IELVILLE CITY KA



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• The Fremantle Exercise Physiology Clinic has to find a new home after Notre Dame University terminated its lease. Photo by Steve Grant

Left in limb

by STEVE GRANT

A FREMANTLE exercise clinic with more than 100 mostly elderly clients says it's been left stranded after Notre Dame University terminated its long-term lease in the city's West End.

Fremantle Exercise Physiology Clinic has been operating at Notre Dame for 13 years, with manager and physiologist Michael Jennings saying it was originally established as a pathway for the university's students to gain practical experience towards their degrees.

"Since commencement of the clinic, we have supervised hundreds of Notre Dame and Curtin university students, offering a fantastic insight into the potential pathway of clinical exercise prescription and delivery, whilst also giving the students an opportunity to grow their interpersonal skills in a professional environment," Mr Jennings said.

But he says late last year Notre Dame informed him it would not be renewing his lease as it wanted its students to have full-time access to the gym and they'd have to be out by the end of March.

Mr Jennings said the decision "devastated" participants.

He says it was particularly disappointing because many are West End and South Fremantle residents aged between 55 and 90 years old, and Notre Dame had once prided itself on its community ethos.

Social outlet

"We have more than 100 clients that come here three times a week and some have been coming for 12 years and it's their social outlet. "The social glue of the

active ageing that group participates in over-rides the physical benefits of the program."

Mr Jennings says they offered to share the gym with students, but that was knocked back.

The clinic was in a similar situation two years ago when they were across the road, but negotiated with NDA to continue in the Customs building on the corner of Phillimore and Henry streets, copping a 300 per cent rent increase to boot.

Since then he says he hasn't been paid, with all costs going • Continued page 7



Gaea Anastas

Correction and apology

LAST week the *Herald's* front page story "The empower of sex" mistakenly identified exhibition performer Gaea Anastas as a sex worker in a photo caption.

Ms Anastas is instead an interdisciplinary performance and visual artist who is well known locally for her clowning work at CircusWA and for introducing a legion of kids to the joys of circus skills through her role as a teacher.

The Herald unreservedly apologises to Ms Anastas and its readers for making the error.

Holidays are over

SCHOOL'S well and truly back and holidays are over, so what to do with the kids on the weekend? What about a round delivering the Herald. We need people in East Freo, Freo, North Freo, O'Connor, Samson, South Freo, Applecross and Willagee, so get in contact with Stephanie at distribution.manager@fremantleherald.com and she'll get them sorted.

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Your Local February Update

Lunar New Year

I want to wish everyone celebrating this Lunar New Year, a happy and prosperous new year. This festive occasion is a time of renewal, hope, and most importantly, family. Regardless of where life takes us, our loved ones are a source of strength, support, and unconditional love. May this festive season be a time of renewal, unity, and profound appreciation for the ties that make us who we are.

40th Anniversary of Medicare

The 1st of February marks 40 years since the Hawke Labor Government introduced Medicare – delivering universal access to the healthcare Australians need throughout its history. All of us have stories of how Medicare has helped us. I am proud to be apart of the Albanese Government that made the biggest ever investment in Medicare - saving Australians hundreds of millions of dollars on cheaper medicines and more bulk billed trips to the GP.

Fully Funded Public Schools

Western Australia will be the first State in Australia where all public schools are fully and fairly funded by 2026! This is just the first step and the Albanese Government is committed to working with all States and Territories to fully and fairly fund all public schools. This funding will be tied to the things that will help children to keep up, catch up and finish school. I proud to be part of a government that invests in our children's education.







Reduce, Re-use, Recycle



As we endure the scorching summer heat we often consume a large variety of beverages.



Remember to keep the environment clean and earn a refund or donate by visiting Containers for Change centres in Willetton, Leeming, Canning Vale, Booragoon or Myaree.

Let us all Reduce, Re-use and Recycle.

Authorised by Sam Lim MP, ALP, 6 Aveley Street, Willetton WA 6155

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Mighty fig tree drops off the list

by STEVE GRANT

FREMANTLE council has voted to remove a 130-yearold Moreton Bay fig from its significant tree register, paving the way for the Cattalini family to cut down the 27-metre giant and sell their old pharmacy on High Street.

There's some debate about the tree's history, but it is linked to local nurseryman Phillip Webster who's 1890s house is still on the Cattalini's block, and it could have been the progenitor of Walyalup Koort's Moreton Bays and perhaps even the city's Proclamation Tree near St Patrick's basilica.

Pharmacist John Cattalini was a former mayor of Fremantle and his wife Pamela appealed for the council to take it off the register because of the burden it had become

"This property has been in our family for approximately 60 years; it was put into my name 30 years ago," Ms Cattalini said.

Mammoth

"Over that time it has been my responsibility to keep up the maintenance of this tree which has been a mammoth undertaking.

"I did not give permission for this tree to be put on the significant tree list and as it is on private property I do not know why it is on the list."

Ms Cattalini said the tree dropped figs four months of the year, constantly shed leaves which got into the buildings' gutters, and had roots damaging a wall. She heads down to the building with her children every day to sweep the car park clean to ensure her tenants don't trip or tramp muck through their offices

"I have been trying to sell this property to no avail, as no one wants the responsibility of this problem, therefore it is also impossible to lease the building so I'm suffering financially." She estimated that paying someone to sweep the block, clear the gutters and repair the wall would cost \$25,000.

Twenty years ago the tree's fate was also in the balance, but after a community backlash the council agreed to help Ms Cattalini with the maintenance, something she told the meeting hadn't occurred.



property on High Street. Photo by Steve Grant

Her daughter Stacey Towne disputed the council report linking the fig to the Proclamation Tree.

'This has never been proven, casting doubt on its heritage significance," she said. "Moreover, claiming this

tree's heritage has not changed since 2001 ignores the removal of similar trees by council from Walyalup Koort.

Ms Towne said the tree blocked surveillance.

'We've had people sleeping rough, drug taking and even had to clean up human urine and faeces," she said.

Council staff had recommended keeping the tree on the register, but councillor Jenny Archibald was concerned by the fact the Cattalinis had no say in the tree being registered on the list and put up an amendment to remove it.

'It does constrain the heritage building that is on the site and I think the opportunity for

the owners of the property is seriously impinged by the fact that the tree is still there.

"Those trees need a lot of space around them," she said, noting its large canopy dropped 'dangerous fruit".

Only councillors Ben Lawver and Doug Thompson voted against taking the tree off the register, but Cr Fedele Camarda said he'd like to see the fig live again by being propagated in one of the city's parks.

Fremantle Society president John Dowson, who'd been working with the Cattalinis to find a buyer for the site with the tree, or to get the council to improve its maintenance, was blunt about the decision.

"If council can sponsor women's soccer they can support a 100 year old tree of 'exceptional' stature," Mr Dowson said, referring to the Girls Festival of Community Soccer due to be held at Fremantle Oval in March.



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It was a Split

Council divided on Croatia trip festival attended by local musos Zagreb, who got funding from

by STEVE GRANT

A COCKBURN councillor has called for sister city relationships to be scrapped, saying they offer no tangible benefit to the community.

Councillor Tarun Dewan's comments came after a bruising Cockburn meeting on Tuesday where a proposed \$114,000 trip to Croatia by mayor Logan Howlett and three councillors was put on the back burner.

That followed a week of criticism in the media over the cost of the trip during a time many of Cockburn's residents are struggling to make ends meet because of cost of living pressures.

Cr Dewan told the Herald he was the only councillor who wasn't on the City's sister cities reference group - a handy pathway to securing a plane ticket - because he thinks it's little more than a junket.

Neighbours

"I mean, if it was Indonesia, you could perhaps say that they were neighbours and there could be some benefit, but Alabama and Croatia, you have to even fly halfway across the world to get there," Cr Dewan said.

He'd also queried council staff on whether any reports were written about a visit from a Croatian delegation in October last year that cost Cockburn \$20,000, or a visit by Mr Howlett to Split in Croatia earlier in May that wasn't



 Cr Phoebe Corke: Not the time to be splashing out.

part of the sister cities program but cost just under \$14,000.

"The answer was that there were no reports, so how can they be saying that there are benefits," he said.

During Tuesday's meeting, Cr Phoebe Corke, who moved to defer the trip, said she'd attended the sister cities reference group meeting when it was discussed and thinks staff may have jumped the gun.

the gun. "It wasn't a decision that we should put it forward to go," Cr Corke said.

She said staff had made committee members aware of the Croatian visit and suggested bringing forward a return trip, which would normally have to wait its turn in the sister cities' queue.

"We agreed to ask for info about how much it should cost."

The proposed trip was planned to coincide with a folkloric

Testival attended by local musos Zagreb, who got funding from both Cockburn council and neighbouring Fremantle, which is yet to vote on a possible

delegation. Despite that opportunity, Cr

Corke said the timing was out. "A delegation by the mayor

and elected members at this time at a cost of \$28,500 per delegate, which equates to over \$4000 per elected member per day cannot be justified as being in the public interest," she said.

"We're in a cost of living crisis; there are many better ways to spend \$14,000 that will directly benefit our residents."

Rival

Deputy mayor Chontelle Stone had some suggestions about where to spend the money, as well as taking a dig at political rival Mr Howlett.

"The mayor could go to Tempest Park in Coolbellup which is in desperate need floodlighting, but that project just got delayed in the budget review," Cr Stone said.

After having that angle shut down by a procedural motion, she continued.

"We have a lot of other projects around this city that that money could be spent, like the Cockburn Arc where the water slides are still out of action again this summer; where Bakers Square netball courts are now unusable and desperately needing resurfacing." Following the debate, there was

Following the debate, there was a tied vote on whether to proceed with the trip, with Mr Howlett using his casting vote to break the deadlock and defer the trip.



 Freo council has knocked back this proposed electronic billboard on the old Post Office

Lights out for billboard

FREMANTLE council has unanimously rejected a proposed electronic billboard for the top of the old Fremantle Post Office.

Noting that the sign had been "hotly debated" around the city, councillor and architect Andrew Sullivan said it wasn't in the right place and was proposed for an addition to the building which was problematic itself.

"It's a building that's a landmark; it's at the gateway of the city of Fremantle," Cr Sullivan said.

"The additional was probably not appropriate, so it would be exaggerating an element of the building that was out of place."

Cr Sullivan said he believed the site had plenty of development

potential without a 7.6m x 1.9m electronic billboard.

The building is owned by WA investment company Correia de Sousa Property, with co-founder Sam de Sousa hoping to turn the old post office, which lost part of its roof during a storm in August 2022, into a hospitality venue.

Mayor Hannah Fitzhardinge also spoke against the proposal. "We are interested in reuse

of heritage buildings for various purposes; this might not be be a case of best foot forward when an animated sign is the first part of a redevelopment proposal that we see," Ms Fitzhardinge said. "We hope that whatever comes

"We hope that whatever comes from beyond here is probably more in keeping with the West End and the heritage values our community values."

Don't be negative on gearing



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

abor wants to introduce a "help to buy" housing scheme where the government will temporarily cover up to 40 per cent of the cost of a new home build for 10,000 lower income earning Australians each year. They'll likely need the support of the Greens to get it passed.

The Greens don't like the scheme as they think it will only help 0.2% of eligible buyers and push up housing prices. But they'll willingly sell their soul in exchange for a phasing out of negative gearing and capital money but makes a business loss, no one cares.

I'm no economist, but in my simple mind it seems that scrapping negative gearing will discourage property investment which will reduce rental availability which will drive up rents. But I know decisions are oftentimes made for political purposes and that haranguing high income earners is just plain good fun.

It's an indisputable fact that high income earners get the biggest benefit of a tax deduction, because they pay more tax to start with. This is true whether the deduction is for interest or for stationery, but nobody would suggest shutting down Officeworks as a sensible solution.

high income earners get the biggest benefit of a tax deduction, because they pay more tax to start with

The real problem is in our capital gains







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gains tax concessions.

Negative gearing has become a dirty term, but it's a misnomer. It really should just be called "gearing".

When someone borrows money (or gears) to buy an investment property, the interest cost is tax deductible against the rental income, just like rates and repairs are. If, after interest and all other costs, the net profit of the property is \$1, we might say the property is "geared". If a taxpayer incurs an extra \$2 of interest on their loan, the property now makes a \$1 loss and is "negatively geared". Gather the townsfolk. Bring the pitchforks!

When a taxpayer borrows money to invest in the share market and gets a tax deduction, no one cares. When a business owner borrows tax laws. The only reason an investor will endure a rental loss is if the net growth gain is likely to exceed that loss.

A net gain means after any capital gains tax is paid, and our current CGT concessions are generous. But they never used to be. When CGT was introduced in 1985, a capital gain was reduced by the actual amount of inflation that occurred during the period an asset was held. Perfectly logical. In 1999, the Howard Costello government dispensed with the inflation discount and replaced it with a flat discount of 50% with little financial modelling, the main objective being simplification. Completely illogical. There's no need to be negative on gearing, but our CGT rules positively need a re-write.

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Mall traders hot Market axed under the collar so street arts

by STEVE GRANT

TRADERS in Fremantle's Westgate Mall have been left hot under the collar after council workers tore down the awnings that protect their stores from the sun's heat, only to disappear after Christmas.

Kim Tay has owned the Asianstyle Fremantle Mini-Mart for 36 years and says the council started the works at the end of October.

"For years the council said the mall was nothing to do with them, then finally they agreed, and then it took four years before they would do anything," Mr Tay said.

The project included repairing the mall's rusting awnings and roofing, as well as removing old raised planters and repaving the whole area to match the section near the recently-completed Little Lane apartment development.

Mr Tay said they were told the works would be finished by December 15, but after removing the awnings and fencing off the where the planters were removed,

the workers all disappeared. Mr Tay says they've left the mall looking like a "war zone".

"If this was in South Terrace they would not accept this," he said.

After getting no response from official council channels, Mr Tay said he button-holed the project coordinator who had to walk past the store on his way to work each day and was told the workers would return from Christmas break on



· Kim Tay and David Dalgarno say Westgate Mall has been left like a "war zone". Photo by Steve Grant

January 8 - but none arrived. Since then he reckons there's been crickets from the council.

With no shade for the mart's windows and Perth experiencing what's shaping up to be recordbreaking heatwaves, Mr Tay had to cover his windows with cardboard to protect his stock from damage.

But he says it had the unintended consequence of making the shop look empty and

vandals smashed four windows. Long-time trading neighbour David Dalgarno from Planet Ark said he'd also heard nothing from the council and what Mr Tay had to put up with was completely

unfair. City of Fremantle infrastructure director Graham Tattersall said the works re-started on Thursday, two

days after the Herald's questions arrived.

He said traders had been kept informed.

"Officers have continued to liaise with business owners throughout the project - all traders were advised on December 4 that the project had been paused until January while a construction design issue was being resolved."

Mr Tattersall said summer was considered the best time to do the works to avoid rain getting into the shops while parts of the building were opened up.

"It was anticipated that the roof sheeting work would be completed before Christmas; it is unfortunate that the project has taken longer than planned and the City has apologised to all traders.

festival pops

A MARKET for High Street traders over the Easter weekend was cancelled by Freo council to make sure the Fremantle International Street Arts Festival at the same time got the most "bang for buck".

Last week the council canned the West End Weekender, causing a backlash from some traders who said without it the festival blocks customers and leaves their end of High Street deserted ("End of the week-ender," Herald, February 10, 2024).

At this week's council meeting, the council's new director of arts and community Pete Stone said he understood traders would be disappointed.

"Since returning from the three-year Covid hiatus the festival team has been working really hard to maximise the curatorial impact of the street arts festival," Mr Stone said. "The better the overall

program is, the more audience we attract into Fremantle and the greater the benefit is to all the businesses.

"Some costs have gone up considerably, in particular travel costs for interstate and international artists.

Those artists are key to maintaining the national and international profile of the event

and unfortunately road closure costs have jumped..."

Artist Natali Bozhanova spoke on behalf of The Artisan Store, saying they represented around 170 different artists who would miss out on a great opportunity.

She later told the Herald the store's team said it appeared the council was prioritising international artists and the event's prestige over the welfare of local businesses.

"Instead of facilitating a wellorganised and curated market in the middle of the already closed street, the council is suggesting businesses extend onto the sidewalk and street directly in front of their storefronts to create an ad-hoc market environment. 'This approach raises

significant safety concerns for pedestrians, as people naturally gravitate towards using

footpaths despite road closures. "Additionally, not all businesses have the financial means to extend their operations onto the street, as it requires additional resources such as extra staff and stalls.

"Our sole motivation has been to enhance foot traffic on the closed street and provide a platform for local artists and businesses to thrive. This is an issue of great frustration for us.





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Give a fig

WE are told that the Moreton Bay fig tree in High Street is to be removed because it is "in the wrong place".

The most important point about the location of this tree is that it is right next to Philip Webster's house, Cranworth Villa.

I don't think there can be any doubt that it was planted by Webster himself: the Heritage Council says so!

It is the source of other important Fremantle trees: the Heritage Council says that too!

The most important of those is undoubtedly the Proclamation Tree.

Webster actually planted that too – he was at the ceremony, and handed the spade to the governor, William Robinson, who did the ceremonial bit, after which Webster would have completed the job.

All of the trees that used to be in what is now Walyalup Koort were also planted by Webster, as were many of the trees that used to surround Fremantle Park.

There is no tree in Fremantle more important than the tree in High Street.

It would be a shame and a disgrace if it were removed. Garry Gillard Fremantle

It's getting choppy

I HAVE lived on Prinsep Road for over 20 years, the reason for building being it was a relatively quiet road and we



backed onto a brand new championship golf course, surrounded by lots of young trees.

Over that time period the trees matured and encounters with the local wildlife gradually increased (quenda, bobtails, black cockatoos etc); as a keen wildlife photographer I often have the immense privilege of being able to photograph this wonderful wildlife in my back yard.

Last year Rita Saffioti made the abhorrent decision to disregard the strong feelings of the whole community and side with the developers and approving the closure of the golf course and allow a housing development which involves the removal over 750 mature trees.

With the local residents still reeling from the loss of the very amenity that they invested everything into... we now have the news of further ecological vandalism about to occur at the proposed wave park on Prinsep Road, and once again we get to see the developers glossy brochures of how wonderful it'll be once built!

Here are a few facts that they don't publish in their brochure: It will mean the destruction of over three hectares of an endangered banksia woodland, critical foraging habitat for black cockatoos, plus countless other animals such as quendas.

It will also destroy nearly 1.5 hectares of a conservation category wetland.

It will depend heavily on drawing millions of litres of water from the increasing fragile Jandakot water mound each month, which has the potential to affect the surrounding hydrology.

Surfing is synonymous in being in tune with nature, it appears that the WA government and local Cockburn council are overly keen to assist developers and too

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reluctant to help local natural wildlife to exist. Move the surf park to

somewhere more appropriate. John Blakey Jandakot

Wee problem

I AM a 70 year old who regularly visits Freo with his wife for coffee and shopping.

Many older people, myself included, often have the need for a toilet and it's often more urgent than for younger people.

The only public toilet in the central shopping district is in the council building. That is okay if it was functional

That is okay if it was functional but the signage as to its location seems to be optional or nonexistent, or hidden.

The toilets themselves are down a dark corridor.

Hooray, I found them despite poor signage and hiding them down a dark hallway.

But that was just to test my perseverance coz now I had to determine whether any were free.

Not so difficult if the hallway wasn't darker than the growing tightness in my sphincter which I determinedly held closed.

But the green and red dots that signify free or occupied are the size of the hole that a hole punch for paper is.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with this size metric, look at your fingernail on your little finger, cut this [in your mind] into four and that is close to the size we are talking about.

Coz I have to bend down to look at this tiny dot thingy the people behind me are looking like they are about to either yell expletives at me or call the police. Luckily, I find a green dot. Double Hooray.

But no! It's Sunday and the above is a dream coz the council building closes at 3pm and its now 3.10pm. Oh shit! I mean, Oh damn. **Tony**

Mosman Park

p.s. I have spoken to council staff at least twice about this but like the signage for the toilets any action in doing something about this seems optional. I guess they never have to use these toilets so old fogeys like me are to be nodded to and then forgotten. I am old, not stupid.

Freo needs Bridge input

AT its meeting of February 14, 2024, Fremantle council resolved to "support the proposed replacement Fremantle Traffic Bridge and associated infrastructure", subject to further specification of and agreement on a wide range of matters.

It has been a long and difficult road to reach the stage where we have a proposal for replacing the existing Fremantle Traffic Bridge that is largely acceptable to the community, albeit with the total loss of the existing heritage structure.

I appreciate the attention to detail in the officer report, which highlights the fact that there remain a large number of matters that still require specification and confirmation, many of which are engineering in nature.

Others, however, are ones to

David Shanahan: Shaping Fremantle's View for 20 Years

Fremantle's business community has applauded local businessman David Shanahan as he commemorates 20 years of outstanding service to our Port City.

Captivated by the charm of Fremantle during a gap year in 1989, local Optometrist David relocated to the vibrant city of Fremantle in 2003 from Ireland, fulfilling his aspiration of establishing his own practice at the heart of our beloved town.

Operating independently under the business name David Shanahan Optometrists, David and his team opened



up shop in 2003 on Cantonment Street, before relocating to Market Street in 2006 at a shopfront he has operated in since.

Marking his 20th year in business with a celebration at his practice late last year, David said his practice is committed to providing comprehensive eye examinations and a beautiful range of eyewear for community.

"Fremantle is a beautiful place with a vibrant community, and I believe our practice embraces the spirit of our town," he said.

"We have been overwhelmed by the support and can't be thankful enough to our community of clients."

> In recognition of the practice's commitment to Fremantle. David Shanahan Optometrists was named as a Finalist at the 2023 Fremantle Chamber of Commerce Business Awards. FCC Chief Operating Officer Chrissie Maus said the success of David Shanahan Optometrists is an example of the real sense of community that's back on the streets of Fremantle. "The Fremantle Chamber of Commerce congratulates David Shanahan Optometrists for their commitment and success over the last 20 years in our unique Port City," Ms Maus said.



"David Shanahan Optometrists are independently and locally run whilst providing a unique offering - this to which Fremantle streets. "Their prestigious Hall of Fame nomination at the Fremantle Chamber

I believe is the recipe for future business success," added Ms Maus.

"There is a groundswell movement for supporting local businesses, this is seeing more people understand the impact they can have by supporting local businesses and a real sense of Community is back now more than ever on our local of Commerce Business Awards last year shows the love our local community has for David, his staff and his long-standing business."

David Shanahan Optometrists 51 Market St, Fremantle Phone 9335 2602 davidshanahan.com.au

Fremantle is a beautiful place with a vibrant community, and I believe our practice embraces the spirit of our town.
 David Shanahan



which the community might reasonably expect to have some input. In particular:

• Connectivity of cycling and pedestrian facilities. These should be progressed with the engagement of user groups, including people with disabilities;

• Landscaping, especially integration with the river foreshores;

• Traffic management during construction and longer-term traffic impacts;

• Noise mitigation, where necessary, to be through means other than noise walls or similar structures. None of us wants a repeat of the High Street roundabout debacle; and,

• Reuse of materials from the existing bridge and preservation of the remnants of earlier bridges, heritage interpretation, and creation of an archival record.

In respect of those relating to history and heritage, I strongly suggest that the City of Fremantle and Main Roads commission (perhaps through a competition) a model of the existing bridge, similar to the model of the 1866 Bridge of Sticks that is currently in the WA Maritime Museum, to form, in conjunction with history and heritage material already produced by Main Roads as an initial part of the consultation process, a comprehensive history of the Indigenous and European significance of the river crossing site.

This should be installed in a publicly-accessible place as a contribution to the Bicentenary of European settlement in 2029.

Who knows, there might even be government grants available!

I am encouraged that "the City will require regular meetings [with the Main Roads Bridge Alliance] on traffic management, construction management and engagement throughout this project", but surely it is not too much to ask that the City inform and, where possible, engage the community in progressing the project.

Given the critical role played by Given the critical role played by the community in the process todate, we deserve a continuing role from here. Although the project is a WA government/Main Roads one, the extent of 'approved by', 'to the satisfaction of', and similar wording in the resolution passed last night, suggests there is no reason why the City of Fremantle should not engage with the community on such matters.

I appreciate that there might be limited time to engage on a large number of separate items, but perhaps the engagement could be by means of an ongoing reference group.

Ian Ker

Bridge Integrity Group South Fremantle

Another Freo balls-up

PHILLIP WEBSTER was the phantom planter. And what an extraordinary job he did spreading the giant Moreton Bay Figs.

Bryn Davis (not Jones) came 100 years later with smaller trees. Webster lived there and it is

all one big lot with the tree in the middle of a lot boundary. Bunnings Bros lived there

before him.

The house is decrepit and is leased for cheap offices. Chris Williams has an office there, again.

Pam Cattalini says she can't sell the lot with the tree. If the tree goes it adds to the problems because the owners can subdivide.

Having done nothing to help Pam keep the tree, council are now apparently allowing its destruction?

I have read the extensive council item on this but what was the vote?

Shocking regardless, as Pam

needs help keeping the tree and financial help to do so as the ideal outcome. If council can sponsor women's soccer they can support a 100 year old tree of "exceptional" stature.

John Dowson Fremantle

Taxed

ALBO'S taking from the wealthy and giving to the peasants; excellent.

Even though it's not going to make much if any difference to the wealthy.

- The evil rich pigs typically are not going to like it.
- Money makes the real world go the wrong way around.

Someone spent more than \$1 million on a set of rego plates. That's what's wrong with the world.

There is no money in saving the planet! Destroying it, on the other hand...

Brad Capes

Coolbellup

eft in limbo

From page 1

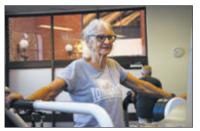
into paying the qualified exercise physiologists who work with the clients, and the rest going into the rent.

Mr Jennings says he believes Notre Dame has plans to reinstate a fourth year of its health sciences course, which would require a practicum, which made the decision to get rid of an in-house option even more mystifying.

"We have not had one meeting with health; all the discussions have been with the leasing team," he said.

Clinic participant Andrew Locke said it was far more than just a gym, with the ongoing supervision and social aspect important to many of the group.

"Older and disabled members of our community need support if they are to continue to live a useful and meaningful life lives," Mr Locke said.



• Some participants have been using the clinic for 12 years.

"Fremantle EPC epitomises how it can be done and done well. They deserve every support from institutions in the wider community; sadly, this support has not always been forthcoming."

Fellow participant Lis Francis echoed Mr Jenning's concerns about the uni's social license: "So of us were/are wondering what happened to the uni's charter to be inclusive and cater for community and ageing," she said.

A spokesperson for the university confirmed giving students full-time access to the gym was a priority.

"Our priority is to ensure facilities such as the gymnasium are readily available to our students as part of our ongoing commitment to providing an outstanding student experience," they said in a statement.

⁴With the clinic operating three days a week for private clients, our students were prevented from using the gym on those days.

"The University of Notre Dame Australia advised the tenants at the last lease renewal more than 12 months ago that they should look for an alternative facility as the University wanted to return the gym for the use of its students.

"The tenants did not seek an extension of the lease by the due date."

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THE City of Fremantle should aim to develop a shared sense of identity and civic pride within the community by reinforcing everyone's sense of belonging.

The Fremantle History Centre could help this come about by promoting opportunities for Fremantle's diverse communities to become more deeply involved in their shared histories and heritage.

Locating the Fremantle History Centre in a prominent and easily accessible public space on the Walyalup Civic Centre's ground floor, with user-friendly technology which opens up its unique local history collection, is crucial to achieving this goal.

The History Centre must become a focal point for community engagement and involvement in learning about Fremantle's diverse history and heritage; it should be a place where every community member, including the underrepresented, will feel welcome and motivated to participate.

History is important.

The History Centre should be located where it is as easy for as many people as possible to learn about and appreciate what we have inherited from the past.

Fremantle's heritage provides tangible links between the past and present, is part of the fabric of our everyday lives and is central to our WITH Fremantle council considering a new home for the Fremantle History Centre, this week's Thinking Allowed comes from the FREMANTLE HISTORY SOCIETY which says a prominent place right in the City's new admin building could bring the community together to learn more about their heritage and themselves.



sense of identity.

Reaching a wider audience raises the community's awareness of the many ways that places valued as part of Fremantle's heritage embody the knowledge, beliefs, skills, traditions and investment of successive generations.

This has the potential to connect more people with these places and generate a sense of shared identity and community.

History is often dismissed as being about the past and having little relevance to the present, other than perhaps as an attractive backdrop to people's lives

The new Fremantle History Centre, if designed as a focal point for the community, could challenge these perceptions by demonstrating that history can be engaging, thought-provoking and relevant, allowing people to view Fremantle's history in new ways

that have a positive impact on their perceptions and feelings about the city.

Past & Present

Fremantle's development was the outcome of evolution and change as successive generations adapted their inherited surroundings to suit a changing world and support the regeneration needed to remain a thriving centre of trade.

These changes sometimes transformed the city and explain why the layers of Fremantle's history are often described in terms of its periods of development and regeneration.

Fremantle's heritage buildings and their settings retain evidence of its historic success as a prosperous port-city and serves as a reminder that part of the city's success was its attractive, compact, relatively densely populated and walkable urban centre.

It provided diverse facilities, local services and places to work, which people could access by foot or public transport for most dayto-day needs.

In many ways that's now recognised as sustainable design. People still find these defining

characteristics attractive, not

only as reminders of the past, but because they fulfil expectations of what a successful urban centre should be.

Cities such as Fremantle are more likely to be successful when they retain and promote the distinctive characteristics of their different places, giving equal attention to the ordinary as well as the extraordinary.

It requires Fremantle's growth to be managed in ways that are informed by its history.

While Fremantle must understand the challenges from competing centres, it should also appreciate its advantages and resist the temptation to mindlessly mimic them and lose the very character that made it uniquely attractive.

It should build on its inherited strengths to offer something different: a lively, walkable city centre with real character and a mix of attractive urban qualities not found in anonymous town centres.

That means deepening our understanding of the inherent value of Fremantle's diverse and multi-layered character and using that knowledge to inform change.

Enduring relevance

In many parts of Fremantle there are strong links between the past and the present.

Its heritage is central to the city's distinctiveness, and it remains relevant because of the ways it is linked to the city's

social, cultural, environmental and economic wellbeing.

Achieving the interdependent benefits linked to this vision depends on a broad-based consensus and a long-term commitment to it, not only from the state government and the City of Fremantle but also from the people who know and understand the area intimately; building owners, businesses and institutions, and the people who live and work here.

Tension between conservation and other public policies usually arises from a perceived need to endanger heritage values to achieve other important outcomes.

Such tensions are best reconciled by pursuing them in mutually supportive ways through informed dialogue, mutual understanding and respect.

Stakeholders need to appreciate the value of Fremantle's multilayered character and use that knowledge to inform change collaboratively.

Knowledge is a prerequisite for successfully managing change. From knowledge flows

understanding and from understanding flows informed decision-making and intelligent actions

It is here that the Fremantle History Centre has a vital role to play in helping bring communities together by highlighting our historic surroundings in ways that explain and celebrate the many diverse influences that created the city's distinctive character.

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WHAT'S NEW

Naked Specs family growing up



by Jane Grljusich Herald Promotions

The Naked Specs experience is unique, colourful, passionate, responsive, empathetic, and highly personalised. Their customers keep on referring them and coming back time after time, now to beautiful new premises just up the road at 201 South Terrace.

rom a stall at the Freo Markets, to a storefront on the east side of South Terrace, Naked Specs has grown up in South Freo, now moving over the road and a few doors up towards Australia's favourite port city, on the corner of Rose Street, opposite the Local Hotel

Fully-Freo, all West Australian, and intercontinental in style, Naked Specs is still Perth's most unique and talked about eyewear boutique - not only for its incredible range of handpicked brands and frames selected from independent eyewear brands from across the globe, but for its customer service and experience.

Sofia





Here's what they say:

"I would summarise my Naked Specs experience as I'm addicted," Barbara tells us.

"Great," says eccentric Maureen.

- "It's just special," Connie says.
- "And enjoyable," David adds.

"Lots of laughter," from Jo. "It's enhanced my life actually," Fiona tells everyone. Justine and Adam Levin have grown Naked Specs, and their family, on the basis of passion, honesty, love and life experience - which sometimes - as most of us know - is not all roses.

"We laugh, laugh more, cry, reflect, and support each other," says Justine, "believe me, it can be quite magical. It's a meeting place of hearts and minds ... it just is. Our customers are rather "evangelical" about us and just want their friends and family to share the joy of their experience."

And that they do.

This old chook sent her mum in to see Justine just before a shocking breast cancer diagnosis and a hardfought battle with chemotherapy and radiation treatment. Justine was on the phone immediately, offering support, and to let me know that as soon as Mum was ready, she'd adjust her lenses post-treatment due to the impact on her eyes. What a relief and comfort. Who does that? Naked



Specs does now we're part of their family.

"It is a family," says loyal customer Liz, "I've never felt like a customer in this joint, not one second, I mean I'm an outrageous person, but Justine just talks to you and treats you like you're family and just listens to what you need and what you want and she'll figure it out."

"It's like going to an old-fashioned tailor shop where people will know what you will like," Connie adds.

"Well summarising up my Naked Specs experience is just one word - FABULOUS," says Deb.

Naked Specs is underpinned by strong ethics, creativity, and their passion to help people and bring about positive change in the lives of everyone they meet

"Everything we do is for you, the customer," says owner Justine Levin.

"We live and breathe to wow our customers, we keep our promises, we care deeply about people, we build trust and loyalty, and our goal is to keep customers for life. We're a brand that stands for something - you."

The couple and their team, optical dispensers Carmen, Ellen, Brandon, and Janeen, are all friendly neighbours, relishing on creating a joyful and supportive atmosphere at the shop where customers enjoy the process of selecting a new pair of glasses that not only look and feel fabulous but also give them the best possible vision.

They want you to help you to reveal yourself with eyewear that you love.

You can book your eye test online in just a minute or two.

Their optometrists conduct comprehensive eye





examinations in a comfortable environment and all eye tests are bulk billed for eligible Medicare card holders providing glasses, sunglasses, and prescription safety glasses, as well as eyewear styling, aftercare, eye tests and lenses.

But don't expect what you usually get because

what you'll get is so much more.

- "People should expect to walk into the store and feel ...", muses happy customer Doug.
- "Everything," says David, finishing Doug's sentence. "Thrilled and excited," Connie adds.

"I think people should expect a really good welcome from Naked Specs," says Fiona.

"And, a long chat that will fix the wars, yeah," Liz tells us. It will, just ask this old chook, and the growing family at Naked Specs.

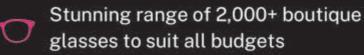


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herald arts

Sky's the limit



T'S literally been a creative flight of fancy for South Fremantle's Sarah Jenkins and her daughter Lucy.

The pair have wowed the art scene with their minimalist drone shots, winning international prizes and publishing deals across the globe.

For Sarah it's been a liberation of sorts – she is confined to a wheelchair with muscular dystrophy and can't operate a conventional camera.

The drone gives her a set of metaphorical wings to explore the sky and capture striking images.

sky and capture striking images. "The joy of creating art has been a real positive in my life," Sarah says.

says. "It has given me an identity that is not related to my disability."

The duo, known as Air Bare, love taking photographs of basketball, netball and tennis courts, where the stark white lines pop against the solid blue. It creates a geometric abstraction you would normally find in works by artists like Wassily Kandinsky.

So it's perhaps unsurprising that Lucy is an architectural graduate.

"Our favourite artists that have influenced our work are Australia's Brad Walls and the Swede Marcus Cederberg," Sarah says.

"Both use a combination of drone photography and minimalism which is not very common among minimalist photographers as a whole.

"Our images were featured in the coffee table book *Minimalism in Photography* by the German publishing company te Neues in

2022, which was an absolute thrill and honour." Their debut exhibition *A Take on Minimalism* features 38 drone shots

of Fremantle, country WA and Far North Queensland, taken over the past four years.

Sarah says they learned to fly a drone in 2020 during lockdown.

"At the time we were living together in moderate covid restrictions in Port Douglas," she says.

"Lucy flew the drone and took most of the images in the early days, with both of us involved in the editing process. I then took over the drone photography when she returned to Melbourne.

"Our image of a girl, sitting on a pool float ring reading a magazine in the middle of a basketball court won the Single Shot category of *Capture Magazine's* Australasia's Top Emerging Photographers Award in 2021."

It's been a nomadic life for the Jenkins family – Sarah trained as a nurse at Fremantle Hospital in the early 80s and was in charge of the Red Cross Blood Transfusion Centre for a spell.

She lived in North Freo for 11 years, when Lucy was born, before moving to Sydney in 2015 and Port Douglas in 2020.

Just over a year ago, she decided





to come back to WA and live in South Fremantle.

Meanwhile, Lucy recently moved to the other side of the world to work at the renowned architects Foster + Partners in London.

She's still involved in "ideas" and the processing of images, and just bought a new drone, so we might get some minimalist shots of Wimbledon.

"The world is our canvas, and



• Lucy and Sarah Jenkins (top left), Sarah flying her drone (bottom left) and one of their arty drone shots *Don't go breaking my heart*.

we can't wait to share our creations with the people of Perth," Sarah says.

A Take on Minimalism is at the Moores Building Art Space in Fremantle from February 17-March 3. It's free and open daily from 10am-3pm. A raffle on closing night will raise funds for Neuromuscular WA, which supports people living with muscular dystrophy and neuromuscular conditions.

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Deep-fried manna



COULDN'T understand why Bicton Fish and Burger Grill was so busy on a Wednesday night.

I placed my order in advance and still had to wait 20 minutes when I got there, and the waiting time was up to 40 minutes when I left.

Then my wife "Special K", a practising Catholic, explained that it was the start of Lent (Ash Wednesday) and eating meat was frowned upon by the Big Man.

Thankfully the chipple had a long row of plastic seats, so it was a comfortable wait for my deep-fried, God-friendly goodies.

Situated on Bristol Avenue, just off Preston Point Road, Bicton Fish and Burger Grill is part of a small group of shops including Cellarbrations, Terra Mare and Urban Hair.

It's got that classic suburban feel and was super busy with chaotic parking on the verge (people were desperate to get their fishy fix).

It happened to be Valentine's night as well and there was the odd couple leaving Terra Mare, clutching a red rose and wiping sugo stains off their chin.

The menu at Bicton Fish and Burger Grill was very reasonably priced – their standard hake and chips was \$14, a small hake and chips was \$8.50 and they did a kids pack with crumbed fish nuggets and chips for \$8.50.

Other fish included Shark (\$15), Spanish Mackerel (\$15) and local Goldband Snapper (\$21), and there was an extensive range of extras including dim sim, potato cakes, crab sticks, squid rings, prawns and scallops. There was also a decent line-up of beef, chicken and fish burgers; a smart move to attract a younger clientele who just fancy a snack.

But I was here for the arteryhardening family pack (\$70.60). There was also a meal for two (\$41.30) and a seafood basket (\$22.80).

The interior was classic local chippie – drinks fridge, chalkboard and faded photos of the Indian Ocean. It had a bit of character and was slightly frayed around the edges. I liked it.

A nice touch was the "Brag Board" where people pinned photos of the impressive fish they had caught.

Once back home we got hoed into the family pack, which was humongous and could have easily fed six ravenous Catholics.

There was six battered fillets, a mound of chips and tons of deepfried prawns, squid and dim sim (if you didn't want dim sim you could get crab sticks or pineapple fritters instead).

The hake was perfectly cooked and the crunchy batter was golden and not too greasy. It was filling, well-seasoned and

It was filling, well-seasoned and good value, so it ticked all the boxes for your local chippie. The thick-cut chips were

excellent and had a satisfying crunch. Seafood can be hit or miss in chip shops, especially when it's battered.

But this family pack came with a bevy of thick, juicy tail-on prawns which were a delight to eat. Really good quality.

The squid was just as nice – often it can be like chewing rubber bands – but this were perfectly cooked and quite tender.

I was a bit nervous about my takeaway as the staff were super busy on Ash Wednesday and I wondered if the food would have



suffered. But it was well-priced, good quality fish and chips, and the family thoroughly enjoyed it.

family thoroughly enjoyed it. I'll be back to try their crumbed and grilled fish, and maybe even a cheeky fish burger.

As we were clearing the table, I asked my young kids what they were giving up for Lent? "School" said one, "Religion"

said the other.

Bicton Fish and Burger Grill 39B Bristol Ave, Bicton 9319 3020

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herald end at home





Numero uno

OU would be truly living the dream at this riverside Applecross mansion.

If the *Chook* syndicate had won the record-breaking Powerball, we might have bought this property and all lived together lived like a dysfunctional episode of *Friends* (I'm not saying who the *Herald* owner would be...)

Alas, we still have to work for a living, but writing about this five bedroom five bathroom home is a joy. Situated at 1A Spey Road – what an address – you are literally two homes back from the foreshore, but far enough up the hill to have fantastic vistas of the Swan River.

It would feel like an endless holiday living in this abode, which has amazing resort-style facilities including a huge pool, massive spa, cabana and gym. The facade is an absolute

The facade is an absolute stunner with matching balconies, Roman-style pillars and manicured gardens. It's sure to set tongues wagging as guests arrive for cocktail parties and glitzy soirees.

with a massive triple chandelier dangling from the soaring atrium. The polished blackbutt floors

The polished blackbutt floors add a tropical air and complement the clean architectural lines and natural light streaming through the stylish windows.

The home has a superb layout with the ground floor featuring a stunning open plan living/dining/ kitchen area, plus a formal dining





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room, lounge, study/home office and balcony.

There's also two ensuite bedrooms, making it perfect for visiting guests who want to be totally self-contained.

Upstairs are the remaining bedrooms including the palatial main which has a gigantic walkin robe, opulent ensuite with standalone bath, and a fantastic balcony to enjoy those sweeping river views.

The fun doesn't stop there with the property featuring an entertaining area in the basement, complete with bathroom and sauna.

But given the current heatwave, most people would be spending time in the gorgeous pool in the back garden, which has a cabana, giant spa and a landscaped garden with magnolias and bamboo. It really is a lush oasis to enjoy with family and friends.

This home has too many features to mention but includes gated entry, gourmet kitchen with bespoke cabinetry, two hot water systems and a water filtration system, and two double garages with power and additional storage (one



plumbed and one air-conditioned). Situated on a whopping 1236sqm block with 689sqm of living space, this stunning home is not far from the Ardross Street café/shopping strip, South of Perth Yacht Club and Tompkins Park, and it's near lots of top schools like Santa Maria College and Aquinas.

Home open today (Saturday February 17) 4:15pm-5pm Suitable for buyers around \$6M-plus Offers by March 2 (unless sold prior) 1A Spey Road, Applecross Hartanto Properties 9364 2788 Agent

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10 Ways to Fix Rental Crisis

t is widely recognised that insufficient supply of housing is the main cause of rising rents. It's a simple supply and demand equation; low supply plus high demand equals higher rents. Astonishingly, the main supplier of the rental homes - family investors-are mostly ignored by governments and are actively vilified by the Greens.

Policies that disincentivise the suppliers of rental homes, such as rent caps or rent freezes, end up diminishing the supply and rents continue to rise. With changes to Stage 3 tax cuts heading through parliament, debate around negative gearing and capital gains tax policy settings has been re-kindled with speculation that Labor will go back on another election policy promise and dust off policies they took to the 2016 & 2019 elections. This would be a very bad idea.



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- Develop a cohesive national industry-3. government program of awareness materials for renters.
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This would be a very bad idea

In the absence of an alternate plan to deliver affordable rental homes, private unsophisticated investors remain the answer to supply and policy changes that turn them away would make rental affordability far worse.

Here's a practical ten-point plan to help tenants:

- 1. Coordinate State and Territory bond agencies to track data on tenancy numbers and tenures.
- Monitor rental pain points, particularly tenancies not professionally managed.

- Commission an immediate occupancy audit across Government owned and funded housing.
- Develop a feasibility study for re-7. purposing non-residential real estate into residential housing.
- 8. Examine options for non-conventional rapid build homes in high areas of economic growth and housing need.
- Implement the National Cabinet target 9. to build 1.2 million homes by 2030 and have performance mechanisms that hold governments and industry accountable to achieve this.
- 10. Keep current tax settings for negative gearing and capital gains tax.

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



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February 17 – February 24, 2024



ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Venus, Mars and Pluto are within three degrees of each other. This suggests that your relationships are diving into a new level of real. Pluto is the big mover here and his agenda is regeneration and renewal; whether we are ready for it or not. Buckle up your intimacy seat belt. Enjoy the ride.



TAURUS (Apr 21 – May 20)

Venus, your planet, is in Aquarius, conjunct Mars and Pluto. With Pluto, the archtransformational catalyst as a part of the party, life is bound to place the cat amongst the pigeons in the realm of relationships. Expect any dissonance between ideals and reality to come forthrightly to the fore.



GEMINI (May 21 - June 21) The Moon begins her week in Gemini,

filling your heart with feeling, and the desire to reflect. She is in a positive relationship with Venus, Mars and Pluto who have all recently moved into Aquarius. Your sense of wonder takes the sting out of matters that are intensely problematic for others



CANCER (June 22 - July 22) The Moon begins her week in Gemini,

setting a swarm of thoughts loose in your head. On Monday the Sun moves into Pisces, deepening your sense that life is full of depth and wonder. Come Wednesday, the Moon will move into Cancer, bringing you fully back home to your feelings.



LEO (July 23 - Aug 22)

Come Monday, the Sun moves into Pisces. This takes you into a world of emotion that challenges you in such a way that you discover something new about yourself. It will wake your heart up to the wonders of imagination in ways that are surprising and new. Use this to master your art.



VIRGO (Aug 23 - Sept 22) As the Sun moves into Pisces on Monday,

so life begins to shine her light into your blind spots for a month. This will be especially so in your relationships. With Venus, Mars and Pluto conjunct in Aquarius, there's a good chance this will be a truly transformational ride. Embrace this freely.



LIBRA (Sept 23 - Oct 23)

Venus has joined forces with Mars and Pluto, in Aquarius. This adds a powerful intensity to the process of personal regeneration you are already in. It really is time to set your priorities on track. A burst of determination is in order. Life will motivate you, if you can't get yourself into gear



SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 21)

Bring your sensitivity together with your determination, and your capacity to get things done. The outcome will be creative and surprising. The Sun will be in Pisces on Monday, softening some of the challenges that are facing you. Your feelings makes perfect sense. Life is now affirming it.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 - Dec 21) The more open you can be to fresh ideas

ones that are big enough to shift you on your axis, the more the authority of your perception is noticed and appreciated. Saturn, who crystalises things, and Jupiter, who expands things, are operating in harmony. Enjoy a feeling of competence.



CAPRICORN (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

As the Sun and Mercury pop into Pisces, so your moves will derive more from the way you feel. There will be less logic involved and quite possibly more grace. Give your true friendships energy and attention. It by sharing with like minded souls that fresh ideas and visions are hatched.



AQUARIUS (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

Venus moves into Aquarius, joining Mars and Pluto. Within a couple of days, Mercury and the Sun move out. Adding the love planets to Pluto, the planet of regeneration and transformation, means that relationships are in for a creative overhaul.

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PAINTING FOR PLEASURE is a group of artists ¥ who meet weekly to work on our individual creations. We give encouragement to each other but there is no tuition so some experience is necessary. Every Thursday 10:30-2:30 at a central venue in Melville. Call for further information on 0419 767 937

POSITIVE PARENTING GROUP- Assisting Ų parents to grow their strengths and skills to do one of the most important jobs in the world- raise their kids. Starts February 29th, 10am-12pm in Fremantle. Contact Stephanie 0404 703 554 email: somartitherapy@gmail.com

RELATIONSHIP ISSUES?? CoDA may help, a ¥ fellowship of people whose common purpose is to develop healthy relationships. Every Tues 6-7 pm, Thurs 10-11 am 88 Bawdan St Willagee (Crn Horn PI)

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FREMANTLE BRIDGE CLUB hold supervised social Bridge: Every Tues 9.30am and Thurs 6.30-9pm Inc beginners lessons. Contact Sue 0409 372 222

FUN QUIZ is for family and friends who want an enjoyable night out testing their knowledge of trivia, personalities & facts. Every 1st Thursday of the month from 6:30 to 9pm at Cockburn Bowls & Recreation Club, 40 Birchley Road, Yangebup (off Beelar Drive). Come early and enjoy a variety of hot food at Bowl & Fork Café. Drinks available at The Legends Bar. There are loads of prizes, many drawn at random, as well as raffles. Cost is only \$10pp, which goes mostly towards our Rotary Cockburn Charity account, supporting some 20 local community groups. Reserve a table via SMS at 0407 689 131, stating Captain's name, Team name and number of people on team; tables of 4 to 6 (max)

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PISCES (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

Come Wednesday, the Sun will be in Pisces. The Sun rejuvenates our

passion to claim our individuality from the collective pressure put on us to be what others expect us to be. Apollo, Greek God of the Sun, was the breaker of family curses. Slip out of the curse of conditioned beliefs



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· Could the next Sam Kerr (top right) or Mary Fowler (bottom right) be playing at the Girls Festival of Community Soccer, which is back after a successful launch last year (above).

Festival kicks on

THE feelgood factor from the Women's World Cup is still alive with the City of Fremantle announcing a three-year sponsorship of the Girls Festival of Community Soccer.

On Saturday March 16, more than 500 girls will play in a fivea-side tournament at Fremantle Oval

A total of 35 teams played in the inaugural Festival last

year, which was inspired by the Women's World Cup matches held in Perth.

The 2024 tournament is a sellout with 62 teams from 12 clubs participating – up 80 per cent from last year – with most based in the southern suburbs.

Fremantle City Football Club academy coach Yasmin Philp says they are leading the way in women's soccer.

"Fremantle City Football Club proudly takes the lead as WA's

largest female football club," she says. "The club has an ambitious goal in mind – gender parity within 2027.

"The Festival is a significant step in this direction and provides a wonderful opportunity for all girls to enjoy the game.

Enrolment fees will support the Festival's charity partner, the Child Cancer Research Foundation, led by CEO Andrea Alexander.

"Support from this event will assist with vital life-saving



research into childhood cancers," she says

Each team will play a minimum of four games, with players ranging in age from 8 to 17 years old

Girls Festival of Community Soccer organiser Traci Gamblin says there has been a great reaction to the event.

"The enthusiasm we're seeing for the Festival confirms the community's understanding of the wide-reaching benefits to girls from playing team sports," she

"This great event offers girls an opportunity to play a sport they love, in a fun and supportive festival atmosphere."

The Festival is sold out, but there is a waitlist in case of cancellations. For more info go to www.festivalofcommunitysoccer. com.au.



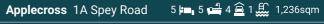




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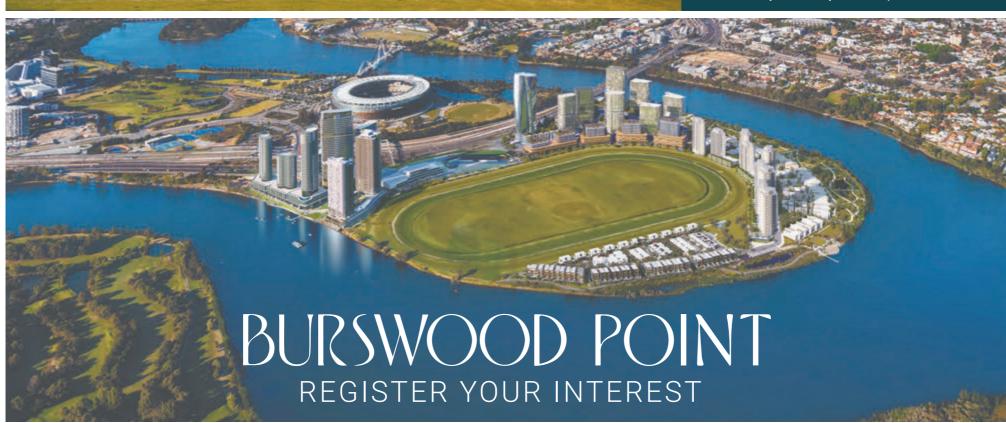
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