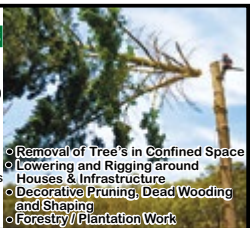


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Celebrating its 90th Anniversary

St. John Ambulance Bridgetown is celebrating 90 years of serving the Bridgetown Greenbushes community.

St. John started in WA in 1903 when the St. John Council of Western Australia sent a squad of First Aid Volunteers to the Royal Show. The following year the first men's division of St. John Ambulance Brigade was formed, the first women's division was formed in 1913. In Perth, St. John took over the ambulance service from the Fire Brigade on the 1st July 1922.

By 1930 there were 50 sub-centres throughout the state. In 1929 Bridgetown had a division of St. John but it was in 1933 the Bridgetown Ambulance Service was formed which we know as it is today.



Deb Gee, Tam Moore, Toni Rosser, Brian Baker, Jo Loton and Elza Wallis

John Jones has been a member of the Bridgetown Ambulance service for 62 years and has built up a very good knowledge and tells us a few facts about Bridgetown St Johns Ambulance, "Back then, 90 years ago Bridgetown had two sections of St John in town.

"The Operation Section, St John Ambulance Brigade Officers and members were in uniform and carried out public duties rendering first aid in the community and also drove and attended patients in ambulances.

"And the teaching section, the St John Association. It taught first aid to the public and raised finance for the buildings and ambulances. The Association members also drove and attended patients. All of the brigade personnel were also members of the Association. The Brigade side closed down in 1989. All the officers carried on as Association Members in a different uniform.

"It was in 1929 when a division of the brigade was registered. Railway personnel that had been in town since the opening of the railway line to Bridgetown in 1898, are the workers who made up the officers and personnel of this division and used their own vehicles to transport patients to hospital.

"It was these men of this division that requested that the St John Ambulance Association in Perth start a sub-centre in Bridgetown. Along with these men and dedication from business people and members of the public the sub-centre was started in July 1933...

Continued page 5



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Doreen Hornby, Bruce Pendlebury and Wally Hornby

Greenbushes Golf Club Fundraising Auction

On that fateful day, Saturday 5th February 2022, Bridgetown Golf Club held its regular golfing day, it was planned with the matches starting at 8am finishing around 12 noon. The day was a hot one, with strong and hot north westerly winds blowing.

Smoke was spotted to the north of the club house around 12.30 and the players who were still around the club house were advised to leave.

But no one foresaw what was to unfold, and there was little idea as to how quickly the fire was travelling or of its hunger in consuming all in its path.

When the raging fire hit the top of Hester Hill the Bridgetown Golf Club facilities were burned down.

The Club House, the Caretaker's Cottage attached to the club house, and two sheds were all consumed in the blaze.

The club house was a 'treasured headquarters', it was there from the beginning, 1915. It held the honour boards, photographs and memorabilia through its 107 years of local golfing history. It was a building which held a lot of special functions over time. With the building and history on display, members and visitors would recognise names on boards and the faces of those in photographs of members from long ago, it was always a talking point.

In the aftermath of that day, and while volunteers and club members were hand watering the greens a conversation was had between Bruce Pendlebury, Bridgetown Golf Club President and Richard Walker, a Greenbushes Golf Club member, "An auction could be held to raise some funds to go towards building a new Club House, would you like to organize one or would you like me to do it?" Richard asked Bruce. Bruce had the feeling he had enough on his plate already and replied, "You can organize it if you will."

Richard Walker then started the ball rolling by going to his fellow Greenbushes Golf club members for backing, they were all eager to support the auction...*Continued Page 14*

St John

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Story Writing Competition

Bridgetown Youth Theatre (BYT) has started up again for 2023, and it has started strongly with twenty-one members in the group.

BYT is run by the Bridgetown Repertory Club and aims to teach teenagers theatre and performance skills whilst they have fun and develop confidence. BYT is run weekly on Wednesday afternoons at the theatre by Meegan Cullen and Chris Shedley.

This year BYT is working towards performing at the OUCH youth festival which is to be held in August, creating a variety of performances for the night at the theatre. The annual 'Ouch' festival is a performing arts festival for Bridgetown youth and the youth from across the district.

Chris Shedley, as a member of Bridgetown Rotary Club, has the role for youth development, this year Rotary offered a prize

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of \$300 towards a story writing competition.

The story writing competition's main aim was to generate stories that could be used to develop theatre scripts for this year's OUCH Festival.

The theme suggested for the stories was 'empathy' (the ability to understand and share the feelings of another).

"We were excited to be involved with the Rotary club's story competition on the theme of empathy," Meegan Cullen repertory spokesperson explains.

"The inclusion of suggestions for music and dance was encouraged. The stories were to have at least four or five principal characters and to include a life changing journey for at least one of the characters; the stories were to contain some level of conflict, a well-defined climax and an attempt at resolution.

"Rotary and the Bridgetown Youth Theatre then will help bring the story to the stage."

The competition was open to young people aged 11 - 17. The stories were assessed by a panel comprised of present and retired English teachers and professional writers; Steve Bullie, Sarah Evans, Jeff Sheahan, and Chris Shedley...*Continued page 15*

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Bridgetown Historical Society

Much of the history of Bridgetown includes the apple orchards and their encompassing industry. The Allnutt family who settled in Bridgetown in 1864 were instrumental in the development of the apple industry and are acknowledged as the founders of this horticultural activity.

This photo is of a building that many of us in Bridgetown pass by every day, but do you know what it was originally? An apple packing shed on Greys Hill Road.

Shire of Bridgetown Greenbushes Heritage Survey [https://www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au/documents/199/local-heritage-survey-bridgetown-place-records-\(part-2\)](https://www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au/documents/199/local-heritage-survey-bridgetown-place-records-(part-2)) describes this building ...

"Small stone building with brick quoins. Corrugated iron roof. Exposed timber lintels above windows and doors. Doors (including an industrial wooden sliding door), windows and fixtures seem to be in original condition. There is also evidence of a random stone retaining wall/loading dock along the main frontage.

Remnant of the early fruit industry of the district. Presumably the packing shed was built of stone as it was readily available and more importantly for its thermal qualities in helping to keep the building cool in the warmer months.

The following information from the Register of Heritage Places Assessment Documentation for the Paterson & Co Fruit Packing Shed Complex (cnr Bunbury St and Sth West Hwy) provides some historical context for small packing sheds such as this: From 1898 a "daily rail service provided reliable and rapid transport to market, which was necessary for the development of the fruit and dairy industries in the district ... The acreage planted to apples [rose] steadily ... and the importance of the Bridgetown area to apple production was reflected in the rail cartage figures from the town, which increased from 9,702 cases in 1903 to 26,568 cases in 1907 ... Each orchardist initially packed his own fruit, and occasionally several neighbouring orchardists packed together to cut costs ... In 1914, a central packing shed was established at Bridgetown by the Bridgetown Fruitgrowers Association" but private packing sheds appear to have continued to have been used through to the 1930s at least.

It would appear that the Arts and Crafts/Tudor style detailing on the roof gables of the Greys Hill shed has been created since the last recorded photo in 2001, in which the eastern gable was shown to have been in desperate need of repair. Unsure as to the original design and therefore the authenticity of the gables.

The local orchard industry suffered a heavy blow in 1993 as codling moth infestations caused a massive Government encouraged "Tree Pull".

The packing shed on Greys Hill Road is significant as a vernacular stone building, important as a now rare local example of a stone packing shed, and for its contribution to the commercial fruit industry of the district and as a workplace. Increasingly rare evidence of the early fruit growing industry in Bridgetown."

The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Heritage Survey describes many such places and buildings and is an excellent record of the significance of our Cultural Heritage.

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Celebrating its 90th Anniversary

Continued from front page... "Over the next 90 years of the sub-centre's existence 22 chairpersons have shown leadership with strong committees. The first female chairperson in 88 years, Elza Wallis has chaired the sub-centre for the last twenty months.

"The first sub-centre building, a church hall, was purchased for five hundred pounds, and housed a secondhand camper van brought for two hundred and sixty pounds that was converted into the towns first ambulance.

"A new sub-centre was built on the corner of Hampton Street and Lockley Avenue in 1959 at a cost of fifty-five thousand pounds.

"The present-day sub centre building was completed and commissioned in 2007 costing \$700,000. Today it houses three up to date purpose-built fully equipped Mercedes Ambulances, each costing \$200,000.

Bridgetown Sub-Centre now has a paid first aid officer who teaches first aid to the public and schools.

The work load of the volunteer officers has doubled in the last ten years to over 800 call outs for emergencies and hospital transfers each year.

John tells us about the changes he has seen over time and how the service has grown, "The qualifications for ambulance officers has changed from just having a first-aid certificate and a driver's license to six full weekends of training with paramedics, twenty training nights each year to sign off all skill which is required.

"There are now a dedicated day, night, and weekend rostered twelve-hour shifts for both emergencies and for hospital transfers.

"This now requires eight officers every twenty-four hours. The call outs for an ambulance in town has progressed from a siren on a building in Steere Street to a computerised system operated state wide. This change has also seen the recording of patients' information from paper to iPad."

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The people involved in the Bridgetown St John Ambulances service are proud of their inheritance and they give their time voluntarily to serve the communities of Bridgetown and Greenbushes and quite often to others outside these boundaries.

Officers are called out and respond to anything from applying a band-aid to motor vehicle accidents, cardiac problems, transient ischemic attacks (TIA), and cerebrovascular accidents (CVA), domestic and sporting accidents, the unwell and sick, and for pregnancies and mental health problems."

As of 19th April, St Johns Bridgetown strength is 26 active officers on roster, ten probation officers and four support staff, a total of 40.

The hundreds of people that have given their time over the last ninety years to the present day, have given to our community a lasting service that we all can be proud of.

An Open Day is to held on Saturday 10th June from 10am-2pm. There will be giveaways, bandaging demonstrations, inflatable fun and activities and you will be able to tour your local sub-centre and view the fleet of ambulances with a chance to meet 'Kura Bear'.



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TALISON – SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

Craig's Corner - *With Craig Dawson*

I had the pleasure to present to two (2) community groups during May (Manjimup Chamber of Commerce and Balingup Progress Association). The presentations afforded me, and other team members, the opportunity to present the Greenbushes Lithium Operation (Site, Mine) story and outline its importance in supporting the Global Clean Energy Transition. Both events were very well attended and hopefully provided relevant information to members of the community.

During May, Talison played host to several photographers and film crews, and at times various areas of the Site were transformed into mini movie sets! Thanks to the Greenbushes Community Garden and Discovery Centre for welcoming us during our shoots.

Talison also hosted a number of other visits during the month including:

- representatives from Tianqi Corporation (including their Vice Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer);
- representatives from Albemarle;
- East Manjimup Primary School students;
- Donnybrook Senior Club members;
- Bunbury Probus Club members; and
- Narrogin-Bridgetown Probus Club members.

It was great to see the culmination of some great work by Talison's Community team come to fruition during the month with the formal signing of a three-year partnership with Blackwood Youth Action (BYA) to help deliver critical services to support the wellbeing of young people across the Warren Blackwood District.



Talison Chief Executive Officer Lorry Mignacca and Blackwood Youth Action Group vice-chair Rebecca Jones sign the agreement.

The \$600,000 partnership will enable the BYA to deliver targeted mental health education and awareness programmes, early intervention strategies and treatment for young people aged 12 to 25 years across the local government areas of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Manjimup, Boyup Brook and Nannup.

The BYA Pyramid Program is a four-level wrap-around approach to youth mental health, breaking down stigmas and providing support for young people in need. The BYA partnership is part of Talison's overall community investment strategy which includes a Sponsorships and Donations Program providing cash and in-kind donations for community groups and organisations, as well as education scholarships for schools in the Warren-Blackwood Education District.

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On Saturday, 13 May, two classical music concerts sponsored by Talison brought joy to numerous local children and their families. The Philharmonic South West Orchestra carefully selected music that aimed to captivate, educate and enchant children between the ages of 2 and 6. Embracing a pyjama party theme, both the musicians and attendees enthusiastically participated, with cushions and pillows provided to encourage children to comfortably sit up close to the orchestra.

The International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) 2023, was celebrated on 17 May. Site personnel participated in a number IDAHOBIT activities throughout the week. Site personnel came together to acknowledge the progress made in LGBTQIA+ equality. The week's events served as a reminder of the ongoing need to raise awareness and promote education for an inclusive world all year round. By working together and acknowledging important days like IDAHOBIT, Talison seeks to contribute to a more accepting and equal future for everyone. Thank you to the Talison IDAHOBIT committee for their diligent organisation of events across the Site.

Greenbushes came alive on 21 May as the Pink Fun Run, proudly supported and assisted by Talison, took place. The event brought together participants of all ages for a vibrant morning of running, walking, and biking. With its bright pink theme and scenic routes, the Pink Fun Run aims to raise funds for Breast Cancer Network Australia and the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia, spreading awareness and fostering community spirit. Congratulations to all involved with organising the event, it is a true show of what can be achieved when all come together in support of a great cause. At the end of the day, the Pink Fun Run is about uniting Greenbushes, be it community, business or visitors, to raise awareness and funds for the fight against breast and prostate cancer.



Congratulations to:

- Kate McGuire who achieved a 20 year service milestone at Site during May;
- Michael Harrison who achieved a 10 year service milestone at Site during May; and
- Brendon Mills who achieved a 5 year service milestone at Site during May.

Talison is pleased to be able to continue to support community groups with the following donations/sponsorships approved during May with cash or In-kind donations:

- Boyup Brook Tourism Association Walk on the Wild Side event;
- Bridgetown Dungeons and Dragons Winterfest event;
- Bridgetown High School Country Week participation; and
- Bridgetown St Brigids Primary School Children's and Indigenous Bush Tucker garden.

Expansion activities at the Mine continue at pace:

- construction of the new Mine Services Area (MSA) is nearing completion with the mining team and new mining contractor (Macmahon) eagerly looking forward to starting to make the transition into the facility during the latter part of June;
- construction of the new Tailings Storage Facility #4 (TSF4) is making good progress due to the lack of significant rain. This facility is vital to the Mine's ongoing operations;
- construction of Chemical Grade Plant #3 (CGP3) has commenced with relocation of the below ground services complete, bulk earthworks nearing completion, civil works at the crusher commenced and piling activities commenced. This plant is still on track for commissioning in the first half of 2025;
- energisation of the new 132kV powerline has occurred and commissioning activities at the new switch yard to the west of Maranup Ford Road have commenced; and
- construction of the temporary camp south of the Mine along Maranup Ford Road is progressing well with buildings being placed into position.

Mining activities continue to exceed the Budget with material movements in excess of 600,000 bank cubic metres (bcm) most months. The cutback of the north western end of the open pit has commenced and is progressing well. This cutback is clearly visible from the Public Mine Lookout in Greenbushes and will afford a great view to members of the public of mining activities as the cutback progresses.

Despite a pretty rocky start to the year the maintenance and processing teams have performed exceptionally well over the last couple of months to bring production volumes back in line with the Budget. Record concentrate production months were recorded in March/April and May also progressed well.

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Transition Bridgetown

One of the most common questions Transition Bridgetown gets asked is when the soft plastic recycling might recommence. Soft Plastics Task Force has released an update outlining the steps needed to launch a new supermarket soft plastic collection scheme. Don't hold your breath, but please keep stockpiling your soft plastics. Under the current plan, an initial in-store collection pilot is anticipated to launch in select stores in late 2023 - provided that REDcycle's existing soft plastic stockpiles can be cleared prior. The new program would then be gradually rolled out nationwide next year. In the meantime, as always, try and limit your purchase of anything packaged in soft plastics wherever you can!

Unsure what hard plastics can go in your recycling bin? Those marked PET, HDPE and PP plastics [ie marked with 1, 5, or 2] can go in the Comingled Recycling Bin. If you would like more information or a reference sheet to put on your fridge, please send us an email on transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com. We will have more information on our Facebook page throughout June leading up to the challenge of households committing to a Plastic Free July! Come and see us at the Community Kiosk on Sat July 8th to have a chat!!

We were fortunate to have a large group of people attend our Open Space on Affordable Housing in Balingup. Huge thanks to Wendy Trow and Adrian Price for presenting at this event. Great to hear about the process that Wendy and her 5 friends undertook to secure a zoning for a Cluster Homes Development on 6 acres with the Donnybrook/Balingup Shire. TBR is registering names of people who might be interested to join an action group to begin discussions for something similar in our shire. Please email transitionbridgetown19@gmail.com and we can send you Wendy's powerpoint presentation and connect you with others who are looking to pursue this. With Wendy's affordable strawbale home on a cluster development and Adrian's experience of short term living in a converted sea container, it's well time for our zoning to include more alternative housing that is based on a permanent ecovillage planning style.

Our Open Space this month of June is celebrating World Localisation! On Sun 25th June at 4.30pm-6.30pm we will be screening a "Planet Local" film and invite you to join us for a Plastic Free Local Food Feast! Please bring a plate of food to share made from locally sourced ingredients. We are extremely grateful to the Uniting Church community for working with us and allowing us the use of their Hall for our winter Open Space events.

On Sat June 10th, we will be holding a sustainable timber wood raffle in order to assist us with funds to cover our costs for printing posters, fliers and annual public liability.

This firewood is sourced from local timber plantations, allowing the fallen trees in our native forests to remain a part of the natural ecosystem as habitat, food and shelter in their last phase of life. We'll be outside the newsagency if you'd like to come and say hello.



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Geegeelup Village Thanks Carol

We had another opportunity this month to show our appreciation to a person without whom Geegeelup would not be what it is today. We are evolving with a modern Aged Care Facility and modern Retirement Village housing having been developed in the last few years. But at our core we remain the organisation as it was envisaged in the early days; a caring and loving environment for our elderly citizens.



Carol Giblett, pictured right, is one of those people who have created and nurtured Geegeelup over many years, 25 years or more in fact. She has been a Carer, a Supervisor, a Facility Manager, a Safety and Quality Manager and an Independent Living Unit Manager over the journey (plus other tasks too numerous to mention). We think Carol tried to retire about 5 times, always coming back when called upon and she will have touched many, many lives during her time at Geegeelup.

More recently Carol even answered the call to fill casual shifts when during the expansion of the Aged Care Facility there were periods where our staff needed a helping hand. Without hesitation and always with a smile and a willingness to perform any task required she would come back and help.

Such dedication requires the support of those at home. Carol's husband, Greg Giblett was always supportive and understanding. So much so that Greg was also heavily involved at Geegeelup including being a Board Member, giving countless volunteer hours around the Village and driving buses of residents when needed (the February 2022 bushfire evacuation being one of those times!).

Carol also took it upon herself to run the Geegeelup Auxiliary for extended periods of time, fund-raising and supporting the activities of our centre in order to improve the wellbeing and enjoyment of our residents...*Continued page 15.*

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Quartet

Bridgetown Repertory's next production will be 'Quartet', a play by Ronald Harwood about four aging opera singers.

The stage play will be directed by Susie Benson-Parry. Susie has a wealth of over fifty years' experience with theatrical productions. Her love of theatre started in her hometown of Bruce Rock, where at the age of eighteen she performed in her first theatre production. Her love of theatre has blossomed ever since.

Susie has directed other stage plays, but 'Quartet' will be the first play she has directed in Bridgetown.

...Continued page 13

Nine and Counting

The Probus Club of Bridgetown Blackwood Valley celebrates the 9th anniversary since Club formation with a gathering of 28 Members and guests.

Guest speaker at the May meeting was Tim Clynych - Shire CEO, who presented a fascinating summary of his family upbringing across multiple Continents and also provided insight into current Shire projects and how lifestyle choices to move to the South-West and the Talison mine have largely and positively impacted the Shire's population growth.

Later in May, 20 members of the Probus Club of Narrogin will arrive for a 3-day visit to Bridgetown, Greenbushes and Balingup. Joining with our local Members, the group will enjoy a Talison mine-site tour, visits to the Greenbushes Discovery Centre, Bridgetown Visitor Centre including the Jigsaw Gallery and the Old Police Gaol. Local hospitality will include visits to The Cidery, The Mushroom Cafe (Balingup) and dinner at the Bridgetown Hotel.

Probus Club is open to all Semi-retired and fully retired residents in the Blackwood Valley region. The club meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the Bridgetown Garden Function Centre on Robinia Way off Kangaroo Gully Road. The Club's ideals are Fun, Fellowship and Friendship. Meetings commence at 9.30 for 10.00am and include morning tea and a guest speaker.

The meetings are conducted with a morning tea followed by a general meeting, then a guest speaker.

In June the guest speaker will be Dr Bahareh Varposhti, who is currently practicing at the Bridgetown Medical Centre. She will give a talk on her journey from Iran to Australia.

New members are very welcome - contact Stephen Blackman 0400 403 778 for further information.

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Cancer Care Bridgetown

Michelle Wright is organising a raffle for Cancer Care Bridgetown (CCB) in partnership with Blackwood Youth Action (BYA).

The raffle will raise funds and awareness for those local support agencies and charities.

The raffle prizes are; a lovely piece of art work from Nikki from Fats, a brewery pack from Rocky Ridge Brewery, and a cruise for two adults along the Swan river. Tickets will be \$20 each, with only a maximum of 300 tickets in the draw making your chances of winning very good.

Tickets will go on sale in the later part of May. Tickets will be available for sale from local outlets and from outside newsagency on some Saturday mornings. You can also buy them through contacting Cancer Care Bridgetown on admin@cancercareproject.com.au

Michelle talks about the beneficiaries, "Cancer Care Bridgetown is a local grant initiative that provides individuals and families with small grants, up to \$200 per family, to have that little bit of respite from the disease. The grants are paid to families by way of community vouchers, which can only be spent in the community, this way we maintain confidentiality of the individuals as well as putting the money back in to the community.

"There are still some funds from the High Tea we held in September 2022 to be utilised. The money from this current raffle and the High Tea will be divided between CCB and BYA. Where the money is not utilised locally after 12 months the remainder will be donated to cancer support charities at a state level.



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Greenbushes Golf Club Fundraising Auction

Continued from page 2

Doreen Hornby, Greenbushes Golf Club Treasurer, takes us through what happen next, "Richard really did all the leg work, contacting and gathering a wide variety of donors to the auction; Many businesses in town and across the South West provided items for the auction, which included Family swimming passes, a 3.6m mobile stock ramp, a ride-on lawn mower and trailer, hand sewn quilts, motor vehicle parts (tyres, lights and towing equipment), electric golf cars and buggies.

"South West golf clubs provided full and country memberships and playing packages, and businesses across the state donated a variety of vouchers for clothing, beauty and fuel. There was also accommodation and meal packages in Perth and throughout the South West.

"As well as golf equipment, there was supporter gear from WA's major sporting teams Eagles, Dockers, WACA, West Coast Fever and the Wildcats, as well as small and large round bales of hay and a two-hours service of ice-cream, ideal for a child's birthday party or a binge at home, an all you can eat, from Tony Pratico.

"All of us at the Greenbushes Golf Club were amazed at the willingness and generosity of those wanting to contribute to the auction, it seemed the Bridgetown Golf Club losses touched a need to help in the wider community."

The twelve members of the Greenbushes Golf Club, along with other volunteers, held a successful fundraising auction in the Bridgetown Town Hall on Saturday 7th May 2022 to benefit the Bridgetown Golf Club. On behalf of Greenbushes Golf Club President Gordon James sincerely thanks all those who gave their support towards the Auction Night, that night around \$14,000 was raised.

While not all the donated goods were sold at the auction, negotiations with some golf packages and other items were easily sold, then with raffles and stalls the remaining items were all sold over time.

On 18th May 2023, Doreen and Wally Hornby from the Greenbushes Golf Club handed over to Bruce Pendlebury a cheque for \$16,000 from the auction. Earlier, Greenbushes Club held Bridgetown's Men's Veteran's Day at Greenbushes Golf Club and raised \$800 bringing their contribution to \$16,800.

Bruce continues, "Since the fire which destroyed our club house, Bridgetown Golf Club has received a lot of wonderful support from the community, the support has had an uplifting effect on our spirits making the rebuilding process easier.

"The friendly rivalry between our two clubs, particularly on our play off-days is a respectful one, especially now.

"Plans for the new club house have now been drawn and we are seeking quotes for the construction. The new club house, before it's even been built, has a legacy of support from throughout the south west, and I dare to say it, it will be built within the next two years."

Doreen concluded with the thought, "The Greenbushes Golf fundraising contribution is just a small amount of what is required for the overall rebuilding program for Bridgetown Golf Club's Club house, its greater value is in the ideal of helping others in time of need, which makes for a better and stronger community, and you never know when you may need that help yourself one day."

Story Writing Competition

Continued from page 3 ... "We were impressed by all the stories entered, and in the end, awarded equal first prizes to Phoebe and Abi O'Wallace," a delighted Chris Shelley reported, "with two judges voting for Phoebe's story and two judges voting for Abi's story. Both the sisters are home schooled; their stories were standouts in the competition."

Abi's story is about a recently separated family having to deal with problems a divided family must face, and Phoebe's story is about a family moving from Melbourne to Queensland and in to a rough neighbourhood.

"Both their stories were acclaimed by the judges and it only seemed right to award both stories the winner.

"Sarah Evans provided detailed feedback on all entries, encouraging a greater use of adjectives.

"Other stories we received were also very good and we will work to bring those to the stage, Samara Leary who wrote a story 'Food for the Family', and Hailee Pratt's story is a dark thriller. The stories show that small acts of kindness can change lives."

The performances for Ouch Festival are along the lines of a talent quest, in that there are many and varied acts. Performers may enter any arts performance, be it theatre in its many forms, music, song, or dance.

Part of the philosophy of the Ouch Festival is to involve teenagers in the planning, promotion and management of the event. These processes give those involved skills that enable them to visualize, plan and implement community activities, making them valuable community leaders wherever they may end up.

This year's festival promises to once again be a surprising display of the talent within our community.

Geegelup Village Thanks Carol

Continued from page 12 ... Organisations such as Geegelup rely on people like Carol. It is with immense gratitude that we were able to have a small sending-off and present a Certificate of Appreciation. We hope that many people in our community recognise and thank her for all her work over so many years because Geegelup would not have become what we are today if not for people like Carol Giblett. Thank you Carol.

Bridgetown Stamp Club



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Fun and Fundraising for local Horse and Pony Club

Being a not-for-profit sporting community, Blackwood Horse and Pony Club rely on fundraising and some generous donations, to maintain facilities and give members skill building opportunities to better the lives of their treasured equine friends. Local musician, equine enthusiast and volunteer committee member, Tracey Barnett, has donated her services to the club for a one off night of fun and fundraising on Saturday 24th June 5pm at The Cidery in Bridgetown. Attendees can expect a raffle, silent auction, information table along with top quality entertainment from Bridgetown's own Tracey Barnett.

Tracey grew up attending the Blackwood Horse and Pony Club from 6-13 years of age, and despite having a break from horse riding, has been welcomed back to the club as an adult riding member.

"Much of my horsemanship knowledge, riding skills and friendships were gained from attending Pony Club...I cherish the memories," shares Tracey, who joined the committee last year to help members gain some of the fun opportunities she experienced growing up.

Blackwood Horse and Pony Club is open to riders of all ages and abilities. No matter the level of riding, from just starting out, highly competitive, pleasure riding or getting back in the saddle, they are an all inclusive and encouraging club.

This fundraising event will be the largest the club has hosted outside of previous gymkhanas. The committee are grateful for



Aussie, Tracey Barnett, 27 year old Teddy and 11 year old Ivy Tinkler

the generosity of the Bridgetown community. The Cidery donating the use of their venue, Tracey donating her time and equipment, and so many businesses donating goods for the raffle and auction. Tickets are \$15 per person (under 16 years free). All tickets are available online by visiting www.traceybarnettmusic.com.

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