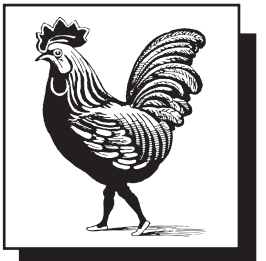


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41 Cliff Street, Fremantle
Phone: 9430 7727

Email: news@fremantleherald.com

by STEVE GRANT

THE owners of the last working stables in the Fremantle area fear the McGowan government's plans for the former Roe Highway corridor could squeeze them out.

Randwick Stables is just over the border in Cardigan Street, Hamilton Hill; two years' time will mark the 100th anniversary of the site's sale to Frederick 'Jack' Marks, who was from a prominent racing family and built the L-shaped stable that still exists.

Stables manager Alison Bolas said a recent concept plan produced by WA's lands department showing residential development surrounding the property has them worried ("Roe warriors fear betrayal," Herald, November 5, 2022).

"What I'm most concerned about is needing a curtilage - a protective zone around the stables, because it's heritage listed and can't function as a stables without having a zone around it," Ms Bolas told the Herald.

Beach access

"We want Cardigan Street protected too, because it's our access to the beach, and its traditional access too - historical."

Ms Bolas said they were worried people would buy houses nearby, then start complaining about the stables.

"But also the access, because we get daily visits from people coming here to see the animals.

"Adults and children, all sorts of people; even homeless people come and see the horses, the whole spectrum of the community comes and goes.

"They love seeing the horses and they love the other animals.

"Also, we're getting increasingly less and less places we can ride and our access to the beach is very, very important to us.

"We still have to cross two main roads, but we don't need a whole lot of development to have to negotiate as well."

Ms Bolas wants to see more of the former Roe corridor zoned parks and recreation under the

• Continued page 3

Stable squeeze



• Horses and other animals at Randwick Stables might not be a great fit for new neighbours, fear the owners.
Photo by Steve Grant

Post-promise hub for Quay

FREMANTLE'S consolation "creative industries hub" on Victoria Quay could still give the city a role in the film industry, according to mayor Hannah Fitzhardinge.

Earlier this week the McGowan government officially killed off a film studio on the quay by announcing it would go to Malaga.

A joint media release by premier Mark McGowan, arts minister David Templeman and planning minister Rita Saffioti on Wednesday referred to the hub as part of "negotiations" with studio proponent Home Fire.

Ms Fitzhardinge said it could include "post-production facilities like editing and digital effects, industry education and training,

marketing agencies, production companies and other businesses that service the film industry, and affordable co-working space for smaller production companies".

"It's something that would activate space all day, all year around, and provide something complementary to the food and beverage offerings already at Victoria Quay."

Fremantle Labor MLA Simone McGurk said the decision would disappoint some locals, but Vic Quay just wasn't going to work.

"Freo is a creative community, and I'll be working alongside my colleagues to ensure that the proposed creative industries hub at E-Shed is a success.

She didn't mention what would happen to the E-Shed markets.

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Heritage lag a developer boon

by STEVE GRANT

FREMANTLE SOCIETY president John Dowson says WA's Heritage Council is taking too long to assess buildings it has identified as candidates for state protection, giving developers a toe-in to ruin them.

Mr Dowson's concern comes as a redevelopment of the former Ford factory and Matilda Bay Brewery in North Fremantle goes before a state-controlled Development Assessment Panel this Tuesday, with plans for three residential towers up to an equivalent of 24 storeys high and a restaurant, tavern, office and reception centre.

Built in 1929, it was one of WA's earliest and most prominent "modernist" factories, which caught the attention of the Heritage Council for possible state listing in 2004.

Mr Dowson said that hasn't gone further than a draft assessment in the ensuing 18 years, with Heritage Council chair John Cowdell indicating a previous minister put a stop to it because the then-owner objected to a listing.

"That should not be allowed," Mr Dowson said.

Mr Cowdell has called for a review of the assessment after being approached by Fremantle council and the society, but Mr Dowson said he'd love to know when that would happen - and doesn't expect it will happen before the JDAP meeting.

The Heritage Council did advise the City the amount of proposed demolition in owner 3 Oceans Property's current application was "excessive, unnecessary, and detrimental to the cultural heritage significance of the place".

Detrimental

That helped convince the City's planning committee to recommend the development be rejected at this week's JDAP meeting, but Mr Dowson said advice doesn't have the same weight as a full listing.

"At 24 storeys it would dwarf anything that's ever been built in Fremantle," Mr Dowson said of 3 Oceans' plans.

He's urged the North Fremantle Community Association to have all guns blazing when its representatives

make a deputation at the JDAP meeting this week, saying it's not enough just to repeat the committee's reasons and they should follow that with their own expert advice.

In a message to members, NFCA convenors Gerard MacGill and Ann Forma expressed their unhappiness with councillor Andrew Sullivan, who was the only councillor to vote against the officer's recommendation to refuse the application at the planning committee.

"A view patronisingly expressed at the committee was that people who had lived in the suburb ... were resistant to change," they wrote.

"The massive, brutal intrusion of a skyscraper mounted on a paved podium is one form of change, but a carefully considered development, even of high density, that was designed as a seamless addition to the existing community would have been quite another.

"What seems to have been missed by the councillors — though not by their planners — is that the development offers little if anything to the community and indeed is completely uninviting to it."

Stable squeeze

• From page 1

scheme amendemnt proposed by the McGowan government; it wants the current road reserve removed from the books permanently.

Ms Bolas said \$50,000 had been set aside to look at a curtilage for the stables, but the money was used to pay for consultants to produce a broader study of the Hamilton Hill swamp area. She said the study was comprehensive and probably paved the way for sections of Clontarf Hill being returned to traditional owners under a recent Native Title deal with the WA government, but she feels as though other aspects of the area's heritage aren't getting the same attention.

"When [Randwick] was heritage listed, one of the



• Ted Miller (from the famous racing family) and Randwick Stables manager Alison Bolas with Bill the horse and Brahma the pooch.

categories it was listed as was as living heritage because it's still a stables; a lot of people seem to have forgotten that.

"Also that it was a landmark, and if you develop all around it, it's no longer a landmark."

Ms Bolas said there were about 40 Cape Lilac trees at the

rear of the stables, along with a stand of tuarts which had become an important foraging site for black cockatoos; indeed, the *Herald* arrived at the stables about the same time as a large flock of around 60 Carnaby's cockatoos who planted themselves in the trees.

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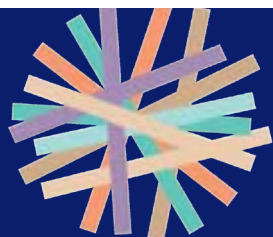
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Coping with cost increases



by **Mark Douglas FCPA**
Managing Partner of Francis A Jones
www.faj.com.au

Let's take stock for a minute of what's happened in the last twelve months.

Inflation is up 7.3%. This is measured by looking at the average cost of a "basket of goods" but worryingly the biggest contributors include a 9% increase to everyday essentials like food and transport costs.

The average fuel price in Perth is now around \$1.87 per litre. In November 2021 it was \$1.67 and six months before that it was more like \$1.30.

If you're a renter, your average weekly rent has jumped from \$450 to \$500. If you own a house with a \$750,000 loan, your monthly repayment will be at least \$1,000 higher than it was in April.

And the increases are not finished yet. Latest figures show that consumer confidence is beginning to plunge but in September 22 we still spent 24% more than we did in September 19. If we keep spending, the reserve bank will raise interest rates until we stop.

There are however some fairly simple steps you can take to help cope with rising costs:

1. Unless you pay them in full every month without fail, cut up your credit

cards. Seriously. The average interest rate on a credit card is a felonious 19.94%. Never ever spend money you don't have and this includes "buy now pain later".

2. Do a very simple budget. Add up every recurring bill you paid last year – electricity, mobiles, rates, insurance, Netflix etc. Maybe cancel some excess stuff you don't need while you're at it. Then divide the total by 52 and set up a weekly transfer to a separate bank account that is used exclusively for paying these bills.

3. Set up multiple bank accounts - as many as possible. It takes about 30 seconds on-line to create a new account with your existing bank. Have one for every budget or saving item you can think of and nickname them – health, holidays, fuel, groceries, new car, Christmas presents etc. Set up automatic weekly or monthly transfers for the amounts you want to put aside. Whatever's left over is what you can afford to spend.

A recent study suggests 25% of Australians are struggling to make ends meet on their current income.

4. Slow down on the Christmas spend. Tell your little Dudley Dursley that times are tough and we're cutting back this year. Use the occasion to teach him the value of money or how the economy works. And you'll reduce landfill. Win-win!

A recent study suggests 25% of Australians are struggling to make ends meet on their current income. I know there's no magic pill and I appreciate that 13% of Australians live below the poverty line. But trialling these simple steps costs nothing and if it can alleviate even a little bit of that stress then it's worth a try.

This is general information that is not personal financial, investment or taxation advice, and does not take into account your personal circumstances. Do not act based on this information without first obtaining the advice of a suitably qualified professional.

Don't Forget WA



By **HAYDEN GROVES**
REIA President
REIWA President 2015 - 2018
Want more property info? Email me
hayden@dgre.com.au for your free REIWA Suburb Report

It's both tedious and familiar; media commentary about property market across the nation almost always forget about Western Australia. Representing about ten percent of the population, there's some justification for it and our market does tend to behave differently to east coast markets.

However, headlines sell newspapers so when national mastheads run headlines shout 'property prices to fall 20%', the good people of WA might assume it applies to our own local market.

The reality is that Perth's property market is now one of the best performing markets in Australia. The pandemic-induced property boom that saw property values in places like Sydney, Brisbane and Hobart increase by more than 30 percent annually failed to materialise quite so spectacularly here. WA's property values increased but at a more restrained rate.

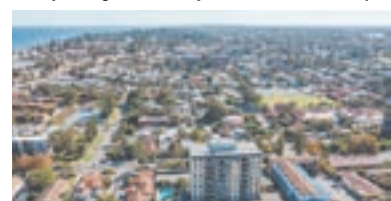
Property market is heading for a soft landing

This restraint has meant we're now holding onto the gains made whilst east coast cities retreat. Core Logic's latest monthly Home Value Index report reveals Perth's house values dipped by 0.2 percent last month making it the best performing Capital city in Australia. By comparison, Sydney's home values dropped 1.3 percent, Brisbane 2 percent, Hobart 1.1 percent.

When considered annually, Perth's property values remain up 4 percent across the year whilst Sydney is down 6.9 percent and Melbourne is off 2.8 percent. Nationally, property values have nipped back 0.5 percent.

Once again, it is Perth's relative affordability that will save us from further property value deterioration as population surges, our economy remains nation-leading and our jobs market tight despite

These comments are the author's own and may not reflect the opinions or policies of the Real Estate Institute of Western Australia / Australia.



recent interest rate rises. At a median home value of \$559,043 compared to Sydney's \$1,036,727, we remain Australia's most affordable capital city behind Darwin. It still makes little sense to me that Hobart's – lovely as it is – median value at \$696,334 is \$137,291 higher than ours.

It's at the affordable end of the market across Perth that continues to perform well. Local government areas of Rockingham, Kwinana and Mandurah are all up 9.4, 9.1 and 8.2 percent respectively on an annual basis according to Core Logic data. Others in the top ten include Wanneroo, Armadale and Gosnells. Investors should look to these regions for some very affordable real estate that offer terrific yields in a tight rental market. Comparatively, only four of Sydney's local government regions remain in positive house price growth territory, the most affordable of which is Fairfield at a median price of \$928,100.

Supply of property for sale across WA remains low with 8,212 properties listed on www.reiwa.com, down from 8,864 a year ago. Nationally, listing stock is 18.2 percent below the five-year average whilst sales volumes begin to slow thanks to higher borrowing costs and faltering consumer confidence.

Our local property market is heading for a soft landing compared to our east coast cousins and while interest rate's continuing rise has subdued our market, the prognosis for future up-side here after a more normalised market across 2023, is very promising indeed.

herald letters



Long letdown

THE Swan River Crossings project has been around for two years and Main Roads WA has at last done us a favour; produced an option so universally unloved that Fremantle council has finally decided enough is enough and come out in support of the community to demand that the design be subject to a proper community consultation process.

East Fremantle will almost certainly join them.

When the project was first announced the council was conned into a confidential consultation exercise involving only the mayor and CEO; the elected members (and the community) having no say.

Three elaborate public forums followed from which the result was that of the bridge options on offer, the one west of the Traffic Bridge was selected.

This was the singular good (or least bad) result of all those hours of work by community members and a phalanx of public servants.

Those forums, however well and fairly run as they were by Nicole Lockwood, were hamstrung by a restrictive government agenda that paid no heed to the profound implications of the outcome for the region's transport network.

The present option emerged out of the blue for most of us and was greeted with community wide bewilderment.

SOS - Save Our Shores, among others, mobilised public opposition with the result that following a recommendation from the council's finance and policy committee, the full council resolved last Wednesday to unanimously support their officers' recommendation that included:

"Requests that at least two distinctly different and workable options (in addition

to the reference design from July 2021) are presented in full to the community for engagement, discussion and feedback."

In doing so council supported an amendment from Crs Sullivan and Groom that even more forcefully set out the consultation process to be followed.

What MRWA and the Alliance who are running the project make of this remains to be seen, but they need to reflect seriously on their own flawed consultation methodology and concede that they could have spared themselves a great deal of pain and expense by acknowledging not just the community's level of knowledge and expertise, but the depth of our attachment to our river and the environment of its crossing point.

Gerard MacGill
Convener
North Fremantle Community Association

Do the math

BE very careful when filling out Fremantle council's survey for reducing councillor representation.

The survey for ratepayers says that under proposed reforms, the City is entitled to nine councillors.

But most of the options in the survey provide for fewer than nine. There are some recommendations for only FIVE councillors including the mayor.

Imagine the workload for those who are left.

This, then in a growing council area, and where a planned towers project in the North Freo Ward is likely to increase the number of ratepayers by 50 per cent.

Is Freo Council helping the state government make local government irrelevant?

David Weber
North Fremantle

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news@fremantleherald.com
Editor: Andrew Smith
Chief of Staff & Production Editor: Steve Grant
Sub Editor: Stephen Pollock
Journalists: David Bell, Stephen Pollock, Matthew Eeles
Cartoonist: Angie
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ADMINISTRATION

Business Director: Bryan Zemunik

ADVERTISING

Sales & Features Manager: Fiona West
fiona.west@fremantleherald.com
Phone 0432 648 558

Vai Gonzalez
vai.gonzalez@fremantleherald.com
Phone 0488 237 811

Copy Control: Matthew Eeles and Nibha Mehra

TRADES & SERVICES

Vai Gonzalez
vai.gonzalez@fremantleherald.com
Phone 0488 237 811

PRODUCTION

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Graphic Design: Nibha Mehra, Helena Tay

ACCOUNTS

Lindsay Martin, Maisie Evaso, Daisy Smith

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Submariners 'still on patrol'

A PERISCOPE looks out to sea from Monument Hill in Fremantle, keeping permanent vigil for the submariners of the Royal Navy's 4th and 8th flotillas who didn't return from the battles of World War II.

Taken from the HMS Tabard, the periscope was erected by the Royal Navy Submariners Old Comrades Association in October 1972 and late last month a special service was held to commemorate its 50th anniversary.

RN Submariners Association (Australia branch) secretary Barry Grace said the service was also a memorial to the people of Fremantle who assisted the city's secret submarine port during the war.

Mr Grace said the service was attended by WA governor Chris Dawson, Fremantle mayor Hannah Fitzhardinge, former navy officer Miquela Riley who ran for the seat of Fremantle at the last election and Netherlands honorary consul Anthony Willinge, a nod to the Dutch submarine fleet also based in Fremantle during the war.

Former submariner Peter Kerry wrote a book about "Operation Periscope" before his death and said he had no better friends than his underwater colleagues.

"To those of you who have never been in a submarine in wartime, you can only imagine what it might be like, but to those of us who have served in submarines it is a special feeling, especially if you have been 'annoyed' by the opposition," he

wrote in the introduction.

"The sudden blackout, the noise and the angle down in darkness with things sliding over the deck - if you can only find your torch, the age before the secondary lights come on.

"Truly a time to remember."

The periscope arrived in Fremantle on April 21, 1972 aboard the P&O liner Oriana, its 14-metre pine packing case causing quite a stir amongst the intrigued passengers.

It sat on the docks for some time after the top brass at the Leeuwin Barracks reneged on a deal to store until its installation, but after some running around by Mr Kerry, the Fremantle council agreed to store it at the depot.

Mr Kerry said given the periscope had been taken from the Tabard, which was to be sold and broken up within two years, he was expecting a somewhat used instrument.

"You can imagine my surprise when the packing case was opened, to find a practically new periscope, fully reconditioned and wrapped in plastic sheeting," he said.

"Also in the case were a brass plaque, a ship's crest and a set of clamps and lifting ropes.

"The brass plaque was beautifully made and inscribed with the words: To commemorate the close ties forged between the People of Fremantle and the Officers and Men of the British and Allied Submarines of the 4th and 8th Flotillas based in Fremantle during World War II."



• The HMAS Perth (I) memorial on Riverside Road in East Fremantle gets a buff and shine.

Memorial progress

THE first stage of a memorial to the HMAS Perth (I) was completed last month with the installation of a half-size replica of the ill-fated cruiser's propeller at the Navy League headquarters on Riverside Road, East Fremantle.

This phase of the memorial includes a Wall of Remembrance which has the

names of those on the HMAS Perth (I) when she was overcome by a superior Japanese naval force and sunk during the Battle of Sunda Strait in March 1942.

The USS Houston was also sunk with great loss of life in the same battle.

The propeller was modeled on a Royal Navy Admiralty 1930s design, cast and machined by Veem engineers in Canning Vale.

The memorial is the result of work carried out by the Navy League (WA Division) and the HMAS Perth (I) Memorial Foundation, who hope to complete the second stage by mid 2023.

The memorial was designed by Charles Smith and Joan Walsh-Smith who were also responsible for the HMAS Sydney memorial in Geraldton.

The propeller was modeled on a Royal Navy Admiralty 1930s design

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Way to go, Freo?

THE City of Fremantle won the Excellence in Local Government Authority Tourism at the WA Tourism Awards last Saturday night, and also received gold for the This is Fremantle marketing campaign. Congratulations!

I don't know what criteria applied to be judged excellent at tourism, but is what Fremantle offers visitors really the best we can do?

From my nine years as volunteer tourist guide at the Roundhouse I know that tourists love the historic West End and the friendliness of Freo people, but I also witness many of them looking around lost, because way-finding in the small port city can be a challenge.

Another challenge, that many drivers mention, is finding long-term parking spots. Where are the signs?

How hard can it be to install prominent way-finding signs in the right locations?

Signs

For example, J Shed artists have made their own signs, one of them stuck on a fence near the railway crossing at High Street, pointing to the directions of the Maritime Museum and Fishing Boat Harbour because the city has failed to put any signs at Little High Street.

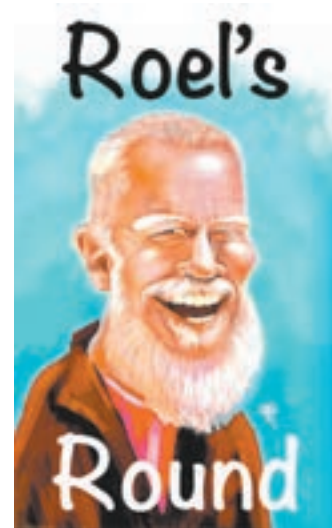
Hence we see puzzled people looking and pointing in all directions, because they have no sense of place and direction.

There is no sign either near the coastal path at Kidogo Arthouse, that points to tourist attractions.

The most frustrating though is the lack of maintenance and care. Signs are fading and rusting



• Freo council's faded signs (left) compared with the Port's snazzy new numbers (right). Photos by Roel Loopers



and information panels missing from their bases, amongst other problems.

At least Fremantle Ports acknowledged the problem on their side and have put many new signs on Victoria Quay, trying to connect better to the inner city.

The tourist experience of Fremantle is let down because there are many indications of council neglect.

Freo looks untidy.

Coming from the railway station one is confronted with the uncared look of Pioneer Park, that looks horrible due to the broken reticulation pump. Near the Esplanade Hotel different colours of concrete and wrong size pavers are a visual eyesore along Marine Terrace.

The city-owned derelict Dome

building on the Cappuccino Strip needs a coat of paint and cleaning.

Homeless people sleep there and it looks a mess. And what is going on with the Carriage cafe on the Esplanade? It has been closed for many months.

There are also not enough locations for tourists to find seats that offer shade. The summer heat in Freo can be difficult to cope with for people from overseas.

The steps to the historic Roundhouse, the oldest public building in WA, look a mess and should have been repaired long ago. All the content preparation work has been done by the Fremantle Volunteer Heritage Guides on new interpretive displays for the old gaol. They are ready to go, but Fremantle Council appears not interested in funding them.

It would also be nice to have some shaded seats on the grass next to the old prison, so that people who climb up the steps can have a rest. A water fountain up on the historic hill would also be appreciated by many who end up on Arthur's Head out of breath.

But it is not only the City of Fremantle that needs to lift its tourism game. The Fremantle hospitality industry could also make a better effort at making overseas visitors feel more welcome, by offering menus in multiple languages, especially for those who can't understand and read our alphabet, such as people from Japan, Korea, China, etc.

I believe that Fremantle could offer more to tourists. The main attractions here are historic, but there is very little excitement in Freo. It's a bit dull really. A sleepy old port town.

The new parasailing initiative by the Fishing Boat Harbour traders this summer will no doubt become popular with visitors and locals alike and bring more people to Bathers Beach and the West End.

Roel Loopers
<https://freoview.wordpress.com>



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A home finally in sight

THE Fremantle Table Tennis Club may finally have found a permanent home.

Almost 100 years after the FTTC was formed, the Hilton Bowling Club recently endorsed a plan to build a facility on a couple of disused rinks next to its Beaconsfield clubhouse. The proposal will soon go to Fremantle council for consideration.

FTTC stalwart Gordon Lee and bowling club president Craig Standley recently met to discuss the proposal and progress planning.

"With over 100 members playing in three different but temporary venues, the club's growth is limited despite the increasing popularity of the sport amongst people of all ages and abilities," Mr Lee told the *Herald*.

He reckons the proposal will also benefit the bowlers with a big increase expected in their social membership.

Mr Lee says the table tennis room will house up to 10 tables, and would be able to be used by community groups, including schools, disability providers and retirees.

"There are a number of up-and-coming players at the club who are eyeing good results at top levels in the local and national championships and they will benefit from the new facilities with improved access and coaching opportunities," Mr Lee said.



• Simon Batley and Marion Fredriksson battle it out while egged on by Fremantle Table Tennis Club members Matt Aust, Brad Pearce, Kim Macnish and Gordon Lee, but they'll be happy new clubrooms will mean they're no long 'on the outside'. Photo by Steve Grant

Gordon's still on his game

FREMANTLE'S Gordon Lee has returned victorious from the Australian Veteran Table Tennis Championships in Darwin.

Mr Lee won gold in the over-85 singles after losing just one match, and teamed up with Perth's Roma James to win gold in the over-85 mixed doubles. He was named best player in his age category.

It's been a good year for Mr Lee, with gold medals in the WA State Championships in September and the Australian Masters in April where he won despite being up against players 15 years his junior.

Mr Lee says he's returned more determined than ever to establish a permanent club for the Fremantle Table Tennis Club.



• Gordon Lee and Roma James at the Darwin championships.

Bones halt excavation

• The old bones were found behind a café.

by MATTHEW MORONEY

POLICE were called to an excavation site in Phillimore Street, Fremantle after bones were discovered on Tuesday morning.

The bones were spotted by the owners of Quasimodo Café during excavation works at the rear of the property.

A couple of police had cordoned off the area and kept a watch when the Chook dropped by, and while they were unable to comment the bones appeared to be pretty old.

University of Notre Dame senior archaeology lecturer Shane Burke, whose office overlooks the excavation site, said the nature of Fremantle's soil meant bones were often well preserved.

"There is a high pH level in the soil here; we find animal bones everywhere," Dr Burke said.

It was difficult to judge the age of the bones without closely analysing them, he said.

The discovery will be sent for forensic analysis by WA Police to identify the nature and age of the remains.

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The West Australian Marathon Club advises that the following road closures will be implemented in the Fremantle CBD for the Fremantle Running Festival on Sunday 27 November from 6:30am to approximately 11:00am affecting various streets in the City of Fremantle. There will be a closure on Marine Tce, between Collie and Essex, from 8am Saturday 26 November to 12pm Sunday 27 November to allow for event setup.

CARPARK CLOSURES - SUNDAY 27TH NOV

Beach Street Carpark Closed from 6:30am to 10am
Esplanade Reserve Carpark Closed from 6:30am to 11am
Marine Terrace Carparks Closed from 6:30am to 11am

FULL STREET CLOSURES - SUNDAY 27TH NOV 6AM TO 11AM

Marine Terrace (Cliff St to Capo D'Orlando Dv),
Essex St, South Terrace (between Cantonment and Norfolk St),
Cantonment St, Beach St (Goldsborough St to James St)
Warden Lane (6am - 8am only)

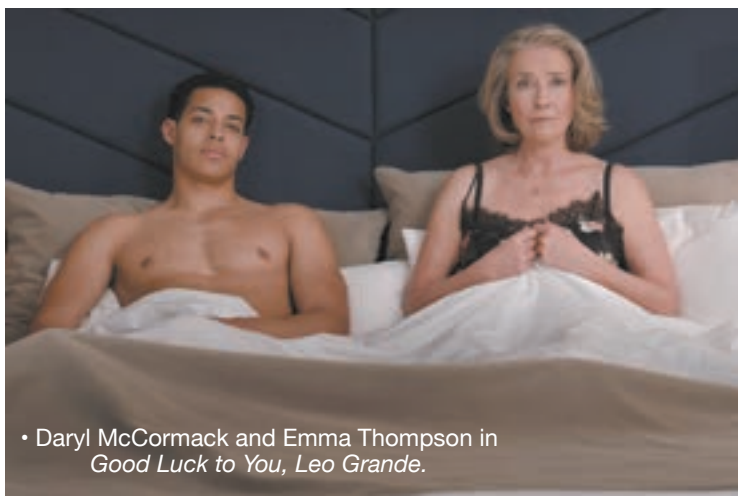
PARTIAL STREET CLOSURES - SUNDAY 27TH NOV

Mews Road (single lane managed traffic flow) - 6am to 8am

FOOTPATH CLOSURES

Mews Road (between Warden Lane and Capo D'Orlando Dv)

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• Daryl McCormack and Emma Thompson in *Good Luck to You, Leo Grande*.



SCREEN
PAULA HOLLAND

Good Luck to you, Leo Grande

EMMA THOMPSON must win an award for her vulnerable portrayal of Nancy Stokes, a prim and proper ex-school teacher of religious studies in *Good Luck to You, Leo Grande*.

Written by Katy Brand and directed by Sophie Hyde, this movie shows the complexity of expectations when hiring a sex

worker and the hopes of some excitement verses reality of female, middle-age insecurities. Neurotic Nancy meets with laid-back Leo Grande (Daryl McCormack) a young good-looking sex worker she hired to provide some sexual excitement after only ever having a monotonous sex life with her now-deceased husband. Filmed mostly in the hotel room where the mini bar provides the courage in liquid form, and armed with a list of sexual desires to follow, Leo tries to encourage Nancy to release her nervousness and insecurity, which creates some laughter from the mostly female audience.

One finds the strain of Nancy's neurosis taxing and hoping Leo's personality will calm her down.

Nancy almost destroys this developing friendship with some old fashioned snooping when she tries to find out who the real Leo is. While waitress Becky (Isabella Laughland) an ex-student, recognises Nancy in the hotel, providing some amusement when introduced to Leo and once truths are told. Letting go of women's intrinsic perceptions of their bodies is liberating when all is revealed by the new Nancy, making this movie worth watching to the end.



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Ennio - The Maestro

If ever there was a movie to tug at the heart strings and get you downloading classic film soundtracks to your music list, it's *Ennio - the Maestro*, a beautiful documentary about legendary Italian composer Ennio Morricone.

Think of the classic soundtrack from *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* with Clint Eastwood or the haunting panpipes in the movie *The Mission* with Jeremy Irons and Robert De Niro. There you have the magic of Morricone.

Director Guiseppe Tornatore brings together a legion of directors, composers and songwriters who worked with the genius Morricone throughout his life until the end in 2020 aged 91, when he was still conducting orchestras.

Beginning with footage from the archives of his life - learning the trumpet on the insistence of his trumpet-playing father, his foray into composition school - to the original music of more than 400 scores for television and movies.

This doco makes you want to get into Morricone's mind to see how it worked, as he visualised music scores, some even before



• Ennio Morricone composed the music for *A Fistful of Dollars*.

the film was written.

His gift of hearing music in random everyday sounds like a radio being knocked off a table, made this composer a stand-out among his peers.

Creating the music for such greats films as *The Bible*, *A Fistful of Dollars*, *Cinema Paradiso*, *Once upon a time in America* and who could forget, what is considered the greatest score, *The Mission*.

Morricone's original music brings tears to your eyes with such sensual beauty, it is hard to think of another composer with such brilliance to mix it up, away from classic compositions.

His ability to bring three music scores together, played at the same time, in *The Mission*, shows the complexity that comes from a few chords played on the piano to his vision for the film score.



Absolutely brilliant.



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"Burn" in silver by Jacques Marie Mage

Drawing from the past



• Author and history lecturer Leigh Straw.

LEIGH STRAW loves the dark corners of history.

The local author, an associate professor at Notre Dame Fremantle, has released a regular stream of crime thrillers over the last decade; but what makes her works stand out is that most have been non-fiction.

Her latest release *The Ballroom Murder* follows that theme, exploring the shooting of Cyril Gidley on the ballroom dance floor of Government House in Perth in 1925.

Gidley had been shot by his former fiancée Audrey Jacob, a Fremantle woman who lived with her parents and siblings on High Street.

The inclusion of the historical context in the 'Notes' at the back of the book lets the drama flow like a crime story.

Straw has been researching and teaching crime history for a few years after getting hooked exploring the tale of the murderer in her own family.

She's drawn to the stories of women involved in crime (or policing it) and said she took two years researching Gidley and Jacob's story, fitting it in around her full-time work.

"I wanted to figure out for myself why Audrey Jacob shot



WORDS
Ariana Rosenberg

her ex-lover dead," she said.

"Once I start writing, it's not as long, as I tend to not procrastinate and just get it done," she said, noting the writing itself took one year.

"Very few writers can devote all their time to writing so when you feel frustrated because you are juggling work and writing or work, children, family life and writing, there's many other people in the same place as you. "The key thing is to make the

most of the time that you get to write – use it to the maximum degree!"

Straw said the key element of writing a crime story (she's also got a couple of genuine thrillers amongst her 14 titles) is "setting up a story that captivates the interest of the reader but allows them to make up their own minds too."

"Books are like my children; I don't have favourites. I like each of them for the journey they took me on at the time. The last two books with Fremantle Press have been such fun to talk about though!"

Straw said being a historian, the best part of writing the book was piecing together the full story of the shooting from the remaining archival evidence.

Her next project is something she's been wanting to do for a long time.

"I'm writing a book on the Kennedys during the summer of 1944 at Hyannis Port, Massachusetts. This was the summer that changed their lives and took Jack Kennedy to the White House."

The Ballroom Murder
Leigh Straw
Fremantle Press
<https://fremantlepress.com.au/books/the-ballroom-murder/>

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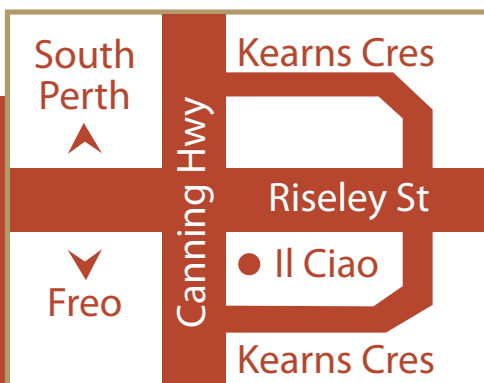
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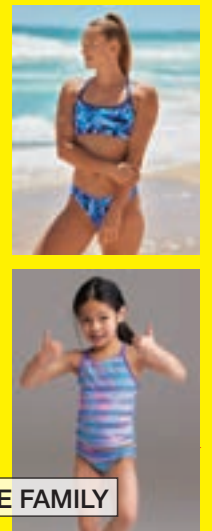
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Also, over the years, Roseanne has introduced some beautiful ranges of fashion lycra for the ladies, from brands like Baku (made here in Australia), Sea Level, Capriosca and Fantasie.

There is also a beautiful selection of ladies leisurewear (dresses, pants, shorts, jackets and tops) and resort wear (kaftans, sarongs etc.), available for all seasons. Right now there is an amazing selection of gorgeous new summer styles from Orientique, Cafe Latte and Sundrenched.

Even the men are catered for with polo shirts, board shorts and jackets.

Everyone seems to be loving the new store at 161 High Road, Willetton - there's lots more room for Roseanne to display all those stunning new products that she loves searching for at the trade fairs.

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Saturday, 19 November
9.30am-3.30pm



Blooming marvelous

Applecross Rotary is preparing for the 22nd annual Jacaranda Festival under the beautifully shady jacarandas of the Applecross Village precinct on Ardross Street, Applecross.

A community street festival, the Jacaranda Festival gives Rotary an opportunity to give back to community groups and support needy causes.

The festival will take place on Saturday, November 19 from 9.30am to 3.30pm in the Applecross Village precinct on Ardross Street. It's free to enter, but to help support the many worthy causes they have over the years, Applecross Rotary does ask for voluntary contribution at the entry points.

Entertainment

The festival will feature over 150 artisan and community stalls alongside an array of exotic food choices and all-day entertainment on the stage and with buskers and street theatre throughout the Village.

There's lots for kids and families to enjoy, including the ever-popular petting farm, gym bus, face painting and Arties Umbrellas.

Project director Kenn Williams said

this year's Jacaranda Festival will have it all.

"No one should feel that they have been left out of enjoyment on the day, there is truly something for everyone," Williams said.

"Especially with Christmas just around the corner, the array of great gift lines available will astound even the most fastidious!

"Community organisations and not for profits will also promote their stories and offers, with St John Ambulance again on hand for general enquiries and to service any health problems that may arise.

"Capital Radio will broadcast live from on site in the morning, so check out how they operate and interview on the day."

Parking is on Applecross Primary School Oval, with a Melville Cares shuttle bus running to and from the Jacaranda festival.

"The choices for those looking for a taste sensation will be amazing, and these can be consumed under the shady trees of Ardross Street, or a special covered eats area.

"And don't forget the local shops in the Village with their special offers, including The Good Grocer complementing the food and taste sensations of the day!"

Presented by

Applecross
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The Jacaranda Festival in Applecross is on again this year.



<https://events.humanitix.com/applecross-rotary-jacaranda-festival>

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9.30am-3.30pm



Master Panda is the first and only food truck in Perth representing what is authentic street food from mainland China.

Environmentally aware

This year's Jacaranda Festival will be supported by The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions to reduce single-use plastic packaging and waste throughout the day.

Over the past decade there has been a significant increase in single use plastic litter entering the Swan Canning Riverpark.

The department's Plastic Free Riverpark program is a four-year WA government commitment to help give the rivers and their occupants some breathing space.

Plastic pollution can originate from bins, stormwater drains, riverfront businesses, aquatic user groups and the nearby Indian Ocean.

Wildlife can ingest floating plastic debris or become entangled, while plastics on foreshores can affect root growth.

In its first six months the Plastic Free Riverpark program has engaged over 50 riverfront businesses and distributed over \$60,000 in small grant funds to assist businesses and local governments to transition to reusable products and zero waste initiatives.

The City of Melville's Waste Management Team will also have waste bin stations set up to educate visitors on environmentally friendly waste management actions.

"The choices for those looking for a taste sensation will be amazing, and these can be consumed under the shady tress of Ardross Street," Rotary's Kenn Williams said.

"Reusable serve-ware will be provided to help reduce the amount of single-use plastic packaging used at the event."

"The choices for those looking for a taste sensation will be amazing, and these can be consumed under the shady tress."

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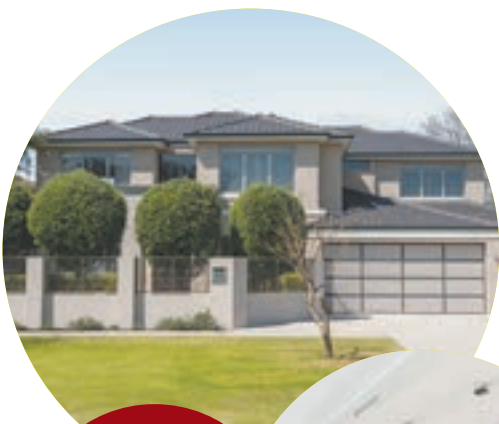
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Community support

Embracing positive change

Applecross Rotary is approaching their 51st year of creating positive change both locally and internationally.

"Rotary is an international organisation," said treasurer Ray Philp. "All the Rotary clubs are autonomous and have local projects and causes, but we also support shared global Rotary causes such as the eradication of polio."

Polio is a dangerous and highly infectious disease that most commonly affects children under the age of five. Rotary International has been working

to eradicate the disease for more than 35 years and Mr Philp said they are now closer to their goal than ever, with current cases reduced by 99.9 per cent.

"We have also been very involved in the Ukraine disasters, supporting Rotary clubs in Ukraine and in Europe who are affected by the Ukraine war," he said.

Applecross Rotary has teamed up with local WA charity Mama Respond to expand its international impact.

"We are working with Mama Respond to build special needs educational units for disabled children in Kintengela Kenya," Mr Philp said.

From a local perspective, Applecross Rotary is involved in a range of important projects.

"We support local charity Starick which is aimed at helping women affect by domestic violence," Mr Philp said.

"We are also involved in Camp Inspiration, a Rotary program that offers a week of fun activities for people with disabilities, allowing their carers to have some time off."

This is just a few of the wonderful initiatives supported by Applecross Rotary, each of which will benefit from the upcoming Jacaranda Festival.

Applecross Rotary is proudly supported by Lotterywest, the City of Melville and now the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.

Applecross Rotary sponsors The Good Grocer, Mont Realty, Pharmacy777 and Ross North Homes have also been generous supporters for a number of years.

Capital Radio are also great supporters with their community publicity, as are the Fremantle Herald and its commitment to this special promotion

"We are very grateful for their ongoing backing for this very successful community event," Rotary's Kenn Williams said.

Applecross Rotary are always on the lookout for more volunteers to join to help with community support and projects.

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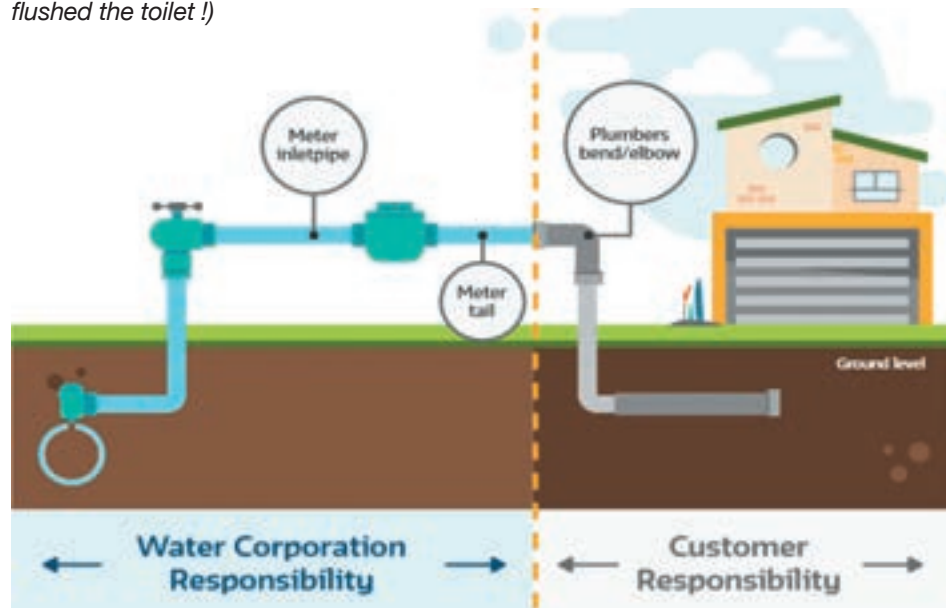
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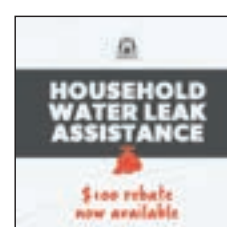
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The background of the entire page is a soft-focus image of purple Jacaranda flowers, with some branches and clusters of small, bell-shaped blossoms visible against a light sky.

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Bagel king

 food
STEPHEN POLLOCK

“THEY do the best bagels in Perth,” my friend said.

I thought he was talking about some hipster cafe in Leederville, where bearded men in flatcaps sipped caramel macchiatos and discussed the novel they never wrote, but instead he was banging on about The Kosher Providore in Menora.

I'd heard about the place in passing, but never visited, so I fired up the *Chook* tour bus and headed up the Kwinana Freeway to investigate.

Tucked away at the back of a car park, off Plantation Street, The Kosher Providore is one of those unassuming places you could easily miss, unless you are Jewish and go to the Perth Hebrew Congregation shul next door (handy customer base).

Providore's frontage could have doubled as a nondescript house, and inside it was definitely no frills with a kosher butchers, bakery and a few grocery aisles crammed into a small shop.

Operating for more than 20 years, the family-run Providore no doubt relies on word-of-mouth in the Jewish community and has a strong customer base, but a lick of paint and some TLC wouldn't go a miss to freshen things up.



I got there just before noon on a Tuesday and all the freshly-made bagels were almost gone, so get in there quick if you want to try some.

On their Facebook page the owners like to have a good laugh with funny poses and photos, and they didn't disappoint when I turned up, goofing around behind the bakery counter.

It made for a fun, personable experience and a lot of the customers were on first name terms with staff.



• The staff at the family-run Kosher Providore have a good sense of humour and like to have a laugh on Facebook (left).

The display cabinet had a large range of freshly-made boiled bagels including sesame, blueberry, “healthy”, poppy, onion and cinnamon, made by the store's legendary “Bagel King”.

I got an assortment and then headed over to the butcher counter, where the guy from the bakery followed me over and served me again.

There was a nice range of steak, mince, osso buco and chicken, but I fancied some of the chunky beef spare ribs (\$31.16).

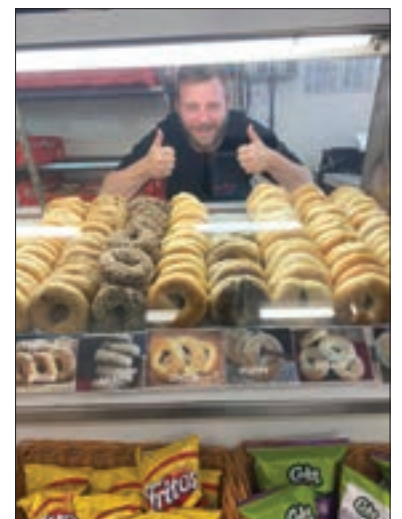
The rest of the store had a range of imported ethnic and international goods with everything from kosher Nuttalex to matzo (unleavened flatbread).

On arriving back home, I toasted a sesame seed bagel (\$1.50) and went for the classic combo with cream cheese, capers and some smoked salmon bought from the store. It was a lovely fresh bagel with just the right consistency and very filling.

As I opened the shopping bag, I got a lovely fruity aroma from the blueberry bagel (\$1.70) and couldn't resist having one for afternoon tea.

It was definitely the pick of the bunch and really came to life when toasted with a slather of butter on top. Lots of blueberries in there and plenty of fresh zing.

My wife “Special K” is a bagel nut and used to visit The Grumpy Sailor in Freo all the time to eat



them, so she wasted no time ripping open the bag and toasting her cinnamon bagel (\$1.50)

“Just the right amount of cinnamon and the perfect texture,” she said.

There was also a good range of goodies in the bakery, so I got a tray of white chocolate-chip cookies (\$5.50) which went down a treat with my young kids Bamm-Bamm and Pebbles.

I kept eyeballing those ribs in the fridge, but I had to patiently wait overnight as they marinated in the BBQ-style sauce.

They were thick meaty specimens with plenty of tender fall-of-the-bone beef and no gristle. Good quality ribs.

The bagels are top notch at The Kosher Providore and it's worth making the trip for them alone, but also to experience a little slice of Jewish life and culture in Perth that may have passed you by.

The Kosher Providore
Plantation Street, Menora
[facebook.com/perthkosherprovidore/](https://www.facebook.com/perthkosherprovidore/)



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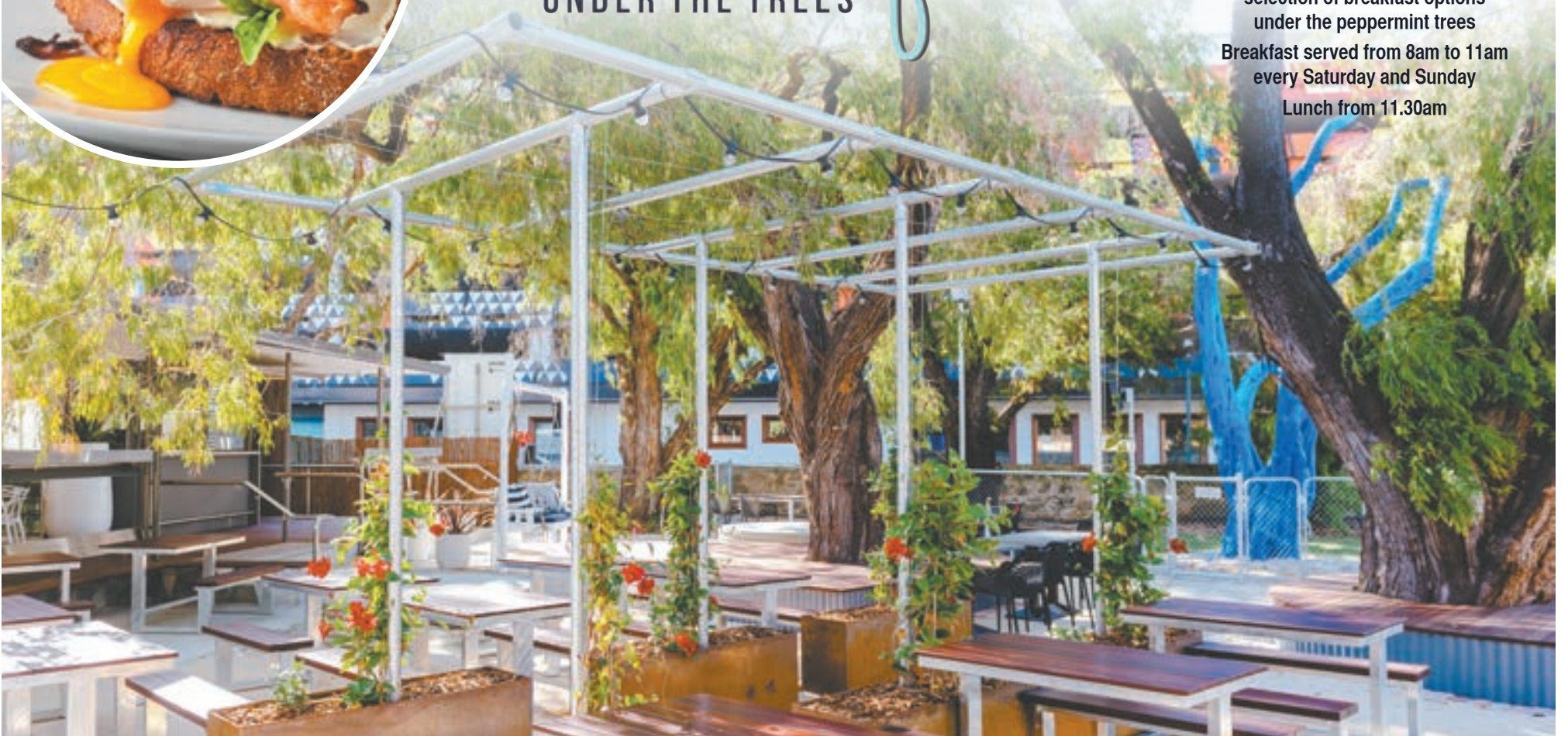
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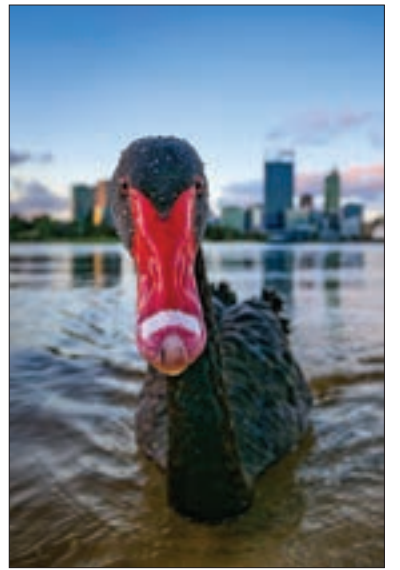
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Snap fix

 arts
STEPHEN POLLOCK

EVERYTHING from Christmas Island to a moody shot of the Gage Roads Brewery in Fremantle is in this year's Perth Amateur Photographers Photo Exhibition.

Featuring 50 WA photographers from all walks of life, the exhibition has 150 stunning photos of buildings, people and landscapes across Australia.

Despite sophisticated camera phones and a resurgence in the use of negative film and instant cameras, exhibition organiser

Travis Satur says 90 per cent of entries were taken using digital cameras.

"Where we are seeing the main growth, is the amount of photographers moving towards traditional digital cameras from their normal 'smart phone' photography," he says.

"While the technology has improved significantly on phone cameras, as photographers make that step to becoming more serious about their photography we find them moving to the digital cameras where there is more control over the camera settings to capture the shot they want."

Exhibition highlights include Jeremy Peck's beautiful close-up

of a black swan – its vivid red bill and black plumage contrasting with the pale light in the background.

"A swan became very intrigued with my camera lens while I was shooting the cityscape from the South Perth foreshore," Peck says.

"I've recently renewed my love for photography and art after taking a 10-year hiatus from being creative.

"There isn't any specific style or subject I prefer shooting.... I just always enjoy the feeling of permanently capturing a moment in time on camera."

If you like black-and-white photos then check out Roxy Cabrera-Isa's candid snap of a young woman using a wing mirror to help put on her lipstick.

The photo has a slightly mysterious and forlorn quality, prompting us to consider what

events preceded it and what drama might unfold later.

Another beautiful black-and-white entry is Lee Garces's snap of a young Indigenous girl dancing – through a flurry of hands she gracefully raises her arm and prepares for her next balletic move. The shot was taken at the WA Museum Boola Bardip earlier this year.

"I like to capture what people are feeling in a given moment, photographing a piece in time that will trigger a memory or emotion for those receiving the image," Garces says.

There are plenty of landscapes, including a shot of four people sitting on a bench overlooking the beach at sunset, their silhouettes pitched against the tangerine glow on the horizon.

Now in its third year, the exhibition has gone from strength-

to-strength and the 2022 opening night will feature live music from up-and-coming WA band Midnight Rose Music and food from Fremantle food stall Tibet Stove.

The exhibition also includes a People's Choice Award where the public can vote for their favourite snap using a QR code.

"The standard of our exhibitors is consistently stronger as we progress. We have a number of exhibitors this year who have been in all three exhibitions and seeing their work evolve as they find their style and develop their skill has been fantastic," Satur says.

The Perth Amateur Photographers photo exhibition is at the Kidogo Art House in Fremantle from November 22-28. For more info and tickets for the opening night see perthamateurphotographers.wordpress.com/exhibition-2022/

• (left to right) Photos by Roxy Cabrera-Isa, Tracey Killen and Jeremy Peck in this year's Perth Amateur Photographers Exhibition.

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The well-established Gemma Farrell Quintet have released two albums to date, the first, "Organised Chaos" in 2018 and the second, "The View From the Top" in 2022. The band is currently working on some new compositions which incorporate the Electric Wind Instrument (EWI), the subject of Gemma's doctorate. Gemma will be playing the EWI and saxophones and the band also includes Sam Hadlow (trombone), Dan Garner (guitar), Kate Pass (bass) and Ryan Daunt (drums).

Sunday 20 November
THE LOUIS REBEIRO QUINTET
www.trybooking.com/CDPIS



Featuring multi-instrumentalist and vocalist 16 year old Louis Rebeiro on piano, the amazing Simon Styles on saxophone, the incredible Dijon Summers on double bass, the outstanding Kieran Hurley on trombone and the young man keeping it all together, the very talented William Chiew on drums. Together they will bring to you the music of some of the greatest Jazz Artists of all time - an afternoon not to be missed!

Sunday 27 November
LUCY IFFLA QUARTET
www.trybooking.com/CDPIT

2 x 1 hour sets
3pm to 4pm
4.30pm to 5pm

The Lucy Iffla Quartet is an assortment of wonderful Perth musicians, passionate about those good old folk, jazz and soul classics. With Ben Vanderwal on drums and vocals, Lucy Iffla on vocals, Matthew Gudgeon on guitar and vocals and Alistair Peel on bass, this ensemble will take you back in time to those James Taylor, Marvin Gaye and Ella Fitzgerald days, where wine was cheap and love was free.

Christmas Concert

Please mark in your diaries that our final concert for 2022 will be on the **18th December**.

We have arranged a great show for you featuring the fun and talented **Joyce Mathers** with her supporting band. Finger food will be served during the break and three lucky patrons will each receive one of the lovely Christmas gift hampers to be drawn at the show. This will be a festive finish to our great year – don't miss it !!

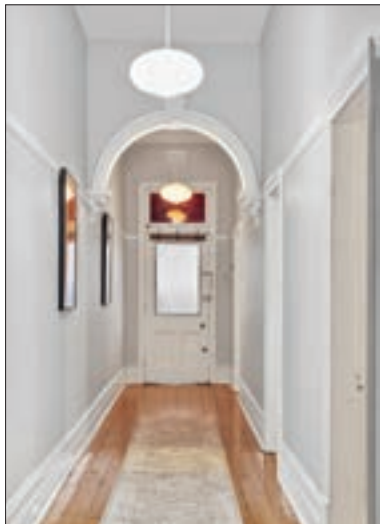
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EVERYTHING has a backstory these days. Craft beer brewed by celibate monks in a secret underground cave where apes can talk and are plotting to take over the world, cattle that have their own personal trainer, psychotherapist and are read bedtime stories every night to ensure the tastiest beef patties, and bottles of spring water distilled from the tears of Christ himself. The list goes on.

But this Fremantle home actually has an authentic and impressive backstory – it was built in 1897 for a ship's captain.

Now that is a genuine talking point and is guaranteed to be a conversation starter at dinner parties and get-togethers in this three bedroom, one bathroom home.

The *Chook* is a sucker for tuck-pointing and this house doesn't disappoint with the reddish glazed bricks really popping against the

Ship-shape

limestone facade and dark green window frames.

This house is awash with gorgeous period features including a grand hall archway, high ceilings, vintage fireplaces and exposed brickwork. It's even got some 19th century Oregon timber in the original section of the home.

The rooms are extremely spacious with the pristine white colour scheme enhancing the open feel.

The lounge is definitely a highlight; a breezy affair with an elegant dado rail and a lovely wood heater beside the feature wall.

The *Herald* could imagine the afternoon doctor wafting through the open window as you repose on

the couch with the Sunday papers.

The kitchen has a slight farmhouse vibe to it and the exposed brickwork around the cooker creates a lovely naturalistic frame.

There's plenty of room in here with a table in the corner for breakfast and informal meals.

Come summer you'll be heading out to the gorgeous elevated deck, where you can enjoy glorious views of the lush back garden.

The roofed deck has ornate finishes on the supporting columns, conjuring up visions of a Victorian pavilion from the late 1800s.

There's a patch of lawn in the garden, which is fringed by some

lovely mature trees, providing lots of shade.

The bathroom combines the best of both worlds with a deep standalone bath, large shower and a nod to yesteryear with the panes of frosted glass on the door and brass handles.

There's plenty of room in the bedrooms, with two featuring gorgeous fireplaces and ceiling fans. The home includes a wine cellar, 19th century Oregon timber floorboards, air-con, undercroft storage and double-hung sash windows.

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homes on Bellevue Terrace, you are a couple of streets away from Stevens Reserve, and a short walk from all the cafes, bars and restaurants on South Terrace, as well as South Beach.

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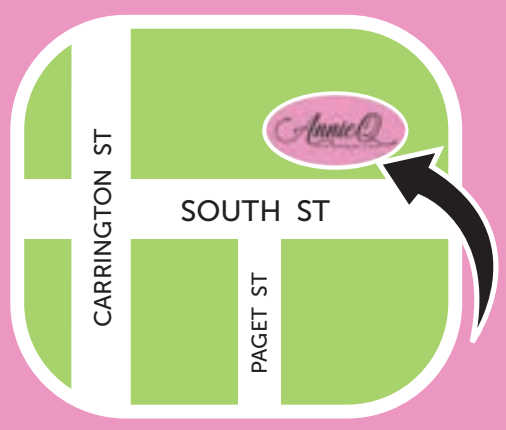


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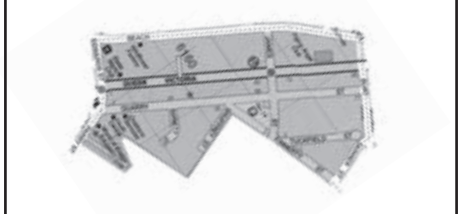
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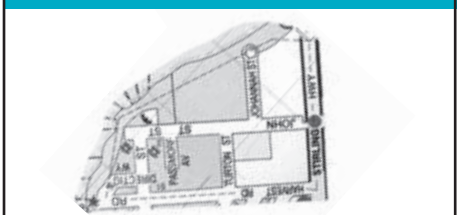
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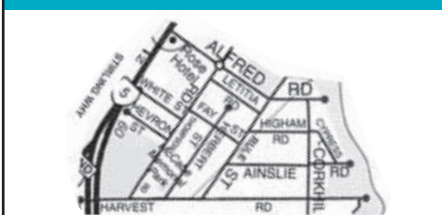
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Astrology with Sudhir

November 12 – November 19, 2022



ARIES (Mar 21 – Apr 20)

As long as Chiron is travelling through your sign, the undercurrent in your life is to be on a journey of identifying old wounds, healing them, and then passing on what you have learnt to others. He will be there for some time, so settle on into it. The Scorpio Sun can take you deep now. Let it.



TAURUS (Apr 21 – May 20)

The Sun in Scorpio is inviting you to have a look at how you view freedom and at how you are attempting to express your individuality. If you are blindly following in others' footsteps you aren't free. If you are doing the opposite of what you have been taught, you are also still hooked in.



GEMINI (May 21 – June 21)

Mercury, Venus and the Sun are travelling together in Scorpio. Together they are providing a situation in which old wounds that still make you cross, will begin to smoulder. Though this is uncomfortable, it also means you are ready to digest and assimilate these things and move on.



CANCER (June 22 – July 22)

The waning Moon begins her week in Gemini. Within a day she will be in Cancer, helping you to integrate those feelings that have been tangling your heart strings. The Scorpio Sun will help provide an atmosphere in which you can turn difficult things around, and make them feel easy.



LEO (July 23 – Aug 22)

The good news is that though there are three planets in Scorpio, which would generally make you feel uneasy, the intensity levels are slowing down and easing off. You have travelled through a tricky patch of the landscape. Life will now do its best to help you to integrate your experience.



VRIGO (Aug 23 – Sept 22)

The transit of Mercury through Scorpio, in tandem with Venus and the Sun, is helping you sift and sort those people who are presently influencing you. This paring down process will help you refine and define your interests in such a way that you can create something tremendously successful.



LIBRA (Sept 23 – Oct 23)

As Venus, Mercury and the Sun move into the final ten degrees of Scorpio, so your discomfort and need to isolate yourself eases off. People, places, ideas and tribal movements suddenly become interesting again. Enjoy, as you push off from the social starting blocks, on to your next soiree.



SCORPIO (Oct 24 – Nov 21)

The Sun, Mercury and Venus, all in Scorpio, are at a point now where they will nurture and heal you, rather than put you through the wringer. The more deeply you commit emotionally, the more creative will be your outcome. Apply this in all areas of your life. Immerse yourself fully.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

Towards the latter half of the week, both Mercury and Venus will move into Sagittarius. Mercury will bring you the clarity that has gotten a little lost in emotion lately. Venus will help you find the balance that has also gone a little out the window. Dare to trust in your unique perceptions.



CAPRICORN (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

There's been enough talk. Bring your focus back to tapping into your resources. These may be tangible, practical things, or they may be talents that need to be dusted off. These are transformational times. Rigidity isn't any more healthy than chaos. Be creative and innovative.



AQUARIUS (Jan 20 – Feb 18)

As tempting as it is to dig your heels in, it's not likely to get you where you want to go. The forces you are resisting are at least as strong as you are. If you want to break on through, flexibility and dexterity is where you need to point your nose. Be a dancer rather than a fighter. Move deftly.



PISCES (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

Neptune is in a particularly powerful and friendly relationship with the Sun at the moment. This has the potential to light you up, soup-up your general sense of vitality and bring all sorts of clarity to your eyes. Bearing in mind that your focus is on honing your individuality, this is wonderful.

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A PLAY from the writer of Strictly Ballroom comes to Melville Theatre this October and November, featuring Stirling resident Thomas McCracken and WAAPA student Marie-Eve Cigna. Things I Know To Be True is a poignant and poetic, powerful drama proving the old adage that, when it comes to family, you can't live with 'em and you can't live without 'em. 8pm October 28, 29, November 3, 4, 10, 11, 12; 5pm October 30; 2pm November 6 - book at TAZTix.com.au. Melville Theatre, 393A Canning Highway, Palmyra

AL-ANON is for family and friends who live with the problem of someone else DRINKING, there is help for you, phone al-anon 9325 7528 or 1300 252 666 for a meeting near you

ATWELL resident Ben Adcock is appearing in The Tempest, as Shakespeare returns to Araluen Botanic Park. The story follows the King of Naples and his closest advisers after being shipwrecked on a strange island ruled by the powerful sorcerer Prospero. Bring a hat, sunglasses, insect repellent and picnic blanket or low chair. BYO alcohol is permitted and light refreshments are available from the theatre kiosk or on-site cafe. 4pm November 12, 13, 19, 20 - book at roleystonetheatre.com.au

HARBOUR THEATRE IS PRESENTING the Australian premiere of a new stage adaptation of A Christmas Carol - written as if narrated by and featuring Charles Dickens himself, played by Kardinya resident Michael Dornan. 7.30pm November 25, 26, 30, December 2, 3, 7, 9, 10; 2pm November 27, December 4, 11 - book at www.TAZTix.com.au or call 9255 3336. Harbour Theatre, 16 Lochee Street, Mosman Park.

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Don't fold

ARE Melanie Gray's origami birds a metaphor for breaking free from her traumatic past and soaring high again in life?

Gray grew up in a small town in the Wheatbelt, where her life was going along nicely – she was a straight-A student, national basketball player and the owner of several beauty-related franchises.

"But I was lacking self-belief and direction, and without clarity I was attracting the wrong people and made some questionable decisions," Gray says.

One iffy decision led to another and soon her life began to spiral out of control – battling substance abuse, domestic violence and eventually financial ruin in her 30s.

When she was at her lowest ebb, Gray returned to a childhood hobby for solace.

"I folded origami cranes as a child and found comfort in their method and form and loved what they represented," she says.

"I returned to the craft when I was forced to start my life over in my 30s and realise now it was a kind of therapy."

A symbol for peace, hope, strength and loyalty in Japan, it was fitting that origami became central to Gray rebuilding her life.



Her hand-folded cranes are now in high demand via her e-business 22Folds and sold at Australian galleries and gift stores, as well as Perth Upmarket.

"I have had a very colourful life and learned many lessons," Gray says.

"The artworks and products I create are designed to remind us of our strength; to empower, acknowledge and ignite something within others."

"My hope is that each one acts as a daily reminder for the recipient to strive for a life of purpose and joy."

Gray has done notable commissions including 2500 cranes for the Miracles Babies Foundation.

"I dressed the cranes up as storks to symbolise the safe arrival of premature babies and then flew to Sydney to create an installation of them all in flight in the foyer of NSW Parliament House," said Melanie.

"Each stork was sponsored for \$30 raising much needed funds to create nurture rooms in hospitals."

Now happily married with three kids in Fremantle, Gray says she gets most satisfaction out of



• Origami helped Fremantle's Melanie Gray rebuild her life.

helping others avoid the pitfalls of her youth.

"I promised myself I would never allow anyone to make me feel less than who I was. I was prepared to lose, but not prepared to compromise," she says.

"If I could go back and give my 17-year-old self some advice

it would be to be present and to really take the time to know who you are as a person - to really think how you would like to experience your journey through life."

You can meet Gray and check out her origami at the 22Folds stall at Perth Upmarket on November 27 10am-4pm at UWA.

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