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Ovens, smokers ban to be reviewed

By PATRICIA GILL

THE Shire of Denmark will examine before May next year how outdoor pizza ovens and smokers could be used during the 2027/2028 prohibited burning period.

But the August 25 Denmark Shire Council meeting turned down looking into the use of fire pits and barbecues by Shire

staff and the Bush Fire Advisory Committee in the same period.

Shire president Aaron Wiggins said that open flame cooking fires were too difficult to define within the framework of the motion which had endorsed the 2026/2027 Shire Firebreak and Property Management Notice.

An amendment put forward by

Councillor Nathan Devenport and Cr Domenic Youel to include fire pits and barbecues in the proposed framework to be considered was lost two votes to six.

In putting forward the substantive motion, Cr Jay Hockey said there was a reasonable case for allowing clearly defined enclosed pizza ovens and smokers on lower risk days.

"But I don't think we have had enough time to properly design and implement that exemption for this season," he said.

As a volunteer firefighter he did not believe that the matter was about choosing between community lifestyle and safety, rather it was about whether a better system that managed both could be designed.

• Please turn to page 2.

Top farmer's 'life complete'



Kevin and Janice Hard with grandchildren Ruby and Sullivan Hard.

Story, picture by PATRICIA GILL

GREAT Southern Farmer of the Year Kevin Hard admits that farming is not for millionaire aspirants but nothing beats being able to do the job in Denmark.

Kevin of Narracoopa Simmental Stud faced having to find off-farm work 33 years ago due to hard times with

shrinking income but opted to establish a stud at the suggestion of his wife of now 52 years, Janice.

At the time, the couple had three small children and Janice pointed out the shortcomings of working for someone else and suggested Kevin look at starting a stud in a small way.

Today the Hards say their life is complete with their family

of three children – Lynette, Gavin and Claire – four grandchildren, the farm and the cattle.

Kevin's win was announced on August 21 at a function at The Dam, Denmark in the inaugural award of five categories honouring the late Paul Lionetti, an Albany businessman who worked hard for the City and region.

Denmark's David Britten and

Melissa Boughey of Moombaki Wines won the Agri-tourism Farmer of the Year Award.

Kevin lists lengthy community service such as Apex, Junior Farmers, the Parryville Bush Fire Brigade and a fourth stint as president of the WA Simmental Society and the job of keeping up modern techniques such as the genetics of simmental cattle.

• Please turn to page 2

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Pasture improvement key to farming success

• From page 1.

‘Traditional simmentals’ of the Swiss breed were ‘red and white’ and introduced to Australia in 1972.

They pre-date ‘blacks’ which the Hards switched to 15 years ago buying two heifers for \$10,000 each and a bull for \$27,000.

The dual-purpose breed is quick growing and suitable as milkers and beef cattle.

The market demand was for the solid black coat, polling (born with no horns) and desirable carcase yields.

“We mated the two heifers and got 31 embryos from the first flush,” Kevin said.

Forty stud cattle are run on 202ha, 121ha is leased and the rest owned by the family.

Ten embryos were purchased last year from different bloodlines for hybridity.

One hundred commercial cattle are also run and hay and silage grown on the property.

Calves are turned off at nine months and sold to Coles and Woolworths while select-bred bulls remain for stud sales.

An annual Blue Ribbon sale is held at Mt Barker in January

with an on-farm field day in the week leading up.

“We have all the bulls tied up. I halter break them so they are nice and quiet,” Kevin says.

Kevin has come a long way since he and his three brothers grew cauliflowers and potatoes on a property owned by their father, Carl Hard.

It is five years since he and Janice bought their Mt Shadforth Road farm after selling a property on Pates Road.

Times have changed and as Janice says: “When we were kids growing up here we used to have 52 inches (1320mm) of rainfall.”

Focus is on pasture improvement through Wilson Inlet Catchment Committee soil testing and estimated breeding plans to improve herd genetics.

“Unless you can drive a computer, these days – which I can only just do – you can’t breed a cow because you’ve got to keep putting in these facts and figures,” Kevin says.

“But you’ve still got to have an eye for the right cattle.

“You can’t just buy on figures you’ve got to have a bit of cattle knowledge.”

Fire rules left on simmer

• From page 1.

The officer report and FCO submission had raised valid issues around appliance definitions, non-combustible clearances, immediate access to water, smoke reporting, volunteer workload, education, compliance and whether some form of registration or permit system was needed.

“Those matters can be addressed, but they should be addressed properly rather than rushed,” Cr Hockey said.

He said shire chief executive David King’s report acknowledged that the ‘good intent false call’ figures did not show a consistent reduction after a blanket prohibition (total fire ban) was introduced.

“So, while there may be benefits in having a simple rule, the data does not establish that the blanket ban itself has materially changed those outcomes,” Cr Hockey said.

The outdoor enclosed pizza ovens and smokers would be used when



Cr Hockey.



Cr Devenport.

fire risk conditions allowed and could be implemented as part of the 2027/2028 Shire of Denmark Fire Management Notice.

A raft of conditions was passed at the meeting outlining the definitions and safety standards of eligible appliances.

Also in his report to the council, Mr King wrote that social research showed that most non-compliance did not arise from people deliberately choosing to break the law but

more from people acting incorrectly when they observed similar conduct and inferred that it was normal.

A factor was the impact on firefighters, Shire resources and emergency responses when the Shire encouraged people to call 000 if they saw smoke.

Cr Nathan Devenport, clearly disappointed that barbecues and fire pits were excluded from the motion said: “We’re talking about added workload for officers.

“A lot of the parameters are gonna fall around your smoker or your pizza oven; they’re going to be exactly the same for a barbecue.

“We’re also talking about a permitting program: if you’ve got a permit, you can’t have a freaking couple of rocks on the ground that’s why you’ve created the permit process.

“That’s why we have somebody inspect. “Thought that would be pretty cut and dry.”

Award for local Bushfire Ready group

THE Bushfire Ready Denmark WA weekend has received the Community Award in the West Australian Resilient Australia Awards.

The community-led initiative bringing together residents, volunteers and emergency services through workshops, demonstrations and neighbourhood preparedness activities to help people strengthen their

preparations for bushfires.

It is usually held in the last weekend in November in the centre of Denmark with the aim of getting everyone in the habit of making that weekend before summer a bushfire preparedness weekend.

Shane Howlett of the Department of Fire and Emergency Service was highly commended on the photog-

raphy award for his picture, Long Line.

The Resilient Australia State Awards recognise individuals, organisations, local governments and groups which have delivered projects that boost resilience in communities in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from natural disasters and emergencies across WA.

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Wordle gets an Aussie flavour

Story and picture
by PATRICIA GILL

THE popularity of the web-based puzzle game, Wordle, led Denmark man Russell Hoffmann to invent a similar game but set in an identifiable Australian vernacular.

Aussie Words came about when Russell disgusted at the American vernacular in solutions such as the word, 'pshaw', decided it was time to use those words which he'd heard his dad and his mates bandy about.

Retiree Russell, 63, now offers one daily five-letter word from the Australian dictionary with a 'cheeky' slang word included and an Aussie saying as a reward for correct answers. An example of these are what Russell recalls his dad and his mates saying after missing a short putt on the golf course.

Ribbing would follow with: "You couldn't hit a barn door with a handful

of wheat, Mate".

Russell says these Aussie expressions lighten the mood, keep us grounded and remind us not to take ourselves too seriously.

They also, most importantly, remind us we are Australian with our own vernacular and culture to celebrate.

"As I get older, I find the kids when I say 'cut lunch and a waterbag' (to describe something far away) go 'what?'," Russell says.

"They are very much part of my target audience."

With 'strewth', 'crikey', 'blimey' and at worst 'taking the piss' included, nothing

inappropriate will crop up in Aussie Words.

"It's family friendly," Russell says.

"I haven't put in things like 'wanker'."

There's also words which delineate State boundaries such as 'scooey', served in New South Wales' pubs, in a glass somewhere between a middie and a pint.

"If you're in twenties to forties and going to pubs in NSW, you will know what's a scooey," Russell says.

"A lot of West Australian wouldn't know what it is."

So far Russell has 150 followers of his web-based game

and hopes those numbers rise. Access to the website is available free at aussiewords.com, is not available at app stores and contains no ads.

A bushman's hat icon is the gateway to the daily games and the usual statistics can track a player's progress. A sayings book function can save those expressions which as Russell says can be trotted out when the user feels the time is right.

Russell hopes the Aussie vernacular will be preserved and passed on down through the generations via Aussie Words.

"My greatest hope is that young people in particular

adopt Aussie Words as part of their daily routine because I think they have the most to learn from it and will genuinely get more entertainment from discovering more slang words and sayings than they currently have in their vocabulary," he said.



Aussie Words creator Russell Hoffman. Below: QR code to aussiewords.com

5 arrested after drug search

DENMARK Police have charged five people with drug-related offences after searching a property on Rushton Street on Thursday, September 17.

Officers conducted a Misuse of Drugs Act search warrant on the residential premises, where they will allege illicit substances, including cannabis and methylamphetamine and drug paraphernalia were seized.

The five people have all been charged via summons and will appear in court at a later date.

The search was part of a Statewide week of action under Operation Vitreus, a recurring joint national policing campaign targeting illicit drug trafficking, importation and organised crime syndicates

WA Police participated in the coordinated national crackdown, executing multiple warrants and targeting illicit transport corridors into WA.



Police searched a property in Rushton Street last week as part of a Statewide crack down.

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Letters

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Good mountain bike tracks a boost for all

RE your article, Bike events 'threat to biodiversity', Denmark Bulletin, 1046, November 25, 2021.

Having attended the fantastic event on November 7, 2021 at which Professor Stephen Hopper and Mr Larry Blight spoke, one was pleased to note Mr Blight attested that Noongars have no issue with the sport of mountain biking and to hear him say: "It's a fantastic sport".

Having been a mountain biker for quite some time, in my view it is a fantastic sport and it's obviously currently growing in WA, like it has in other parts of Australia where some remote towns and communities have had their local economies revived and/or transformed by building local mountain bike tracks often funded with the aid of government grants.

Our challenge and fun comes from riding on designated tracks that have been built in approved geographical areas often by private contractors that have the expertise to do so. That expertise not only includes making the track a challenge and fun to ride, it also involves minimal impact on the terrain, optimal drainage and surface use

so as to avoid erosion and an ability to leave things as natural as possible so as to minimise maintenance.

We all love riding in the bush and not on a scar in the bush; we intensely dislike having to stop during our fun rides to do maintenance on the track - that's done during our occasional busy bees.

We love the physical challenges involved, the mastering of the required skills and the camaraderie that our sport engenders.

For these reasons we often drive long distances into relatively remote places where, after our rides, we will spend handsomely because we are hungry and thirsty.

Then we will be looking for a wash and accommodation and at some stage will need fuel and general provisions.

Further, we don't mind catching up with the locals either.

Our poorly-built tracks don't survive due to, like so much else in life, issues of supply and demand.

Yes, we will drive even further for the good tracks, just like the surfers will for the good waves.

Johan Willers

Hope for medical centre

SINCE the Shire's rejection of the medical centre adjacent to the hospital, I am encouraged by the general comments from the silent majority in the town, that it was a no brainer to use 10 per cent of the existing vacant land around the hospital so that the local resident doctors could establish a medical centre, entirely at their own expense and entirely in the right position.

The Country Health Service's comments which were very positive were not sought by the officers during their decision making, who instead focused on a private age care home.

Were they aware that, unlike the well-run Blue Wren, a private facility in

line, for instance, with Cape Care in Dunsborough and many other locations, requires a minimum advance of \$750,000 for entry and then \$250 a day thereafter.

Well out of reach of most of the Denmark population.

Instead, as usual a long-winded procedure has been adopted stifling any chance of this facility coming to fruition.

An alternate site perhaps in a better position from the doctors' perspective is currently being negotiated.

It is evident that the hospital needed the doctors more than the doctors need the hospital.

Another opportunity stifled.

Graeme J Robertson

ABC article wrongly attributed

The opinion piece 'We need an Aunty with a firm hand' published in Bulletin 1165 was incorrectly attributed to Craig Chappelle.

The article was written by Cassandra Parkinson, the National President ABC Friends.

Research leads to bird feeding flu risk warning

By JAANA DIELENBERG

ONE third to half of Australians feed wild birds, according to research led by Griffith University. As H5 bird flu spreads, people who feed wild birds are being urged to rethink how they do it, with the Biodiversity Council warning that backyard bird feeders can create hotspots for disease transmission.

Griffith University Professor Emeritus Darryl Jones has spent decades researching why people feed wild birds and the effects on birds.

He is also the author of Feeding the birds at your table, A guide for Australia.

“People feed birds because they love them and care deeply about them, and many people are unlikely to stop,” Professor Jones said.

“But feeding can bring large numbers of birds, often of different species, together in one place in a way that rarely happens naturally. With H5 bird flu here, that increases the risk of disease spreading.”

The Biodiversity Council has four key messages for people who feed wild birds:

- Stop feeding if you can. This reduces birds congregating and opportunities for the virus to spread – and the birds will be fine without your food.



- Clean thoroughly every day. If you continue feeding, thoroughly clean and disinfect feeders and feeding surfaces at least daily.

- Put out less food. Smaller amounts attract fewer birds, reducing crowding and opportunities for transmission.

- Stop hand feeding. Avoid direct contact with wild birds and don't encourage them to eat from your hands.

“The good news is you can stop feeding birds, and they will be fine,” Professor Jones said.

“Our research found that even birds visiting feeders every day typically get less than 10 per cent of their diet there.

“They are still finding most of their food naturally.

“If you have to keep feeding, reduce disease transmission risks by thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting feeders and feeding surfaces at least every day.

“With bird flu here, we need to be obsessive about hygiene.

“A quick wipe with a damp cloth is not enough.

“Also, put out less food so fewer birds congregate.

“Even without the threat of bird flu, it is better to give birds a small snack than a meal.

“Many human foods, such as mince, bread and rice, are essentially bird ‘junk food’.

“It is also time to stop hand feeding.

“Close contact creates unnecessary opportunities for disease transmission, so people should no longer feed wild birds directly from their hands.

“People who feed birds care about them. Right now, changing how we feed them is part of that care.”

Deakin University H5 bird flu expert Professor Marcel Klaassen agreed that bird feeding activities that bring birds together created more opportunities for the H5 bird flu virus to spread.

“Infectious diseases like influenza spread through direct and indirect contact. If you create hotspots where birds aggregate and increase contact rates – for example through bird feeders – you increase that risk.”



Denmark Rowers invite everyone to a clean up of the Denmark/Kwoorabup River.

Rowers to mark rivers day with a Kwoorabup clean-up

THE Riverside Club's Denmark Rowers will mark World Rivers Day on Sunday, September 27 with a clean up of the Denmark/Kwoorabup River.

The community is welcome to join in. Bring a kayak or other unpowered craft for a bit of messing about on the river or jump in one of the Denmark Rowers' skiffs.

World Rivers Day started in Canada 21 years ago and is a celebration of the world's waterways and promotes river stewardship.

Millions of people participate annually in more than 100 countries organising river cleanups, habitat restorations and educational outings.

The Denmark Rowers and Dragon Boaters are privileged to be regularly out on the Kwoorabup River observing the nearly pristine environment and its bird and plant life.

Denmark Rowers regularly pick up floating rubbish and report environmental hazards.

The skiffs will be on the river on World Rivers Day and members of the Denmark community can join the Rowers in a concerted clean up.

Meet at the Denmark Riverside Club, 3 Morgan Road at 1pm on Sunday, September 27.

Everyone is welcome afterwards to a sausage sizzle and a drink from the Riverside Club bar.

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Marie Redman and Marion Nelson.



Terry and Marie Redman, Paul Nelson and Andrew Gill.



Marion Nelson and Ocean Light.



Seirah Woodward and Enchanted Wood.

Art trail leads to Marion’s coastal reflections

ARTIST Marion Nelson welcomed friends and art-lovers to her fourth Southern Art and Craft Trail exhibition at Chimes Spa on Sunday afternoon.

The exhibition, Coastal Reflections, captures Marion’s love of light in her work and, as her friend of 30 years Marie Redman said in opening the event, depicted a sense of beauty and tranquillity inspired by Denmark natural surroundings.

Marie said Marion was far more than an artist whose passion also as a gardener, cook and talented sports woman showed someone who put patience, care, attention in everything she did.

Also renowned for her origami paper cranes, these evoked a sense of calm and quiet elegance throughout Marion’s work.

Marie said people travelled from all over the world to experience Denmark and those who lived here sometimes forgot how special the region was.

“The rolling hills and the karri forests and the waterways and coastline and the beautiful changing of light, which we see, makes this part of the world very unique,” she said.

“Marion has captured all this so beautifully, and when you look at her paintings, you’re not just seeing a landscape, you’re seeing Denmark through Marion’s eyes.”

The exhibition runs throughout the Art and Craft Trail and is venue seven and open until October 11.



Susie Heyworth and Jenny Whishaw with First Light of Day and Morning Air.



Marie Redman and It’s a Shore Thing.



Tom Gardiner, Sue Nikoletti and Les Penhaligon with Coastal Gems.



Marion Nelson and Brand New Day - Ocean Beach.



Local Real Estate Team Honoured with Top State Industry Award



The Barrow Family from Ray White Denmark has been awarded the prestigious Ross Whiteman Chairman’s Award at the 2026 Ray White WA Annual Awards, held at Crown Perth on August 21st.

The Chairman’s Award recognises exceptional performance, dedication to service, and outstanding leadership within the Ray White network across Western Australia. The Barrow family accepted the trophy on stage in front of industry peers, celebrating a milestone year of achievements and continued commitment to supporting the local community with their property needs

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Celebrity visit, colourful costumes cap off Book Week

COLOURFUL costumes and school classroom visits, capped off by a visit from author Dianne Wolfer, marked Children’s Book Week at the Denmark Public Library last month.

Dianne’s visit was the highlight of the week, which is a cherished annual event locally, fostering a love of reading and storytelling among Denmark kids.

Students from Denmark Primary School heard about Dianne’s writing journey and the inspiration for many of her books.

Dianne spoke about her genres, characters and themes, and gave simple tips for putting ideas on a page.

Senior Librarian Robyn Fairclough said that each year the Denmark Public Library staff dressed up as their favourite literary characters each day of the week to receive visits from local classrooms to the Library.

This created the most fun during Book Week.

Staff also visited kindergartens and gave each child a Better Beginnings box, filled with resources to encourage and spark an interest in reading.

“This year’s Children’s Book Week theme, Symphony of Sto-

ries, reminds us that books can transport us to new and fantastic places, and helps children to explore diverse characters and settings in books,” Robyn said.

Children’s Book Week always demonstrated the benefits of reading for pleasure for children and young people.

Every book helped build literacy skills, and allowing children to choose their own books gave them a sense of ownership and made reading even more enjoyable.

“We encourage families to visit the library and let your child choose their books,” Robyn said.

Anyone unsure where to start or whose child experienced reading challenges could speak to the Library staff.

They can help with books which include graphic novels and magazines, eResources for children, dyslexia-friendly reads and more.

“Books are more than just stories on a page; they are gateways to imagination and knowledge,” Robyn said.

The State Government Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport and the WA Branch of the Children’s Book Council of Australia Children’s supported Book Week 2026.



Library team members dress up for Book Week- Jemma Hipper, left, Acaysha Cooper and Robyn Fairclough.

A good time to be grateful

THE inaugural Northcliffe Bee Festival will be held on Saturday, October 24 at Northcliffe District High School.

The volunteer-led initiative, will bring together scientists, beekeepers, farmers, conservationists, photographers, food producers, artists and the community for a day of exploring the role pollinators play in food systems and landscapes.

More than a celebration of honey and beekeeping, the Northcliffe Bee Festival looks at the relationship between pollinators, healthy ecosystems, agriculture and the food we eat.

Visitors are invited to discover the diversity of bees and other pollinators, and the practical ways individuals and communities can help create landscapes in which bees can thrive.

The speaker program moves between science, lived experience and the stories that connect everyone to the living world.

The program covers regenerative farming and restoring habitat, native bee conservation, biodiversity, responsible beekeeping and biosecurity.

• Please turn to page 15.





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Nicky Latham and husband John after the Welcome Service.

New Deacon flags CRC hardship relief partnership

Story and pictures by ALISON KERSHAW

THE Reverend Nicky Latham was welcomed to the Anglican Parish and community of Denmark and Walpole last month.

Nicky is newly ordained as a Deacon and is completing studies toward priesthood.

She and her husband John and dog Tommy have moved from Australind, but spent many years living in Pt Hedland.

Before being called to ordained ministry, Nicky worked as a social worker for more 30 years and spent the last 14 years of her career with remote Aboriginal communities in the Pilbara region.

The Bishop of Bunbury, Ian Coutts, in his last visit to the parish before retiring, blessed Nicky's ministry

at a service which included greetings from representatives of other churches and Petra Thompson from the Community Resource Centre.

At the August 15 service, Petra spoke of the partnership between the CRC and the parish in the area of emergency relief and Nicky said this was an issue close to her heart.

Nicky was touched by the involvement of the Lesley Taylor-directed community choir singing Marc-Antoine Charpentier's Te Deum Grand Motet and said the performance was something she and John would always treasure.

She feels "strongly called to a ministry in a small inclusive parish where all are welcomed and feel God's presence."



Nicky Latham and much-loved Tommy.

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SCAN ME

Charity donation adds variety to primary school activities

By HELEN SPENCER

THE Denmark Primary School filled with colour, noise and community spirit when Variety visited earlier this year as part of the Creative Car Cruise and donated \$9000 to the school.

Students turned out in red, gold coins in hand, to cheer the convoy and celebrate a partnership that has added to the school’s learning environment.

Rather than pooling the funds into one project, each phase of learning - Kindergarten-Pre-primary, Years 1-2, Years 3-4 and Years 5-6 - received an equal share for a project of their choosing, designed to build on the hands-on, wellbeing-focused environment students already enjoy.

Variety’s contribution had added to the Kindergarten and Pre-primary Expanding

Our Movement Program with new sports and movement equipment such as balance beams, agility ladders, hoops, bean bags, cones, balls and small game sets.

These give students even more ways to run, jump, balance, throw, catch, kick and strike through play.

There are more tools in the Kiddo program to teach and develop physical literacy skills in structured, engaging lessons, building children’s confidence, coordination and motivation to be active for life. Kiddo is a physical literacy program developed by researchers at University of WA. For Years 1-2, their share has added to resources that bring students together both indoors and out.

A new picnic table and a set of easels give students an inviting space to sit, talk and collaborate, extending areas already avail-

able for social interaction and quiet play.

A new pickleball set provides students with another opportunity to build teamwork, communication and sportsmanship alongside physical activity.

An investment in activities that can be enjoyed both indoors and outside, whatever the weather was chosen for Years 3-4.

This has lifted a sense of community across the year groups, with classes enjoying the new resources side by side.

The activities are inclusive of physical and sensory needs, ensuring every child can join in.

Funding towards enhancing the shared areas was set aside for Years 5-6.

In the wet area between classrooms, students now have a dedicated wellbeing corner - complete with a couch, armchair, rug, coffee table, plants, magazines and

books - adding a calm, comfortable space to the vibrant learning environment.

The courtyard has been transformed with an outdoor couch, camp chairs and plants, extending the outdoor learning spaces even further.

And inspired by the new courtyard, the groundskeeper painted a giant chess board on the ground, an instant favourite with students.

The Children’s Charity, Variety, supports children and families facing challenges related to sickness, disadvantage or disability. Their work helps kids gain mobility, participate in their communities, communicate, develop independence and build confidence, ensuring that children who might otherwise miss out can always join in.



Students check out the Ford Galaxie Skyliner.



Zander Richardson, Margot Smith, Elliot Walkington, Harrison Wimpenny, Jasper Vogel, Blake Burnside and Pippa LeFort.



Mason Crock, Emma O'Donnell and Sadie Breman.



Kaylee Phillips, Emma O'Donnell, Paige Parry and Parker Butter.



Sadie Breman and Mason Crock.



Otis O'Meara and Mason Gunthorpe-White.



Aston McRae, Archie Wake and Hazel Reynolds.



Arliah Hohaia and River Roberts.

Fires inspire art initiative

KEEN support of local artist and forest campaigner Via Stidwell's exhibition *Burn Out: Before the Fire* has prompted a creative initiative at the Denmark Environment Centre.

The exhibition, which opened on September 5, launched DEC's Denmark Seasonal Art Series, which will bring together art, environmental inquiry and the community.

Burn Out: Before the Fire is on display at the DEC and an inaugural two-month residency led by Via Stidwell, who is also DEC's art coordinator, will include field trips for observational drawing.

Expressions of interest are also invited from artists keen to develop future seasonal residencies.

Guided by the Noongar seasons, the program calls on artists to explore local ecosystems and environmental questions, with time for their work to evolve.

Projects might explore forests, waterways, coastlines, threatened species, restoration or ecological grief, and may involve collaboration with researchers, campaigners or community groups.

All creative disciplines are welcome, with each residency including an element of community engagement. Artists should spend time in place, sit with Boodja (Country) and create work from what they discover.

Via said there was an appetite for creative ways to engage with environmental issues that went beyond meetings, submissions and petitions.

"Art gives us another way in," she said.

"It can spark curiosity, open conversations and bring people together."

Via's two-month residency responds to the ancient red tingle forests of the Walpole Wilderness, including forests proposed for prescribed burning this season, through botanical contact printing, drawing and printmaking.

Her exhibition explores the parallels between forests subjected to repeated burning and the emotional toll of fighting to protect them.

Via's work moves between ecological grief, botanical curiosity and the restorative act of making art.

"Environmental campaigning can be pretty consuming," Via said.

"Making art gives my mind somewhere else to go while

still staying connected to the places I'm trying to protect. "It turns observation back into curiosity and grief into something I can hold in my hands."

"We've got this extraordinary natural environment on our doorstep, along with a community full of creative people and environmental knowledge. Imagine what we can do when we bring those things together."

Via said art activism didn't have to mean painting protest banners but could start with spending time in a place, making something and sharing discoveries.

She was not looking for artists to turn up with a finished exhibition but to come with an idea, a curiosity or a question, and see where it took them.



Peter Dingey, Via Stidwell and Sally Jarvis.



Simone van Hattem with a piece of Via Stidwell's work.



Simon Parry, Will White, Jenelle Piercey and Graham Kershaw. Below: Martin Anderson. Pictures by PATRICIA GILL.

'Shiny new songs' a hit with home crowd

REVIEW
Time Kite House
Concert, September 13
By PATRICIA GILL

A guitarist/singer, a bass guitarist/singer, 'a finger drummer' percussionist, a composer/pianist and the recent inclusion of a singer/clarinetist comprise local band Time Kite.

Guitarist/singer Simon Parry describes how it was time to invite singer and clarinetist Jenelle Piercey to make a quintet after just 'four guys jamming in a room for a while'.

She brought an understated, refined voice along to the September 13 house concert with an occasional use of the clarinet creating fresh layers amid a finely balanced repertoire of original music and lyrics.

Time Kite's music is not readily defined but brings to mind Canadian singer songwriter Ron Sexsmith's blend of gentle folkish arrangements.

It's easy on the ears, the assessable, foot-tapping rhythms of the concert repertoire reflecting all of life from a song for a departed dear friend to revelling in the beauty of the environment.

Time Kite's own description is playing and singing 'shiny new songs' about the here and now, about love and time, stars and sea.

"Somewhere between indie-folk and alternative-pop, with occasional jazz or rock flavouring," is Simon's verdict of the genre.

Poet Graham Kershaw says Time Kite is so called because 'a song maintains its elegant and compact form amid the winds of change'.

Most of the songs started with Graham's lyrics which Simon set to music.



"The music is usually written with an acoustic guitar in my hands," Simon said.

"The song's arrangement then forms around the core of vocals, guitar, bass, piano and drums."

Simon has dabbled in song writing for a few years, since doing a couple of semesters of music at Denmark TAFE.

Things became serious when Graham and he started collaborating on tunes two and a half years ago.

Both had written songs alone, but as a partnership, they have written more than 40, which, as Simon says, is more than they can comfortably perform.

Graham said his lyrics came from many different places, from dreams, memories, joys and sorrows.

Of the songs played, only 'Sleeping by a Stream' and 'The Light upon the Water' had previous lives as poems, before being set to music by Simon.

Others lyrics like 'Champagne', 'One Good Friend', 'Resolution Bay' and 'Spindrift Tea' were written to suit particular singers which apart from Jenelle includes Simon and Graham.

Composer/pianist Martin Anderson kicked off the afternoon with a piece, *Insan al-aym*, which is a poetic Arabic phrase for the pupil of the eye but technically translates to the 'human of the eye'.

"This is in reference to the reflection of yourself you can sometimes see in someone's pupil," Martin said.

"It is in E Phrygian dominant which

is evocative of much middle eastern music, hence why I chose to use an Arabic title."

Martin offered another optical reference with *Schwalbe's Line*, the junction between the ciliary body and the back of the cornea which traces a circular shape.

This also references the arc of the music piece, starting and returning to finish with the bright ascending colour of ninth chords.

In A minor the piece morphed into Time Kite's song *Arabesque* in A major.

Another solo piece in G minor was *Palisades of Vogt*, the tiny lines which wrap around the peripheral edge of the cornea and is where the corneal stem cells reside.

At this stage Martin being an optometrist had the audience smiling.

Percussionist Will White said he had made history being the first person in the Great Southern performing drum patterns and beats on electronic pad controllers with the fingers instead of traditional drumsticks.

"Typically, they're used in studios, so we're branching out and trying to play it as a live instrument," Will said.

"It's easier than lugging around a drum kit" - portability lightening the load for a carefully blended and balanced performance.

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St Mary's Catholic Church

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Fr Edcel Silva OSJ:
Phone 0467 230 349
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Shire Notice



Shire of Denmark
Discover Denmark

PROPOSED TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF A PORTION OF KEARSLEY ROAD

The Shire is proposing to close a portion of Kearsley Road from 28 September 2026 to the 31 January 2027. The purpose of the closure is to allow for the road to be reconstructed in accordance with subdivision approvals for the area.

The map below shows the portion to be temporarily closed.



Submissions are invited regarding the proposal and should be addressed to the Director Infrastructure & Assets.

Submissions must be received by **4.00pm Friday, 25 September 2026** and can be emailed to info@denmark.wa.gov.au, posted to PO Box 183, Denmark WA 6333 or hand delivered to the Shire Office at 953 South Coast Highway, Denmark.

Further information can be obtained by contacting the Shire Office.

Rob Westerberg
Director Infrastructure and Assets

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Shire of Denmark *Discover Denmark*

DRAFT PEST PLANTS LOCAL LAW 2026

Council proposes to make a local law relating to Pest Plants for the following purpose and effect.

Purpose – to provide the Shire of Denmark the ability to issue notices to landowners requiring them to destroy, eradicate or otherwise control listed pest plants from their land within the local government district.

Effect – to protect the district's natural environment, land values and mitigate the spread of noxious weeds and pest plants across reserves and private land within the local government district.

A copy of the proposed local law may be inspected or obtained –

- from our website at <https://www.denmark.wa.gov.au/news/>; or
- by contacting the Shire Office on 9848 0300 during office hours; or
- email to claire.thompson@denmark.wa.gov.au.

Written submissions on the draft local law should be made to the CEO, and can be emailed to info@denmark.wa.gov.au, posted to PO Box 183, Denmark or hand delivered to 953 South Coast Highway, Denmark.

The closing date for submissions is **4.00pm, Friday, 30 October 2025**.

For further information please contact the Shire Office.

David King
Chief Executive Officer

www.denmarkbulletin.com.au

For edition dates and deadlines



Shire of Denmark *Discover Denmark*

Request for Tender No. TEN.03.2026/27

Provision of Sewer Extension, Stormwater Infrastructure and Remediation Earthworks Construction for Lot 3002 Hardy Street, Denmark

The Shire of Denmark requires the services of a qualified and experienced civil contractor for the provision of sewer extension, stormwater infrastructure and remediation earthworks construction for Lot 3002 Hardy Street, Denmark.

Obtaining Documentation:

Tender documents may be obtained from the Shire's Website <https://www.denmark.wa.gov.au/news/> or the Shire's E-Tendering portal at the following link <https://portal.tenderlink.com/denmark>

To access the documents, you will be required to register with Tenderlink.

If you have any issues, contact the Shire Technical Services Department by email to info@denmark.wa.gov.au

Site Briefing

There will be a non-mandatory Site Inspection held on Friday 18 September 2026 at 10:00am.

The site inspection will be held at Lot 3002 Hardy Street, Denmark, Western Australia.

The site inspection will provide Tenderers with the opportunity to clarify any uncertainties with the contact person prior to the closing of the tender.

Please confirm with the Shire info@denmark.wa.gov.au confirmation of your attendance at this meeting no later than 10:00am Thursday, 17 September 2026.

Deadline:

The deadline for Tender submissions is **2.00pm, AWST, Thursday 8 October 2026**

Lodgement:

Tender submissions must be uploaded electronically through the Shire's E-tendering portal <https://portal.tenderlink.com/denmark>.

A Tender that is not lodged with the Shire before the Tender deadline will not be considered for evaluation.

The lowest price Tender, or any Tender, will not necessarily be accepted.

Canvassing of any Shire of Denmark Councillors or Officers will disqualify Tenderers from the Tender process.

David King
Chief Executive Officer

Situations Vacant

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My Place is a values-based organisation that supports people with disability to pursue the lifestyle of their choice.

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The role includes in-home support with personal care, community access and using your experience and skills to manage daily life.

Additional training will be provided for an applicant with the right values and attitude.

Experience in working with people with intellectual disability and epilepsy desirable but not essential.

To apply for this position please email a current CV and cover letter detailing your availability and skills to robert.golledge@myplace.org.au

Shire Notices



Shire of Denmark *Discover Denmark*

Request for Tender No. TEN.04.2026/27

Supply and Construction of a Public Toilet Facility – Peaceful Bay

The Shire of Denmark invites tenders from suitably qualified and registered contractors, with demonstrated experience in the construction of public amenities buildings and associated civil works.

The Contract comprises the supply and construction of a new three-cubicle public toilet facility at Peaceful Bay, including all associated site works in accordance with the specifications and drawings provided.

Obtaining Documentation:

Tender documents may be obtained from the Shire's Website <https://www.denmark.wa.gov.au/news/> or the Shire's E-Tendering portal at the following link <https://portal.tenderlink.com/denmark>

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If you have any issues, contact the Shire Technical Services Department by email to info@denmark.wa.gov.au

Site Briefing

There will be a non-mandatory site inspection held on **25 September 2026 at 10:00 am**.

The location of the site inspection is the public car park adjoining the Peaceful Bay Volunteer Marine Rescue facility at Peaceful Bay, Western Australia.

The site inspection will provide Tenderers with the opportunity to clarify any uncertainties with the contact person prior to the closing of the tender.

Please confirm your attendance at this meeting with the Shire via info@denmark.wa.gov.au no later than **2:00 pm on 18 September 2026**.

Deadline:

The deadline for tender submissions is **2:00 pm, AWST Thursday 8 October 2026**

Lodgement:

Tender submissions must be lodged electronically through the Shire's E-Tendering portal <https://portal.tenderlink.com/denmark>.

A Tender that is not lodged with the Shire before the Tender deadline will not be considered for evaluation.

The lowest price Tender, or any Tender, will not necessarily be accepted.

Canvassing of any Shire of Denmark Councillors or Officers will disqualify Tenderers from the Tender process.

David King
Chief Executive Officer

Contact Us

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Advertising

Classified ads are accepted until noon

on the Tuesday before publication and can be lodged by phone or email.

Display advertisements should be booked by 5pm on the Friday before publication.

Email: info@denmarkbulletin.com

What's on

Friday, September 25

Twilight golf men's and ladies' 18-hole competition, hit off after 11.30am, 9-hole competition hit off after 1.30pm, Denmark Country Club.

Saturday, September 26

Men's and women's golf, 18-hole competition only, hit off from noon onwards.

Ukulele Rabble, 10am-noon, Amaroo Club House, Hardy Street, contact Christine 0429 236 729.

Social tennis, 1.30-3.30pm, bar opens 3pm, kids' tennis and twilight tennis resume in term 4, telephone Denmark Country Club 9849 1413 for information, all welcome, visitors \$10. Mixed social bowls, Denmark Riverside Club, names in by 1pm, start 1.30pm.

Sunday, September 27

Mahayana Buddhist meditations, 10am, Garden room, CRC. Guided by lay people. All welcome, donations appreciated. For information, text Jo 0423 222 290

Denmark Markets, 9am-1pm, Denmark Senior High School, weekly until June, June to August monthly.

Monday, September 28

Social tennis 8.30-10.30am, all welcome, visitors \$10, telephone Denmark Country Club 9848 1413 for information.

Tuesday, September 29

Scroungers' golf, men's and ladies' 18-hole competition, hit off after 11.30am, 9-hole competition hit off after 1.30pm, social golf 8.30am for 8.45am tee off.

Mixed social bowls, Denmark Riverside Club, names in by 1pm, start 1.30pm.

Thursday, October 1

Denmark Crafty Quilters, 9.30am, Denmark Scout Hall, all new comers welcome, enquiries 0400 993 172.

18-hole and 9-hole mixed competition, 18-hole register by 11.45am for noon tee off, Denmark Country Club.

Social tennis 8.30-10.30am, all welcome, visitors \$10, telephone Denmark Country Club 9848 1413 for information.

Friday, October 2

Twilight golf men's and ladies' 18-hole competition, hit off after 11.30am, 9-hole competition hit off after 1.30pm, Denmark Country Club.

Wednesday, October 7

CWA general meeting, first Wednesday of month, 10am, CWA Hall, 9 Mitchell Street. All welcome.(craft meeting third Wednesday of month, October 21, 10am).

What's your story?



As Denmark's community newspaper the Bulletin welcomes contributions from readers and local clubs and groups.

A regular report in the Bulletin is an effective way for local groups to keep their members informed and attract new interest.

Other readers celebrating a special event, family milestone or achievement are also welcome to make contributions

A few things to consider when submitting your stories:

1. Stories should be kept to about 300 words, but longer reports can be accepted by prior arrangement.
2. Photos should be sent as .jpg attachments, not embedded in the story. Please send digital photos as large as possible, at least 1 megabyte, and include a detailed caption.
3. Please don't send posters or flyers promoting events as we can't use them unless they are paid advertisements. Instead, write a short story about the event, and be sure to include the date, time, and venue, and a suitable photo if possible. If the event attracts an entry charge you will also need to lodge a paid advertisement
4. Events mentioned in stories will also be included in our regular What's On section.
5. Send contributions to info@denmarkbulletin.com.
6. We edit all stories we receive, so your contribution may not appear exactly as you sent it.
7. Letters to the editor commenting on issues of local relevance are always welcome. These should be kept under 300 words and must include the writer's name for publication.

Phone 0418 422 663 or email info@denmarkbulletin.com



Monthly Mug winner Paul Harbron, Monthly Goblet winner Doreen Hughes.



Day of the Ox winner Ray Thompson and sponsor Philip Oxbrow.



Jane, John, Gary social winners

Nev's Corner
By DENNIS MARSHALL

JANE Holland, John Kenyon and Garry Proctor won social bowls on September 8 and on Saturday, September 12 Cheryl Menagh, Trevor Park and Roger Cawsey won the day. In the triples event on Tuesday, September 15, Irene Hogben,

Jeff McPherson and Martin Holland took home the wine. John Benson, Ash Cooper, Peggy Warburton and Lyn Howard were victorious in the pennant training



session on September 10 and let everyone know about it at the bar. Ash Cooper, Graeme Bain and Doug Sheed are having a battle royal at the top of the Bumping

Board and with only a couple of weeks to run it will be interesting to see who is on top and who are among the broken pieces at the bottom of the wall.

John Benson, Ash Cooper, Peggy Warburton and Lyn Howard.



GolfWA Women's Country Week winners Lisa Morey, Chris Randall, Marion Nelson, Jane Dudley.

Junior tennis returns

* From page 16.
September 11, midweek Stableford, 9-hole winner Adrian Baer 22, runner up Steve Grimmer 20.
September 15, midweek Stableford, 18-hole winner Les Wolfe 37, runner up Bob Newman 35, 9-hole winner Colin Gunning 20, runner up

Peter Graney 18.
September 18, midweek Stableford, 9-hole winner Rick Slattery 20, runner up Mark Rowling 19.
Junior tennis coaching begins on October 16.
Contact Nelson at 0424 793 217, www.play.tennis.com.au/denmarktennis for more information.
Junior Golf lessons begin on October 18 and a lesson has been scheduled with golf professional Michael Draper on October 24.
Contact the club for more information.

September 10 Stableford 18-hole winner Ray Barker, second left, 9-hole winner Tarja Henttonen, committee representatives Doreen Hughes, left, Lisa O'Farrell, right



Stableford winner Russell Hoffman and sponsor Sharon Dawson.

Annual bee festival

* From page 6.
The Festival will also include food, markets, art, competitions and family activities.
The Country Market will showcase homegrown and handmade produce, local makers and honey, while participating food businesses will show the connection between pollination and the plate with bee and pollinator-inspired creations.
A bee photography competition and exhibition will capture the wonder of bees and the life they sustain - from backyard gardens to local bushland, every image tells a story.
The honey cake bake-off is a chance to showcase a treasured family recipe or try something new, from traditional honey cakes to modern twists.
The Get Hived Dance Party runs from 7pm until late at Northcliffe Town Hall with old-school dancing, bootin' and scootin'.
Entry is \$10, with free entry for children under 18.
Dress code: flowery dress, or yellow top and black pant.
On Sunday, October, 25 a separate paid Bee Safari, operated by Pemberton Discovery Tours in collaboration with Melissa Zappelli, will extend the experience into the surrounding landscape.
The small-group 4WD journey will explore the connections between flowering plants, pollinators, insects and birdlife across Pemberton's landscapes.

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Club issues open invite to try sailing

DENMARK Sailing Club invites locals and families to come along and discover the fun of sailing on the beautiful Denmark River on Saturday, October 17.

The club caters for sailors of all ages and experience levels, with a fleet of dinghies including Optimists, Mirrors, Pacers and 420s or people can bring along their own dinghy.

Whether never having stepped aboard a sailing boat before or keen to develop skills, there's a place for everyone at Denmark Sailing Club.

Newcomers will have the chance to get out on the water, meet club members and experience the excitement of sailing in a friendly and supportive environment.

Meet at the Denmark Rivermouth at 9am for the 9.30am briefing.

Registrations can be made at www.denmarksailing.com.au/events/369819

Find out more and join the club at: denmarksailing.com.au/membership.

Average Joes step up to cricket title



AVERAGE Joes has won the Denmark Rec Centre 2026 Indoor Cricket competition.

The team capped off another strong season with a grand final win after taking the 2025 title.

Average Joes beat Inflexibles in the Grand Final 127-96 with seven teams fielded in the season.

Sons of Pitches, Rat Pack, Chosen Ones, Prockers and Vets made up the remainder.

Starting on April 20 the season went for 14 rounds every Monday evening.

Daniel Porter, captain, right, Joshua Griffith, David Cooke, Kurtis Jokic, Paul Mahoney, Sam Warne, Tye Pope and Matt Corgan.

Absent Adam Green and John Overton.



GolfWA Jubilee Fours State champions Annette Harbron and Barbara Western.

Big win for Harbron, Western

By MARION NELSON

ANNETTE Harbron and Barbara Western won the GolfWA Jubilee Foursomes State Championship at Rockingham on September 8 and Annette was the Silver Spoon playoff runner up at Mosman Park on September 7.

In the GolfWA Women's Country Week, Denmark players competed in the Grass Green am/pm field at Lakelands Country Club and Royal Fremantle Golf Club on September 10-11 and featured in the winning circle.

Marion Nelson won the silver 36-hole Grass Green gross and Lisa Morey was runner up.

Jane Dudley was the bronze 18-hole nett Friday winner and Chris Randall was the silver 18-hole nett Friday winner.

In the September 5 stroke competition, Paul Harbron won the Monthly Mug sponsored by Steve Mirco, 69, and the runner up was Adrian Baer, 71.

In the Monthly Goblet sponsored by Jane Dudley, Doreen Hughes won, 73, and Joan Trigwell was runner up, 76.

In the Stableford on September 10, the 18-hole winner was Ray Barker, 38, and Alan Johns runner up, 35.

Tarja Henttonen won the 9-hole competition with 20, and Carolyn Forte was runner up, 18.

The day of the Ox was sponsored by life member Philip Oxbrow on September 12 and the winner was Ray Thompson, 38 and the runner up Barbara Western.

In the Stableford on September 17, sponsored by Paul Fyfe and Sharon Dawson, fine weather produced good scores.

Results:

18-hole winner Russell Hoffman 43, 18-hole women's winner Barbara Western 38, runner up Joan Trigwell 35, 18-hole men's runner up David Whitehead 35, 9-hole winner Tarja Henttonen 18.

• Please turn to page 15.



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