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# The Perth Voice



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## Locals claim green promise paved over

by STEVE GRANT

BAYSWATER residents have questioned why an area of their town centre shown as leafy green in Metronet's concept plans for the new train station has ended up barren concrete and paving.

Metronet insists it has lots of plantings to come shortly - more trees than it took out to build the new station, which is the first stage of the proposed Morley-Ellenbrook line and connects to the completed Forrestfield-Airport link.

But Bayswater deputy mayor Elli Petersen-Pik can't see how the area in front of the post office and IGA on Whatley Crescent can be greened up, given no gaps were left in the paving.

"They have put in some garden beds at the bottom of the hill, closer to the road, but there's nothing along the footpath," Cr Petersen-Pik said.

"We are struggling with the developments of the 70s and 80s and we can't do anything about the difficulties they create, but this was a brand new development.

"The whole town centre requires more trees, especially around the station - that's what was promised and is shown on the concept plan.

"There's space for trees, they can still do it," he said.

Cr Petersen-Pik said he wasn't alerted to any stepping back from the greener concept plans, and said it was disappointing for business owners who've put up with major disruptions during the construction work, only to be left with a drab result.

Bayswater Deserves Better shared a post by Cr Petersen-Pik on the topic amongst its members, generating a string of gripes about



• Metronet's concept plan (inset) shows this ramp as a leafy stroll to the new station - but this field of concrete has locals worried.

# Where did our trees go?

the lack of greenery.

"You nailed it," BDB member Tessa Hopkins said.

"Baysie town centre is a barren desert of concrete.

"I asked Metronet if they'll be making planting holes in the many metres of footpath paving, and in the new fully concreted median strips, but they didn't provide a response.

"It's bad enough that the state government steamrolled the community and council to approve high rise apartment blocks in our town centre, the heritage heart.

"But building a super-sized train, bus and car junction without the opportunity for any trees?

"A local town centre destroyed and a local community gaslighted. Too much collateral damage."

A spokesperson for Metronet said landscaping and revegetation were due to occur when majority of the structural works for the new station were completed.

"Within the station precinct and town centre, a variety of 174 trees of various sizes will be planted, including 100L, 200L, 500L and 1000L to 1500L, which are typically 2.5m to 5m tall trees," they said in a statement.

"The planting will include 16,000 species planted within 4,300 square metres of new garden beds.

"There will be a focus on

planting in the station precinct and surrounding locations including Railway Parade and Whatley Crescent between Hotham Street bridge to Station, and Whatley Crescent from Station to East of Cobden Street.

"Trees planted will incorporate water-sensitive urban design principals and include rain gardens.

"Metronet has worked closely with the City of Bayswater to determine tree planting locations outside the main station precinct along the rail corridor.

"A mixture of irrigated and non-irrigated trees will be planted in the space along the rail corridor."

## Cock-a-doodly-do

We really  
need you!

by ANDREW SMITH  
Publisher

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## Once upon a Scotch

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# New digs cements education 'hub'

by STEVE GRANT

A 31-STOREY student accommodation tower has been approved for Wellington Street, with an opening date coinciding with plans to move Edith Cowan University's campus to the CBD in 2026.

With a gym, cinema and podcast rooms on the first floor podium and a sky lounge, terrace and games rooms on the rooftop, the flats will have beds for 858 students.

They will be managed by Australia's largest student accommodation operator UniLodge, with executive chairman Peter Bates telling the decision-makers on the JDAP panel the development will reactivate an under-utilised vacant lot and complement the new Switch students digs across the road.

## Wellington

"Wellington Street west of King Street is lacking streetscape activism, impacted by a largely transient workforce," Mr Bates said.

"The Switch development has already seen a significant increase in streetscape activation outside of traditional working hours."

Describing the Wellington Street precinct as a fast-emerging "educational hub", Mr Bates said more students living in the area would improve safety and comfort.

"The new Edith Cowan campus relocation to Yagan Square will drive demand to the CBD for international and domestic students.



• Students living in the proposed apartment tower will get a gym, cafe, cinema and podcast rooms.

"We understand Edith Cowan will not be replacing any of the decommissioned accommodation from the Mt Lawley campus and therefore will create a structural undersupply of purpose-built

accommodation, even before consideration of the additional enrolment a new campus will attract."

The development was also supported by Study Perth CEO

Derryn Belford: "Having seen significant investment in both Perth Arena and the CityLink buildings, the area west of King Street is still a very quiet part of the CBD," Mr Belford said.

"Student accommodation in this location will make it both a neighbourhood and a destination, and I'm sure will attract future investment as foot traffic and out-of-hours activities increase."

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# Highgate builds, East Perth bogs down

by STEVE GRANT

THE Cook government has announced it will put \$12 million into Highgate Primary School to ease pressure on its crowded classrooms, but negotiations over a new school for East Perth have become bogged down in another tiff between Labor and lord mayor Basil Zempilas.

Education minister Tony Buti announced the Highgate extensions this week, saying it would create six classrooms for students and additional toilets in

a two-storey modular classroom. It will be connected to the school's existing two-storey building.

The Education Department has also signed an agreement with Vincent council to allow students to access nearby Birdwood Square for exclusive play during school hours, while school staff may get allocated council parking bays so some at Highgate can be repurposed into green space.

"Highgate Primary School is a great school, with fantastic students, teachers and staff, that is in demand," Mr Buti said.

"The Department of Education has worked very hard with the school community to produce an

innovative solution to the growing enrolments, while we build the new inner city primary school planned for East Perth."

But that process has been bogged down by a dispute over council-owned land behind the WACA that's been flagged for the school.

Mr Zempilas has insisted he wants the Cook government to pay for the land up-front, citing correspondence 12 months ago that he says show they offered to buy it from the City.

But Mr Buti says that's not the case, and while the wording in the correspondence was "unclear", he thought he'd cleared up with

Mr Zempilas that the government wanted the land gratis.

The land is the Queens Garden carpark in Nelson Crescent, which earns the City around \$1.5 million each year in parking revenue.

The City says the state government wants about two-thirds of the site for the school, which would need approval from Parliament to change an Act introduced for the 1962 Commonwealth Games. The Chevron Hilton Hotel Agreement Act 1960 requires the City to provide parking on the site.

The Cook government has said it would happily repeal the legislation - if the City gives up the

site, saying a new primary school would provide it with enormous benefits.

Perth MLA John Carey said the East Perth school would be the biggest investment in a primary school in the state's history.

"Our community has advocated strongly for enhanced education facilities, as we see continued growth and more families choosing to live in the inner-city area," Mr Carey said.

"As our city evolves, the State Government has made significant investments to schools across the inner-city including Bob Hawke College and Mount Lawley Senior High School."

# Out on a limb

by KATHERINE KRAAYVANGER

THE nation's keenest treetop athletes will descend on Bayswater for the ArbWest State Tree Climbing Championship this week as part of ArbFest 2024.

World number 2 climber Jack Lewis will compete, as well as Australian women's national champion Alana Murray, who is ranked fourth in the world.

ArbWest vice president Kelvin Ussher said ArbFest was a "three-angle approach" to showcase the arboriculture industry, with the climbing competition running alongside an industry expo complete with machinery displays, and family-friendly activities such as an eight-metre climbing wall.

Mr Ussher says community

understanding of arboriculture is necessary to protecting Perth's urban tree canopy, as the city's capacity for canopy is very low.

Mr Ussher says the education campaign is a "big push" to make sure the Perth public is onboard to boost the city's tree retention and to minimise the environmental impacts of tree-logging.

"It's all about returning trees to urban areas and increasing the canopy coverage throughout the city," Mr Ussher said.

Another facet of the education campaign is to educate Perth residents about the prevalence of uncertified and untrained tree-lopers in the metropolitan area, which is also a risk to the urban tree canopy.

Mr Ussher says that untrained

service providers are a threat because they will often tell clients to "unnecessarily" remove trees when there are often other solutions.

"The quality of advice that you get from someone who has never studied arboriculture, compared to those who have, is considerably different," Mr Ussher said.

"You can't provide education if you haven't been taught it."

Mr Ussher says the risks associated with using uncertified tree-logging services can result in safety issues for both client and provider.

"What we find is a large portion of them don't follow the occupational health and safety regulations or WorkSafe guidelines," he said.



• Australia's best tree climbers are heading to Bayswater.

"If someone employs a contractor like that, not only are they getting potentially ill advice, but they are also putting themselves at risk."

State and local governments have cracked down on these

fraudsters in the last decade, but Mr Ussher says there is still a long way to go.

"It has gotten a lot better," he said, "however I would still say there is a probably fifty-fifty

• Continued page 4

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## Palm Sunday 24 March

9.30am Palm Sunday Worship Service  
at Ross Memorial Church

10am Palm Sunday Worship Service  
at Wesley Church

featuring the Wesley Chamber Choir and  
Angela Currie (Director of Music/Organist)

12pm Palm Sunday Worship Service  
at Trinity Church

featuring a performance of Brahms' Second  
Symphony performed by Camerata 1685  
conducted by Jangoo Chapkhana

## Monday 25 March to Wednesday 27 March

6pm Holy Week Worship Services  
at Trinity Church

## Maundy Thursday 28 March

6pm Tenebrae Service and Last Supper  
at Trinity Church

## Good Friday 29 March

9.30am Good Friday Service  
at Ross Memorial Church

10am Good Friday Service  
at Trinity Church

10am Stations of the Cross  
at Wesley Church

featuring the Wesley Chamber Choir,  
Angela Currie (Director of Music/Organist)  
and Alessandro Pittorino (organist)

5pm Contemplation in Music  
at Wesley Church

featuring Krista Low (cello) and  
Angela Currie (Director of Music/Organist)

## Easter Saturday 30 March

5pm Stations of the Cross  
at Trinity Church

## Easter Sunday 31 March

9.30am Easter Celebration  
at Ross Memorial Church

10am Easter Celebration  
at Trinity Church

featuring the music of George Frideric Handel,  
conducted by Alessandro Pittorino (Director)  
with an Easter Egg Hunt after the service

10am Easter Celebration  
at Wesley Church

with Wesley Brass, Wesley Chamber Choir and  
Angela Currie (Director of Music/Organist)

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## John Keene



The conductor is critical in giving the orchestra a raison d'être: shaping the music into an exciting, new interpretation, exploring the scope of the emotions contained in the composition in the limited time of a few rehearsals. John Keene has a deep understanding of the score and innovative approaches. He is also FCO's new Artistic Advisor and also a brilliant double bass player.

## FCO on YouTube Channel

Those who were unfortunate to miss the November concert can find the those and many more recordings on FCO's own YouTube channel.

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# WA women

MARCH is Women's History Month, and although the women about to be profiled are not historical, they are certainly making history. This is the first in a series of articles about some of the 2024 inductees to the Western Australian Women's Hall of Fame.

by KATHERINE KRAAYVANGER

LORRAINE HAMMOND is an associate professor at the School of Education at Edith Cowan University.

That's what the Melville resident describes as her "day job". However, she has also worked around the country from Fitzroy Crossing, through Canberra, and down in Tasmania, implementing a new approach in teaching literacy to young children.

It is significant work. "Being literate has a huge impact on your life chances," Prof Hammond says.

"Your capacity to economic success, social success, to be able to engage with other people, your employment, your wellbeing," she lists.

Previously, Prof Hammond says, young Australians were taught to read using the 'whole language' method which "really wasn't considered to be evidence based"



• ECU professor Lorraine Hammond

effective".

"The human brain is not designed for reading as such, it's designed for talking," she said.

"That assumes that talking is

the same as reading, and they're different."

Prof Hammond has advocated for evidence-based teaching – which incorporates "phonemic

"When you went to school, you would have been encouraged to read from the beginning and you would have been given books that had lots of pictures," she said.

"You would have been encouraged to look at the first letter and guess, and if you got really stuck then you might read at the end of the sentence and go back and try and figure out what the word is."

The whole language method assumes reading is a natural ability in children, which Dr Hammond says "isn't terribly

## Out on a limb

• From page 3  
chance that the contractor is uncertified.

"We're really angling to tell the public to not just use Arbwest members but to use anyone that's certified."

Mr Ussher hopes the community-based theme of this year's ArbFest will help draw people to find out more about the industry and to enjoy the "spectacular" skill of the climbing, which he says will be "adrenaline packed".

"Arboriculture is an untapped outdoor career," he

said.

"ArbWest membership has grown 35 per cent in one year. We're really starting to gain traction, which is excellent."

ArbFest 2024 will be held this Sunday, March 16, at Cloughton Reserve in Bayswater. The climbing competition will begin at 8am and will continue throughout the day. It is free entry to the competition and industry expo, and food and drinks will be available. For more information, visit the ArbWest website.



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## PUBLIC NOTICE

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2005  
AMENDMENT 12 TO LOCAL PLANNING SCHEME NO. 2 – FINAL ENDORSEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the abovementioned scheme amendment has been gazetted and is now in effect. The formalisation of Amendment No.12 means that planning applications for new Service Stations in particular zones are not permitted. Existing Service Stations that were impacted by the amendment will be established as additional uses within the Scheme.

The amendment documents are available for viewing at [www.imagine.vincent.wa.gov.au](http://www.imagine.vincent.wa.gov.au) or at the City of Vincent Administration Centre.

For enquiries, please contact [cameron.hartley@vincent.wa.gov.au](mailto:cameron.hartley@vincent.wa.gov.au) or call 9273 6546.

David MacLennan  
Chief Executive Officer

[WWW.VINCENT.WA.GOV.AU](http://WWW.VINCENT.WA.GOV.AU)



# making history

awareness, phonics, and comprehension" – and which requires explicit instruction, instead of assuming the child will learn to read naturally.

"We help children become aware that the words that you speak comprise of sounds and those sounds match up to letters," Dr Hammond said.

"If you learn to apply that code, and you do it enough, then your brain starts to start to automatise the process of reading."

"Suddenly you can read anything new and you can read words we've never been taught before, because your brain has got the hang of this system."

Explicit instruction is important to Australian children because the English language is notoriously difficult to learn, Dr Hammond says.

## Languages

Unlike more sensible languages such as Spanish, which has 28 letters and 28 corresponding sounds, English has 26 letters and 44 sounds that has been built throughout history and which is difficult to learn without explicit instruction.

"The French came in and gave a layer of language to English, and then there's the Anglo Saxon layer and then there's the Greek layer," Dr Hammond said.

"It's really complicated." Dr Hammond has worked extensively on the Department of Education's Kimberley Schools Project, which she says has had a large impact on Indigenous children living in remote communities such as Fitzroy Crossing and Halls Creek.

"There are some children in remote communities who are now better off than their parents," she said.

"The significance of that is of course, these young people can now consider going on into high school and they will have to access to go on to university or

**'The way you're taught to read was incredibly popular, but it wasn't the right way to teach reading'**



• Prof Hammond at work in the classroom.

TAFE, because they're literate. "The reason that's changed is because we have changed the way we teach reading."

Dr Hammond was inducted into the Western Australian Women's Hall of Fame last week for her services to education. It follows an Order of Australia during the 2019 Australia Day honours for her contribution to tertiary education.

Dr Hammond says she is "very proud" to accept the induction, which she shares with

the teachers who chose to take "a big leap of faith" for better student outcomes.

"The way you're taught to read was incredibly popular," she said, "but it wasn't the right way to teach reading."

"So many teachers have said 'Okay, we'll do what this research says', and then their children have done really well."

"I share recognition with them because they got on board and made a big difference to children's lives."

## voice mail

### Courtesy doesn't have to be mandated

UP until 2017 Vincent council members were required to respond to community members within defined timeframes (two days for phone calls, and five days for written communication).

In December 2017 the council removed this requirement from the Code of Conduct, in what I consider to be the most underhand and deceitful way.

No reference was made to removing the requirement in the council report (community members would not have been aware a change was proposed) and the change was not advertised for community comment.

What's more, the staff report made it clear that all council members were aware of the changes to the document (I'm looking at you Crs Castle and Hallett).

At this year's annual meeting of electors, the community members present requested that the requirement be put back into the Code of Conduct.

The administration's response is to do nothing.

They simply say that the City's Code of Conduct complies with the Act.

That is true, but that is the "do the minimum" response that is becoming all too familiar at Vincent.

The Act makes provisions that allow councils to add to the 'model' document – but the staff couldn't be fagged. The feedback I have received over the last few years is that councillors only occasionally respond to the community.

The notable exceptions that I have heard of have been Cr Alexander and former Crs Gontaszewski and Ioppolo.

I expect that the former mayor also responded, but I haven't any feedback to support that.

At the last election at least two candidates committed to respond to all communication.

It's a sad day when candidates need to make a point of difference of something so fundamental in the democratic process.

And it is a sad day where you have to legislate for something like good manners. But that's what it has come to.

If people want to put up their hand to represent the community, they should be prepared to engage with that community.

Council will be deciding what to do about this at the March 19 meeting.

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• The Mace Francis Orchestra like to wear black and sit on black leather couches (Mace Francis is middle, front).

It sounds like Frank Zappa wrote the soundtrack for a 1970s cop show.

*Kojak*. Then the track enters a *Birth of the Cool*-style phase, until the drummer announces some intense jazz fusion with distorted guitar and a serpentine sax solo (imagine *Bitches Brew* meets *A Tribute to Jack Johnson*).

The near-seven minute jazz odyssey ends with some Zappa-style guitar work and a brassy fanfare.

The superb *No Postcode* will be killer live and it must have been quite the send-off for O'Connor at his wake.

Francis says the name of the song was inspired by the odd meters in the song.

"The bassline for *No Postcode* came first and was in a time signature of three bars of 7/8 and then a bar of 6/8... so 7776," he says. "I didn't know what to call the piece and as the number looked like a postcode, I was hoping it would reveal a place and a story, but the search came up as no postcode!"

The song is the title track from Francis's new contemporary jazz album, which touches on everything from funk, rock, noise guitar and ambient sounds to dark country.

The composer/band leader is a big cheese in the Perth jazz scene – he's artistic director of the Perth International Jazz Festival and WA Youth Jazz Orchestra, a Churchill Fellow, and band leader of several projects including Mace Francis Plus 11 and New York Nonet.

But the Mace Francis Orchestra is his true love, because he has

complete artistic freedom.

"It's so nice to be able to write music that is me, rather than having to bend the music into a style," Francis says.

"The Mace Francis Orchestra is my main creative vehicle where I can really express what I'm feeling or thinking at the time of composing – more so than in any other band."

Francis started the orchestra in 2004, after graduating from WAAPA, to experiment with big band compositions.

Over the years it has pushed the envelope of what a big band can do, tossing Glenn Miller in the bin to embrace more contemporary band leaders like Bob Brookmeyer, Thad Jones, Bill Holman and Maria Schneider.

Francis keeps the orchestra to around 13 high-quality musicians, so they can be versatile and play smaller venues.

The core of the group is the five original members – Ricki Malet (trumpet), Ben Collins (saxophone), Mark Sprogowski (saxophone), Catherine Noblet (trombone) and Greg Brenton (drums).

Over the past 20 years the orchestra has gone on umpteen national tours and released 10 albums. Their latest *No Postcode* was six years in the making and the title track is a corker.

**No Postcode is out on April 12 and the Mace Francis Orchestra will be doing a special album launch gig at The Ellington Jazz Club in Perth on Saturday April 13. Tix at [ellingtonjazz.com.au](http://ellingtonjazz.com.au)**

# You've got mail



arts  
STEPHEN POLLOCK

THERE'S a poignant backstory to the new Mace Francis Orchestra single *No Postcode*.

The track was commissioned by Francis's close friend Victor O'Connor, who wanted it played at his funeral.

*No Postcode* was sadly premiered at O'Connor's wake, but despite the sombre occasion, the song is not a lament and sounds like Frank

Zappa wrote the soundtrack for a 1970s cop show.

Kicking off with discordant, fuzz-box guitar and noodling drums, it's not long before the song bursts into life and the brass section blasts out a riff that is like something from a car chase in



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• (left) WASO playing the score to *Star Wars* photo by Rebecca Mansell, and (above) a scene from *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*.

# Musical force

 arts  
STEPHEN POLLOCK

“May the French horn be with you...” Well, not quite, but the classical world and the *Star Wars* universe will collide when the WA Symphony Orchestra accompany a special screening of *The Force Awakens* at the Riverside Theatre in Perth. The nearly 100-strong orchestra will perform John Williams’ musical score live to the film, adding grandeur and emotional depth to all those droids, jedis and shaggy wookiees. “But it’s not one of the original movies!” I hear you cry.

Don’t worry, most of the early classic themes are woven into the *The Force Awakens* score, which is widely regarded as one of the best in the *Star Wars* series, earning Williams his 50th Oscar nomination. Highlights include *Rey’s Theme* – at times playful, at times soaring – which has been hailed as one of the strongest pieces of music in the entire *Star Wars* canon. On the night, WASO associate conductor Jen Winley will wield her lightsaber, I mean baton, and put the Mos Eisley Cantina band through their paces. “This is a great score and deserved the Oscar nomination. It includes all the best of his original *Star Wars* score and includes some new themes for the new characters we meet,” Winley says.

“What is so clever is these new themes, especially for Rey and Kylo Ren, not only give us a glimpse into their character, but connect them to their heritage themes of The Force and Darth Vader. “One of the most exciting cues in the film is the *Scherzo for X-Wings*. It is non-stop space battle fun!” Williams is perhaps the greatest ever composer of film scores, writing iconic themes for umpteen classics including *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Jaws*, *Star Wars*, *E.T.: The Extra Terrestrial*, *Schindler’s List*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, the *Indiana Jones* franchise and *Jurassic Park*. In a career spanning seven decades he’s won 26 Grammys, five Oscars, seven BAFTAs, three Emmys, four Golden Globes and has had 54 Oscar nominations.

He’s one of those rare composers who is equally popular with the critics as the public. Winley says film scores should not be considered the flashy little brother of concertos, symphonies and opera. “Film scores are definitely not considered lightweight music; they are some of the most challenging music orchestras need to be able to play, especially John Williams.” she says. “What makes them so difficult is the endurance; they were never intended to be played live with the entire film and 2.5 hours of John Williams is a huge play for everyone. “Orchestral musicians and conductors are generally fans of film music, so it is quite a thrill to play the score live to your favourite films.” Winley is no stranger to Williams’ music – she conducted WASO in their John Williams 90th Birthday Bash in 2022 and for the live *Home Alone* play-along in 2021 (yes, Williams wrote the *Home Alone* score too). So are these film concerts a

gateway for younger people to get into classical music? “The musicians of the WASO are incredibly versatile, and performing live scores to film is just one of many different types of projects we do,” Winley says. “For me, the aim is not about film concerts being a gateway for younger audiences to come and experience a full symphony, but about making sure we, as an organisation, are connecting to as much of our community as we can do. “We do this through film, education, family, community outreach and classical concerts, as well as collaborations with rock bands and other arts organisations (including youth orchestras).” “...This live cinematic experience puts the power of orchestral music front and centre, enabling *Star Wars* fans to find deeper connections with the characters and action.” **Star Wars: The Force Awakens in Concert is on April 5/6/7 at the Riverside Theatre, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre. Tix at waso.com.au.**



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# Family classic

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There's a relaxing vibe to this two-storey abode with the inviting facade softened by leafy trees, plants and shrubs.

The owners have done a superb job of blending the tin roof with the darker verandah – a mix of textures and colours that is pleasing on the eye.

The hub of this family home is the spacious open plan living/dining/kitchen area.

Bathed in natural light, it's a gorgeous area with polished wooden floors and lovely views of

the back garden.

The kitchen is one of the nicest the *Voice* has seen – white stone benchtops complement the natural-grain cupboards and drawers.

The textures and colours are well balanced, making it stand out from the bog-standard white-on-white kitchens.

It's finished to the highest standard with a large island bench/breakfast bar and top-of-the-line appliances including 900mm Smeg stove, Arisit rangehood and Asko dishwasher.

The bedrooms continue the high standard and are incredibly spacious, especially the main which has room for a two-seater couch.

The main ensuite is fantastic



and has a large standalone bath, double vanities, huge rainfall shower and giant walk-in closet. You will feel like you are in a fancy hotel suite.

All the bedrooms have plush carpets, so no cold feet when autumn eventually hits.

There's plenty of living areas for a growing brood, including two study nooks.

The large back garden is a beauty with loads of different spaces to unwind with the family.

There's a large alfresco, fire pit, lawn and a side area with stylish lighting, bench seats and pizza oven. It's super flexible and great for large gatherings or for older kids who want their own space. There's another lawn out the front with bench seating. The home

includes ducted reverse cycle air conditioning throughout, Hybrid 1800 flooring, terrazzo tiles to laundry and powder room, and Mizu tapwear in all the bathrooms and ensuites.

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**WINTER IS COMING!**

## Case Study March 24

# Fancy Tap Water

## Plumber wisdom with Tony Young



Water filters are the flavour of the month and there are a lot of them on the market at the moment.

I must admit I am a bit sceptical, as mostly they over spec'd and over priced in my opinion... So, lets have a think about this logically before you part with \$4000 – 5000 and \$500 annually to maintain.

### A. I guess my starting point is 'WHY'?

ie My son has eczema and hard water and chlorine affects it... and then identify what you are trying to filter out... Solids... sand, scale Colour... iron Taste... chlorine, organic, Chemicals... chlorine, fluoride, calcium Bacteria... eColi

### B. How are we going to filter out these impurities

Filtering of solids is usually done by forcing the water through a porous medium .. ie ceramic, sand, fibre and measured in micros 1/1000th of a millimetre 2 – 5 micros is common

for this type of filtering. Tastes and odours are attenuated by carbon filter cartridges. Bacteria by Ultra violet light treatment.

### C. Where in your house you need to protect...

ie Do we need to filter garden and toilet water filtered? Your hwu, your shower or your kettle?

In my opinion, the \$75 filter in my fridge water does a pretty good job. So I get a little dubious about the benefits of \$4 -5k units I see advertised and installed, when the water that we drink starts above Australian Standard and world Health org standards?? First world problem?

Start with the name brands that are familiar... Puretec is one that springs to mind, the last one I priced was \$2500 installed... but in my in my opinion does no better job (than this human body can detect) than the \$400 double cannister unit under your kitchen sink.

Be aware that...

1. They can cost up to \$500 per year for maintenance (ie if a big heap of rubbish comes through the mains after a burst in the street... could wreck a few filters in a row?)
2. You can pay a lot for a fancy cover, for a apparatus that is the same underneath... but ultimately it is only the filter medium that does the work (the filtering).. so all the rest is window dressing.

On a re read that all sounds a bit cynical, but it can all lead to very fancy expensive tap water, 99% of which comes out of the tap for free

Conclusion... give the 'whats and whys' a bit of thought before you go all in

Goodluck!

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# Astrology with Sudhir

March 16 – March 23, 2024

**ARIES (Mar 21 – Apr 20)**  
On Monday the Sun enters Aries. The Sun's presence bolsters our sense of individuality, helps extricate us from familial patterns that restrict our identity and gives us access to what we have to offer our culture. Embrace all these things. You are ripe for the new, with peace in your heart.

**TAURUS (Apr 21 – May 20)**  
While the Sun has been sailing through Pisces, you have been pleasantly drifting. As it enters Aries on Wednesday, there will suddenly be a fire under you. Life is about to crank up your starter motor and set you on your way. Any resistance you have had to change, will now quickly melt away.

**GEMINI (May 21 – June 21)**  
Mercury will be conjunct Chiron on Thursday. Chiron is the wounded healer in mythology. Where our wound is, is where we learn the art of healing. Chiron is presently in Aries. The theme here is to focus on where you have acted rashly, or on where you have avoided embracing action at all.

**CANCER (June 22 – July 22)**  
The rising Moon will pass through Cancer early in the week, bringing a sense of comfort and familiarity. This will give you the confidence you need to navigate the Sun's entry into fiery Aries on Wednesday. The world will be both exciting and adventurous and more combative than.

**LEO (July 23 – Aug 22)**  
The Sun will move out of the deep waters of Pisces on Wednesday, into the fiery and adventurous realms of Aries. Whilst it has been on Pisces, you have been somewhat becalmed and befuddled. As it enters Aries your clarity and mojo will return. Rekindle your confidence and bravado.

**VIRGO (Aug 23 – Sept 22)**  
As Mercury passes in front of Chiron on Thursday, so your interest in and capacity for healing rekindles. Chiron is the wounded healer in mythology. Where we hurt is where we learn to heal. Note where you have been rash and where you have failed to take action. Assimilate both.

**LIBRA (Sept 23 – Oct 23)**  
When the Sun moves into Aries, as it will on Wednesday, your fear is that the peace and harmony you have worked for, will be rattled and lost. The truth is that if it is, then it is not real peace or real harmony. This month is for finding your strength, for finding your core. Steel your resolve.

**SCORPIO (Oct 24 – Nov 21)**  
The Sun moves out of the deep waters of Pisces, into fiery Aries, on Wednesday. Whilst it has been there, you have been granted access to currents of feeling that you had forgotten existed – and which have revitalised you. When it moves into Aries, your sense of adventure will kick in.

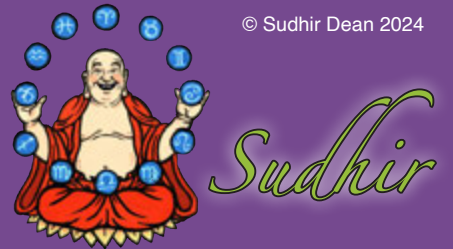
**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 – Dec 21)**  
Though you have had a certain amount of influence of late, the Pisces Sun let loose various bewildering forces that have made it hard for you to get traction. On Wednesday, the Sun moves into fiery Aries. This will give you the clarity, strength and kavoom that you have been missing.

**CAPRICORN (Dec 22 – Jan 19)**  
On Friday, Venus will meet up with your ruling planet, Saturn, in Pisces. This will soften your edges and bring further clarity, in what has been a confusing period. Pisces implies depths. Capricorn signifies heights. It's not possible to have one without the other. Love yourself up.

**AQUARIUS (Jan 20 – Feb 18)**  
Mars is on the last lap of his journey through Aquarius. He has brought you more fire than you are used to, along with a well-formed sense of adventure. He has given you access to your will and courage. Continue talking about what's most real with your small tribe of essence friends.

**PISCES (Feb 19 – Mar 20)**  
Come Wednesday, the Sun will move out of Pisces, having completed his annual visit. Along with Saturn he has been crystallising all that is real in you, and for you. His work is done for now. Your job is to swim away from the limelight and integrate all that the last month has taught you.

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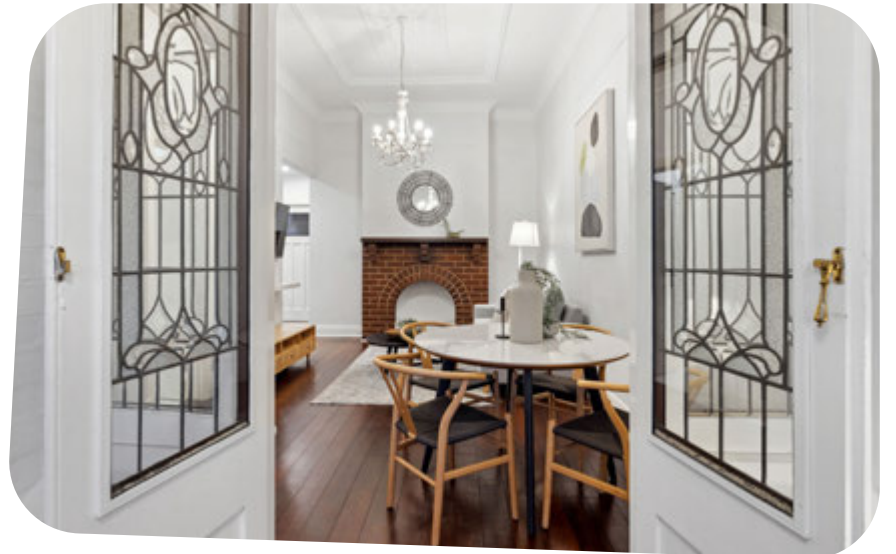
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