councillors, Cr Boyle and Cr Lansdell and the Executive Officer is Alexa Tunmer, the Shire's Waste and Environmental Officer.

SAC was formed in 2008 and in its earlier days was particularly busy with reviewing Council policies, such as Environmental Code of Conduct, Natural Environment Strategy and Strategic Plans. In the last few years, the committee has been identifying the environmental risks that will arise in our Shire due to Climate Change.

SAC created a document, endorsed by Council in March 2020, called the Environmental Risks Assessment (ERA) that outlines relevant local climate change mitigation actions that may help make Bridgetown-Greenbushes be a safer, more enjoyable place to live, work, visit and retire, with social and economic benefits. *Continued page 14*

READY? GAME ON!

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Quiz Night,

A Cancer Council Fundraiser

A family friendly Quiz night will be held on Saturday, September 10th. Michelle and Kathryn will be holding the Quiz Night at the Bridgetown Town Hall to bring the local community together and raise funds to support their entry into the 'Shitbox Rally' and for the Cancer Council.

Estelle Rowcliffe-Carlson is using her wealth of quiz night experience to make this a worthwhile night, she goes on to explain, "There will be raffles, vouchers and spot prizes. With all the sponsorship we have received from the businesses in Bridgetown, Manjimup, Bunbury and surrounding areas, there will be some fantastic prizes up for grabs.

"The night is planned to be family friendly; children are most welcome. We encourage patrons to bring their own food, but there will be a licensed bar, so no BYO drinks.

"Throughout the night there will also be table prizes, with other items to be auctioned off.

"We are also incorporating questions into the quiz night that children will be able to answer, you may want to have some at your table."



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All money raised from this fundraising event will go towards supporting the valuable research into cancer and supporting the great work of the Cancer Council via the Shitbox Rally.

Shitbox Rally is a key initiative for Cancer Council and a highly valued event that raises these much-needed funds. They provide ongoing funding for research and support organisations nationally to carry out this research across Australia.

Winners are Grinners

Despite the challenges of the many changes to the footy calendar, the stalwart tipsters have successfully completed the 2022 AFL home and away season!

First place this year went to Jacky and Patrick who won by one point from Kelly Bloxsome. For much of the season they were neck and neck at the top of the ladder. Third place had to be separated by a countback with the Bridgetown

Pottery edging out Lyn Metcalf and Lyn Pendlebury. Congratulations to you all and many thanks for taking part.

Mick Blatch brought up the rear after having tipped each week for little effect.

Finally, just a reminder that new members are always welcome and we look forward to meeting you and working together in the future. Please contact Patricia Martin on 9761 1946 if you would like more information.



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An old photo of Bridgetown Railway Station in days gone by

Bridgetown Historical Society

The Bridgetown Historical Society is a member of the Affiliated Societies of the Royal Western Australian Historical Society. Described by the RWAHS as: A network of affiliated historical societies, comprising more than seventy organisations and over two thousand members has been developed across Western Australia. These societies play an active role in growing community awareness and appreciation of local history and heritage through the preservation, recording and promotion of their respective district histories.

The Royal Western Australian Historical Society's Annual State History Conference of Affiliated Societies provides opportunities for members to meet each other and gain valuable knowledge from guest speakers and workshops. The Annual Conference this year will be held in September at Denmark.

Next year, in September 2023, the conference will be hosted by Bridgetown. This is a big undertaking for BHS and planning has already started by the Committee. The generous support offered by the Shire of Bridgetown Greenbushes is warmly welcomed and we will be inviting sponsorship as well from local organisations and business. The theme around which the conference will be composed is Moving Forward Looking Back – suggesting that the past is an important part of the future and indeed the present.

Generally, there is an attendance of about 150 to these conferences, so Bridgetown accommodation providers can look forward to bookings for 1-3 September 2023.

Bridgetown, as a designated Heritage Town is a popular and admired destination, and we can expect a well-attended conference.

This recognition brings with it a responsibility to ensure our 2023 conference is a 'Moving Forward' experience together with a 'Looking Back' understanding.

If there are members of the community who would like to become involved with the planning stages of the conference, please contact BHS bridgetownhistory@iinet.net.au

BHS office is open on Monday and Thursday mornings and of course at other times for our meetings, accessioning of donated objects, research and planning for future exhibitions and displays in the Police Station Museum.

This building is a reminder that the past can be used in the present to plan for the future.

Lee Wittenoom

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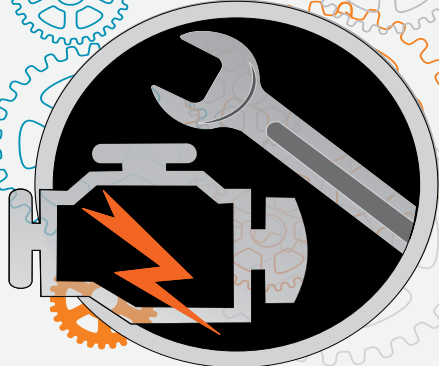
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Bridgetown Blackwood Valley Probus Club News

Probus Clubs around the world are under the umbrella of a Rotary Club and are a not for profit social club for retired and semi retired people to get together and enjoy life. Our motto is Fun, Friendship, Fellowship, Food. We have a monthly meeting and social gathering on the second Wednesday of each month which is usually in Bridgetown. Our club is for the Blackwood River Valley region so includes Greenbushes, Boyup Brook, Balingup and Nannup areas.

Besides the meetings, we have a social event called "Outings" each month. In June we enjoyed a soup lunch at the Pottery Tearooms, then Xmas in July lunch at the Shamrock Hotel and in August a group attended the Bridgetown Repertory Theatre. For September we are having stuffed spuds, pizza and quiche lunch and for October will be a day trip to Pemberton.

Our next meeting and social gathering will be at the Balingup Sports Centre on Wednesday 14th September commencing at 10am sharp. Registration is from 9.30am and cost is \$12 which includes morning tea supplied by the Balingup CWA.

The guest speaker will be Julie Stone who is the Operations Manager for Carealot Home Health Services. Julie will be talking about the services they can provide to individuals. These services are tailored to meet individual requirements of clients in their own homes.

If you are interested to attend, please contact Jackie on 0414 692 515 or email probusbtbv@gmail.com if you want further information.

Dianne Huband

Bridgetown Bushfire Brigade Volunteers



invite you to join us.

As a volunteers you will have the opportunity to operate our 12.2 water tanker and other fire appliances but if fighting fires is not your thing then we have a task for you; providing catering, communications, logistical support and transport to the firefighters. You do not have to fight fires to be a valued member of the Brigade and training will be provided.

Contact Robyn Trainer 0400958551
Millie Nedelkovski 0439491775

Headquarters at B&P Hamence
Fire Control Centre Les Woodhead Ave.
(off Boyup Brook Rd entry to football oval)

Harcourts Bridgetown

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✉ bridgetown@harcourts.com.au

126 Hampton St, Bridgetown

Harcourts Bridgetown has changed hands and **NAI Harcourts Regional Commercial** has taken flight in the Mid-West and South-Western Regions of Western Australia!

The owners, Oliver and Angela Kietzmann, have decided that Bridgetown is a great place to grow these businesses from as there is a vibrant community right in the midst of the South-West right here.

They are supported by their amazing General Manager and Licensee, Tammy Lawson, plus an efficient award winning, capable and friendly team at Harcourts on Hampton Street. They have patiently waited until the arrival of spring to launch their fresh new business ventures that will hopefully bear the same fruit that our beautiful and productive South-West Region does at this time of the year!

Both businesses operate from the Harcourts Bridgetown Office and they also have an established partnership with the owners of Harcourts Dongara, John and Robyn Cooper, in respect of NAI Harcourts Regional Commercial, in the Mid-West.

Being a community-minded family they have taken up accommodation in Bridgetown and spend their time between there and their own home. They look forward to a long and rewarding stay in Bridgetown, so please drop in anytime and say Hi!

As Licensed Real Estate Agents they, through Harcourts and NAI Harcourts, offer Residential and Commercial Property Services including but not limited to:

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Oliver and Angela

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Talison Mine Open Day Saturday 1 October 2022

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What Does CWA

In Bridgetown Really Do?

With lots of laughter, fun, genuine concern for our community and each other, we are a women's organisation aiming at improving the well being of all people in country areas by promoting courtesy, cooperation and community effort.

For example, CWA is responsible for successful lobbying for flashing crossing lights outside schools, white lines and rumble strips on roadsides. CWA Bridgetown has input into the local RoadWise committee in conjunction with the Shire, and assists with road safety education events like the Blessing of the Roads (Primary School), the Mystery Tour of Life (Year 10) and the 'Cop It Sweet' program, which provides bicycles, bicycle gear, and other prizes donated from our local community, to school children through a poster competition.

CWA Bridgetown also provides assistance on Mother's Day to a number of Mums who are doing it tough and donates shoe boxes full of goodies for Operation Christmas Child

When the February fires caused much grief, for our town and surrounding areas, Bridgetown CWA's quick action provided donations to the Golf Club, the state's disaster fund (for the other WA two areas that also suffered major fires), and Henri Nouwen House to assist in providing mental health services to those who suffered stress or loss. We also provided some dinner catering, for BlazeAid who arrived to help people who lost their fencing in the fire.

Don't miss our next big event, the Christmas Bazaar on the 26th of November, with many beautiful raffle prizes, lots of cakes, Christmas gifts and yes, varieties of scones, and other goodies. You do not have to be a cook to take part, there are so many other exciting avenues to explore.

In this year of our 85th anniversary, we continue to go from strength to strength and we look forward to greeting many more future members.

Anita, Lyn and Gillian at the opening of the Bridgetown Skatepark pictured right

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The Art of the Garden Tour

How do our local artists and gardeners design their own private spaces, and what inspires them? Creativity in many forms is the focus of this year's Garden Tour, which precedes the 2022 Spring Festival of Country Gardens. As in previous years, this one-day tour showcases private gardens not featured in the Spring Festival, and includes both town and country settings within the Blackwood Valley.

Encompassing historical, Italianate and contemporary settings, visitors will enjoy locally prepared food and wine whilst exploring beautiful gardens, and will learn more about the art and creative pursuits behind each space. One garden host will recount their progress in restoring a hillside villa, and will lead us through the seasons in their cultivation and harvest of their own olive trees. Another will open her garden studio space to demonstrate her artwork, which includes ethereal local landscapes.

The tour will close waterside at a tranquil garden, where green and shady spaces invite lingering over a glass of wine.



The Art of the Garden tour will take place on Wednesday, 2nd November with guests meeting at the Bridgetown Railway Carpark for a 9am start. The tour is fully escorted and includes coach travel, morning tea, lunch, and afternoon wine and nibbles. More information can be provided by phoning Liz on 0404 890 300.

Bookings through <https://www.trybooking.com/CCEBZ> Limited numbers.



Join Us

Come to the Bridgetown Family and Community Centre and help to make something special for a child in foster care. Once a month a group of ladies get together to make "I SPY" quilts that are given to children in foster care. These lap quilts can help the children to make friends by asking another child to play I Spy with them or, they can amuse themselves by trying the game themselves.

The next session will be on Friday 16th September at 930am till noon, all are welcome to come and help. It is not necessary to be a good quilter, a person can help choose appropriate fabrics, stitch patches together or just make a cup of tea.



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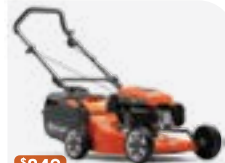
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Family and Community Centre

The Bridgetown Family and Community Centre (BFCC) has entered a new phase with a new management team, and soon to launch a new brand.

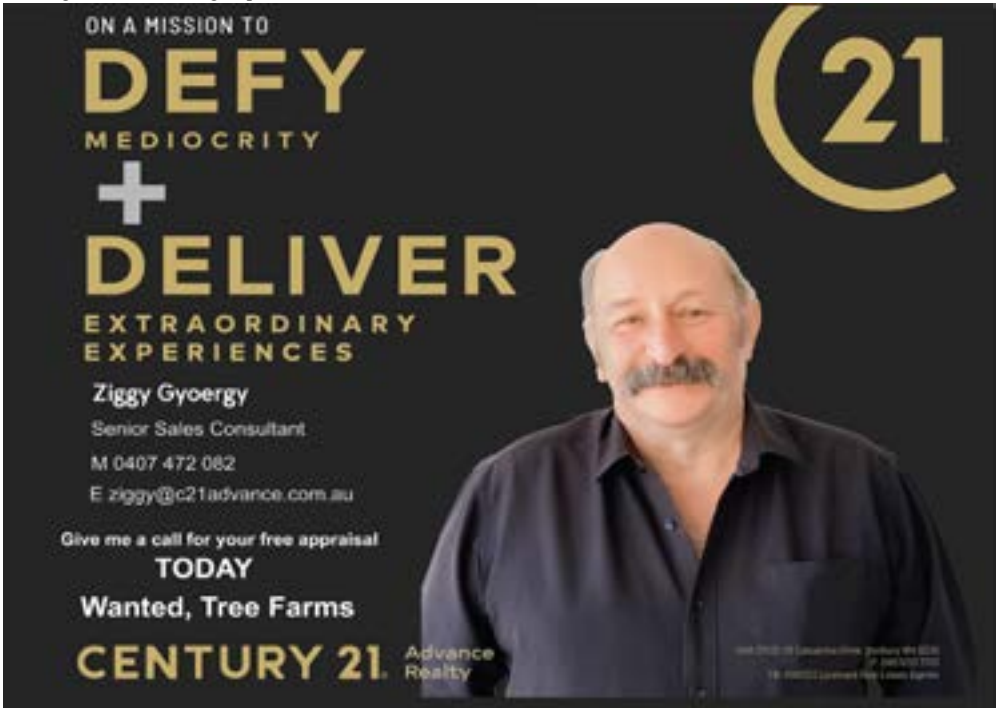
The vision of the BFCC is to have happy and healthy people who feel supported, connected and inspired in the Bridgetown area. They are funded by the Department of Communities under the Empowering Communities program. The BFCC looks to empower local people, strengthen social connections and collaboration. Currently they provide playgroups, workshops, venue hire, book clubs, and host parenting workshops. In addition, we support a number of local groups including our Child Health Committee, Blackwood Parent Support Group and the Bridgetown Agricultural Society.

Jenni Oliver is the new Centre Manager, taking on the role in July 2022. Jenni has been working in administration at the BFCC since March 2021, and volunteering since 2019. Jenni has a range of experience in local government, not-for-profit organisations, her own experiences and commitment to Bridgetown volunteer groups.

Gail Aldridge is the new administration officer, and come with a wealth of experience. Previously Gail managed the Greenbushes CRC, worked in the Governance Officer role, and previously served on the committee as a volunteer. Gail also has a background as a qualified bookkeeper, and has worked in her family business and as an administrator in other businesses. In addition to all of this Gail currently volunteers with both Grow Greenbushes and the Greenbushes Community Shed.

The BFCC is embarking on a rebrand of the Centre in 2022. "Our Mission is to ensure we are a welcoming hub that offers a range of programs, services and spaces where the community is supported to meet, learn and grow." Explained Jenni, "To ensure we are able to provide support to the whole community we will soon launch a rebrand to ensure we are inclusive and welcoming." Watch out for details in 2023!

In the meantime, if you are wanting to join in any of the activities at the BFCC or would like more information contact 9761 2139, email btcommunityc@westnet.com.au or follow the BFCC on Facebook. Jenni Oliver



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Our recent August Open Space was all about working together as a community - looking after the land and its vegetation, producing local food, reducing carbon emissions, developing community energy, reducing waste, sustainable and alternative housing and more. Following the film "Regenerating Australia" by Damon Gameau, our local regenerating groups gave short presentations on their objectives, organisation, achievements and vision.

What a wealth of knowledge and information we have at a grassroots level here in our shire! Here are the contact details for the groups if you would like to know more:

Transition Bridgetown transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com
 Recycling Network Group susie_coach@bigpond.com
 Bridgetown Energy Transition Community bridgetownenergytransition21@gmail.com
 Alternative Housing Models brookview@wn.com.au
 Ashblin Community Garden bridgetowncommunitygarden@gmail.com
 Seed Savers Group jenniandben@hotmail.com
 Greenbushes Community Garden greenbushescommunitygarden@gmail.com
 Permaculture Group mikeoskayeos@hotmail.com
 Blackwood Valley Small Landholders awilliams@pendragondryland.com.au
 BES Bridgetown Community Landcare Nursery mdewing@iinet.net.au
 Bridgetown Greenbushes Community Landcare Helping Hands nrmbridgetown@gmail.com
 Blackwood Biosecurity biosecurity@warrenc.org.au

BYA - Did you know that the Blackwood Youth Action group are currently seeking applications from people with relevant qualifications, knowledge and experience, who are enthusiastic about working with young people in the towns of Bridgetown and Greenbushes in WA's southwest?

To apply for this position please send your resume/CV to admin@blackwoodyouthaction.com.au

Applications close 12th September.

Recycling - It's great to report that our community is making good use of the Recycling Hub at the Library for recycling Writing Implements, Toothcare Products, Batteries, Mobile Phones, Reading Glasses and Plastic Lids. Thank You!

Please check out posters coming soon about our September Open Space! Here are the details so far: Sunday 25th September 4.30-6.30pm [Arrive at 4.15pm] Venue: Uniting Church Hall Roe St Bridgetown. Topic "The Birds, the Bees and the Macropods - Caring for our Wildlife"

Guest Speakers include: Tracey Lansdell speaking on how easy it is to create gardens and habitats that care for bees.

Molly Spaulding, a PhD candidate working under Murdoch University's Black Cockatoo Conservation Management Project. Molly's research focuses on the movement, ecology, energetics and age structure of black cockatoos in the southwest of WA. Sam Clarke, the Animal Management Officer, Animal Education Officer and Tour Organiser of the Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre. Shane Williams, founder and primary wildlife carer at Bridgetown Wildlife Rescue. Shane has rehabilitated hundreds of kangaroos, birds, possums and quendas, back to the wild over a period of 16 years of being a wildlife rehabilitator.

Come and join us as we learn more about, and to how to care for, the wildlife in our area. mailto:transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com

Social Dancing Group

Interested Singles and Couples Welcome
 some experience an advantage
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The Rotary Blackwood Marathon

Continued from cover;

"As you can imagine it takes a of lot of work to run an event like the Blackwood Marathon. We are looking for volunteers to help run this event, so if you would like to get involved as a volunteer you can email us at blackwoodmarathon@gmail.com

"I would also like to thank the members of the organizing committee chaired by Noel Holdsworth for their efforts so far."

The Marathon is a unique event where competitors enter in teams comprising 4 or 5 members, or a single ironman or ironwoman. Starting in Boyup Brook and finishing in Bridgetown, competitors run, canoe, swim, horse ride (which is optional) and cycle across 60 km of picturesque Blackwood River Valley countryside.

The event is a mix of fun and sweat for the competitors, and excitement for the support teams and spectators. With many top athletes coming miles to compete alongside the many teams just joining in for the fun of it, it is a great and renowned event on the state's annual sports calendar.

The race concludes at the Bridgetown Sports Ground where everyone meets for good old-fashioned country hospitality, local music and then presentations to the winning teams. Whether teams enter each year to be highly competitive or simply to be part of this great weekend, they enjoy catching up with fellow competitors and friends, and enjoy the tranquil beauty of the countryside that is the South West.

This highly organised and superbly run event would not be possible without our sponsors. The event is a credit to the Bridgetown Rotary Club and the many local volunteers and associations who ensure the day runs like clockwork.

If you'd like to take part in this fantastic event, visit www.blackwoodmarathon.org for full details or email blackwoodmarathon@gmail.com or visit facebook BlackwoodMarathonRelay

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Showing The Way Coleen Russell 1895

During this year the Houses of Parliament in Western Australia pass Legislation to extend the railway from Donnybrook to Bridgetown; a new feature for the show is also introduced, the Challenge Cup, a prize for the best managed farm, Showing the Way continues.

By April, and with a lack of rain, the white frosts were cutting down the pumpkins and vines in the district. Most of the fruit had been gathered and crops generally were very good although with a glut of fruit in the Perth and Fremantle area, prices were lower early in the season. The Government Entomologist had visited Bridgetown in search of Codlin Moth ('Cod/in' as spelt by the Department of Agriculture 1 January 1898 and later spelt 'Codling'), which luckily he was unable to find. This was the most damaging insect pest of apples and pears where the adult moth mates and lays miniature eggs in the bark of the tree, then hatches larvae which tunnel into the fruit, feeding on the seeds. They then leave the fruit and pupate in the same way. The settlers hoped that with his next visit he would be able to show them how to destroy the insect pests that constantly played havoc with the fruit trees of some settlers.

Although there was no documentation found of any changes to the Mechanics Institute around this time, it is clear that work was in progress, as the Bridgetown correspondent for The Southern Times reported, on 8 April, that additions to the Mechanics Institute were nearing completion and only needed a fleche (spire), a part of which was coming from South Australia, to finish the contract. "We shall then possess the best public room in any of the Country towns of the Colony and the work reflects credit upon both the Architect and Contractor."

Delegates from the Nelson Agricultural Society attended the annual Conference in Perth in connection with the Bureau of Agriculture, having received instructions for certain resolutions to be presented. The Bridgetown Turf Club Secretary, J.W. Blechynden posted an article of interest in The Southern Times stating that the Clubs Annual Meeting would be held on 17th April. The Stewards were Messrs. L.C. Moulton, J.R. Walter, L.R. Armstrong, G.N. Allnutt and H. Layman, Judge; W.A.G. Walter, Handicapper; Chas. Layman, Clerk of Scales and Stand was J.R. Walter, Starter; G. Allnutt and Clerk of Course; F.G. Allnutt.

The Programme had seven events; Maiden Plate, Pony Race, Selling Race, Blackwood Stakes, Breeders Stakes, Hack Race and Ladies Purse. Races were to be run under the WA Turf Club Rules. The Maiden Plate and Blackwood Stakes were open to all comers.

The rest were closed to all horses owned by persons residing more than 35 miles from Bridgetown. The rules stated that: "No one will be allowed to run a horse in event numbers 1, 3, 4 and 5, who has not subscribed at least 20 shillings towards the funds of the Club and for event numbers 2, 6 and 7, 10 shillings. Admission to the Course is 6 pence. All dogs on the course will be destroyed."

The 11th Annual Nelson Show was 1895 was held on Thursday 28th November, with special guests, the Hon. A.R. Richardson, M.L.A. Commissioner of Crown Lands and the Hon. J.W. Hackett M.L.C., who travelled by a special train from Perth to Donnybrook and then by horse and carriage to be present. The Luncheon held in the Bridgetown Hotel in the afternoon was catered by Host Daw and "gave general satisfaction."

A large attendance joined the President J. Allnutt J.P., the special guests mentioned and the Hon. Sir J.G. Lee Steere, M.L.A. and W. Patterson. The usual loyal toasts were proposed of "The Queen", "The Prince of Wales and the

Royal Family" and "His Excellency the Administrator." J.R. Walter proposed the toast of "The Ministry", referring to the presence amongst them having "the power to work incalculable good for the agricultural interests."

A.R. Richards responded, saying the Ministry needed to keep the agricultural interests "forcibly and prominently in view", as "they could be lost in the midst of what could be termed a raging gold fever."

Lukis proposed the toast of "The Houses of Parliament" coupled with the names of the Hon. J.W. Hackett and the Hon. James G. Lee Steere, noting how grateful those present were to the Houses of Parliament for passing Legislation to extend the railway from Donnybrook to Bridgetown.

Mr R.C. Williams was highly commended for his energy and ability to promote the interests of the Society as their Secretary. Presented for the first time was the Challenge Cup donated by J.G. Lee Steere who presented it to J.R. Walter, the winner of the prize for the best managed farm and hoped that Mr Walter would succeed in winning it for three years in succession "so as to obtain permanent possession of it." W.A.G. Walter instituted a new feature in the form of a Garden Prize.

Friday 29th November, the Society held their 11th AGM. The Secretary presented the Annual Report noting there were now about ninety members on the roll. In the Implement Class this year a Smith's Borer and two ploughs made by Messrs. Powell and Ramsay were shown on the grounds and it was hoped when the railway was completed that more machinery would be shown.

The alteration of substituting a dinner in the evening in place of a luncheon at midday was tried this year and judging from the attendance was a decided improvement.

Thanks were extended to Mr Partridge for judging the farms and gardens competitions. His report stated that Mr Walters's farm was the only one where farming was systematically carried out, the rest would more aptly be termed cattle stations and orchards. The buildings were nicely planned and sufficient but not as substantial as they could be, especially the hay shed. The crops were fairly clean, well cultivated and drained. The system of rotation was good though not complete and this was the only farm where fallow was noted.

"The garden is sufficient for home use, the orchard well laid out and cultivated, and the only one I saw on my travels not troubled with American Blight."

The Peninsula took the lead in conservation of water with a good windmill and efficient water service. "In fodder crops Mr Walter has a nice patch of sorghum, Indian corn, and a small experimental pit of ensilage. The implements are sufficient for the requirements of the farm and in good order. The horses are a useful pair, the cows fair and in good condition, the pigs not in good condition."

There was an attempted system of farm accounts and a book showing the rotation and work done on each field. The workshop was very complete as were the buildings. The report on Mr Muir's farm at Deeside read as follows, (it) "is remarkable for extreme neatness and tidiness. The buildings are good, all stock are good and in first-class order and a small vineyard is in splendid order. "There was also mention of small orchards, some bearing fruit, and implements, including a binder, fences and gates all in good order."

Mr Muir has not done much in ringbarking owing to ferns which take possession of the ground as soon as the trees are killed, but his system of grassing is the best. Every bit of manure is most carefully collected and stowed in an enclosure made for that purpose."

To be continued in the next issue...

Outback Lassies *Continued from back page:*

Kathryn is also pleased with the support the 'Outback Lassies' has been receiving and is pleased to say they now have their 'shitbox' of a car for the rally and she goes on to explain, "The car we have secured for the event is a 2003 Holden Astra, the ideal car for fuel consumption considerations.

"We were a bit concerned about having to buy a car in Mackay, but we purchased it from another competing team, they had two Holden Astras, we got the spare one.

"There are other stipulations apart from the vehicle being valued at less than \$1,500. It also must be road worthy and we are not allowed to have any 'paid for' repairs made to the car.

"Although I've been told a couple of nylon cutting boards have been cut up to make lifting washers for the springs, jacking the vehicle by a couple of inches, giving us just a little more clearance on the track.

"Five sponsors have come onboard with the vehicle, Hemp Square, Bridgetown Windmills, Be You, British Brickwork and Bridgetown Stepping Stones.

"All in all, we are pleased with all the support we are getting. The next two weekends of fundraising events will be very busy for us."

The 'Outback Lassies' have already come a long way in their preparations for the rally, you can support them by attending the quiz night on 10th September in the Town Hall.



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How Could We Have Forgotten

In our cover story in the July issue, Queen's Birthday Honours, it has been pointed out that we have overlooked a couple of local OAM recipients, Patrick Scallan and now Josephine Helen Spaul, she also was not mentioned.

The story was meant to have read as follows: Robyn McSweeney is now the seventh 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, Josephine Helen Spaul was awarded the medal in 2012 for her services to the performing arts, particularly dance, 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 and Josephine omissions were brought to our attention by local residents.

Our Shire's Sustainable Advisory Committee *Continued from page 2*

The ERA acknowledges that we as a Shire are too small to have any great influence on climate change on the world stage – except maybe for the lithium it produces to make batteries for electric vehicles? However, real change and a way to influence policies often comes from the actions of the people/communities with a 'bottom-up' approach. The appeal of any bottom-up approach is that individual actions can have a massive impact when adopted by large numbers of people and many of our future articles will focus on these opportunities.

SAC's ERA initiative to some extent also encouraged the formation of the Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils (WBAC) Climate Change Impact Reference Group, of which Cr Lansdell, Cr Boyle and Ms Tunmer are our Shire's representatives. The subsequent WBAC Climate Change Policy and Action Plan launched early in August, has been developed as an initial roadmap to address the challenges and opportunities that climate change poses for the Warren Blackwood region. This Action Plan contains a range of adaptation, mitigation, advocacy, leadership and communication activities and will provide opportunities for the top-down approach to meet in the middle with the peoples' bottom-up actions and insights.

The Climate Change Action Plan along with the ERA will give SAC plenty to consider, prioritise and advise Council on in the coming years. We understand that 'sustainability' could actually be considered a defunct term now, as the ecological footprint of humanity has exceeded the carrying capacity of Earth since around the 1970s, therefore the current mode of life of humanity is actually completely unsustainable and urgent action and change is needed.

Human's impact on the planet is not only driving climate change but also biodiversity loss. We are fortunate that our Shire has been funding our Community Landcare Officer for 10 years and they update SAC with monthly reports. We would like to wholeheartedly thank recently retired Cheryl Hamence for her sterling work in this role for 32 years and for fostering the continual relationship and dedication of the Helping Hands volunteers caring for our local biodiversity. We now welcome Karrie Williamson to the position.

While SAC's role is to advise Council, its members see that the committee can be a conduit between residents and the Shire Council, and SAC is pleased to receive comments and questions from the community through the Shire Office by phone, email or letters addressed to SAC. We meet monthly and will discuss these at our meetings.

And lastly, SAC wish to thank outgoing member Adrian Williams who has been on the committee from the beginning. Adrian's contributions, wealth of knowledge and guidance has been enormously appreciated and respected.

Next time on Snippets from SAC... 'What can we do to mitigate climate change effects and build more resilient food supplies and communities' by Mike Kaye.



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Tree pests to watch for: Myrtle rust (left and far right) was found in a remote area of the East Kimberley in 2022; the brown marmorated stink bug could arrive in Australia via cargo; mango shoot looper (third from left) is present in northern Australia but has not been found in Western Australia. Photo credits (from left): DPIRD; iStock (Funtay); Qld

Blitz on tree pests and diseases

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development's (DPIRD's) Biosecurity Blitz is back in 2022, with a special focus on reporting tree pests and diseases.

The TREEmendous Biosecurity Blitz aims to protect Western Australia's trees from an increasing number of exotic threats, such as the recent incursions of polyphagous shot-hole borer and myrtle rust.

Whether you work in forestry or horticulture, like to bushwalk, have trees in your backyard, in the local park or on your street, you can help protect our trees into the future by checking them for pests and diseases and reporting any you find during the Blitz.

Every report helps to increase the likelihood that serious pests and diseases will be detected early, providing the best opportunity to eradicate or contain them.

If your report turns out to be a common pest, that data is used to support WA's export trade.

30 days to look – snap – report

This year the TREEmendous Biosecurity Blitz runs from 24 September to 24 October 2022 – that's 30 days to look for, take a photo and send in a report of every tree pest and disease in your local area.

To participate in the Blitz: Register at agric.wa.gov.au/biosecurity-blitz.

Download the free MyPestGuide® Reporter app.

Check trees in your backyard, property, local area or nearby bushland for pests and diseases.

Take photos of any pests or disease signs you find and note the tree species or common name.

Report using the app or online at mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au.

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Outback Lassies

Bridgetown's 'Outback Lassies', Michelle Wright and Kathryn Holland, is a two-person team which needs to raise a minimum of \$5,000 to participate in the Spring Shitbox Rally, which will see them travelling from Mackay to Darwin via the Savannah Way.

The rally is the largest community lead fundraiser for the Cancer Council in Australia and is now in its 13th year, this year it will be held from October 15th to October 21st 2022.

'Outback Lassies' endeavors are starting to bear fruit; they have held a number of wood raffles, as well as holding a cake stall in Balingup during the 'Medieval Carnivale' at which they managed to raise close to \$1,000 towards their cause.

There is a 'High Tea' planned for 3rd September and there is also a Quiz Night planned for 10th of September in the Town Hall.

Michelle talks about the preparation and the support which has been given to the High Tea fundraising event, "The community has been incredible, we have received support from just about every business in the centre of Bridgetown.

"Dennis Wilson, award winning sculptor, has donated one of his metal bird sculptures, which is valued at \$800, Emilee from Dalmore Farms and 'Thistle Do' bed and breakfast have both donated accommodation packages, Nic from Fat Arts has



'Outback Lassies' sponsors from left: Bruce Carlson, Estelle Rowcliffe-Carlson, Lani Carroll-Newton, Jan Carroll, Michelle Wright, Rebecca Redman, Kathryn Holland, Harlow, Liam and Brittany Newman, Elsa, Rapunzel, Remini

donated one of her outstanding paintings; these will be auctioned on the day. Justin from Hair Culture has donated money which has gone towards the hiring charges for the chairs, cutlery and glasses for the event.

"My mother Margaret has taken on so much of the organising, and chatting to local businesses, she has been the driving force behind this High Tea event.

"Just being involved with 'Shitbox Rally' has been a real eye opener experience for me, our community has rallied behind us in a very supportive way, helping to create a better world by helping those in need and contributing to the fight against cancer." *Continued page 13*

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