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FREE

Issue 4 September 2014

# Manji Cafe Bytes

Do you remember this Manji business from c1979 ?

## CUTTS CALAMITY

Cnr South West Highway & Brain St.  
Phone 711344

For All Your GIFT Ideas, Browse  
Around Our Extensive Range

CANE WARE, DINNERWARE, BRIC-A-BRAC,  
BENDIGO POTTERY, GOURMET COOKWARE,  
HOME DECORATIONS

INDOOR AND OUTDOOR PLANTS  
Plenty of Parking Bankcard Welcome



Welcome to Edition Four, and we hope you enjoy our stories for September.

SPRING is in the air and we all look forward to a return to longer days and warmer weather. It is a time of growth and yes, it's everywhere from flowers budding to birds nesting, so let's get out there and make the most of it!

Thanks once again to the Community Resource Centre for funding and as always to Emily for her support.

Copies of Manji Café Bytes are available online at <http://www.manjimup.crc.net.au/>  
We welcome feedback at [manjicafeytes@gmail.com](mailto:manjicafeytes@gmail.com)

### Manjimup Bluegrass & Old Time Music Weekend 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Bookings now open for workshops: The Company, Jim Fisher, Learn to Jam, Harmony Singing and the Bush Dance!

Book via  
<http://www.trybooking.com/Event/EventListingURL.aspx?aid=13733>

If you make it, bake it or grow it why not book a stall?!

Stalls can be booked for Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October for only \$15.00.  
Ph: 9772 1263

### THIS MONTH'S CHAT SUBJECT

and you're sure to have some fun with this one !!

**MY SISTER HAD ONE,  
AND IT WAS HORRIBLE !**

### TRANSPORTING THE NEWS



A lot of us are keen news followers, keeping up with what's happening close to home and beyond. The name Cutts has been very familiar in businesses around Manjimup for a long time (as you can see from the old ad top right). So when Jordan Cutts popped up as the GWN 7 news reporter for Kalgoorlie, the question was asked if he was from the South West.

Photo : L-R : Jordan, sister Maitlin, and cousin Hannah Samsa

And yes, Jordan was born in Bridgetown and spent 11 years living in Manjimup. His grandmother, Betty Cutts, still lives here, as do other relatives; and his parents Allan and Pauline were both born and raised in Manjimup. Jordan left town with his parents, along with his sister Maitlin in 2002. He finished his schooling in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, after which his university studies took him to Curtin University in Perth, and the University of Hertfordshire in the United Kingdom where he completed his degree in Journalism. Following graduation he worked at both "The Sunday Times" and the "Kalgoorlie Miner" newspapers, before being accepted into the post-graduate broadcasting course at WAAPA in late 2012.

His post-graduate studies brought him back to Perth, where he read radio news for 6PR and 96FM on weekends, before landing the job with GWN 7 in Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

Jordan still visits Manjimup when he can. He has fond memories of life in the South West, particularly time spent on holidays at Broke Inlet and Peaceful Bay.

So when next you see him on the news, remember he's a Manji product. We send our congratulations to Jordan and we look forward to his reports in the future on Perth 7 News.



**NEVER TELL ME THE SKY'S  
THE LIMIT  
WHEN THERE ARE  
FOOTPRINTS ON THE  
MOON**

Unknown

The Noongar word for  
this month is

**Boorong**  
rain

<http://www.noongarculture.org.au/spirituality/>

### HOMELESS PERSONS' WEEK

Today most of us went home and had showers, switched on lights, used computers, watched TV, put on the washing machine, cooked meals and made endless cups of coffee or tea, feeling the safety and warmth of our daily routine.

But what if we didn't have the security of a place to call our own, all those ordinary everyday things we take for granted would be so much harder to achieve - that's how it is for the homeless.

Homelessness is not always obvious, it can be the family out in a caravan in someone's yard, or sleeping on a couch in a friend's lounge room, these are the hidden homeless.

A safe environment to live in is something everyone should be entitled to, and one of the most basic needs in our society. Unfortunately people who become homeless are often disadvantaged, as there are fewer job opportunities, less community participation and inequalities in accessing health and education.

4 - 10 August 2014 was Homeless Persons' Week and the Manjimup Homeless Expo held at the Town Hall highlighted some of the services available within our community, such as Red Cross, St Vincent De Paul, Centrelink and the Manjimup Community Resource Centre.

The Staff at Manjimup CRC are providing some food for needy persons through donations and would welcome any canned food, pasta, rice etc. to help this worthwhile cause. They are hoping to extend this volunteer service by providing a food bank and running a soup kitchen - perhaps utilising surplus local produce.

Another aim is to see more affordable housing available to ease the burden on accommodation and support services.

Statistics show that 0.5% of the Australian population is homeless (ABS (2012) Census of Population and Housing: Estimating Homelessness 2011).

Wouldn't it be great if we could bring that percentage down?



Manjimup

Community Resource Centre

Your local connection

## FOSTERING

It takes a special person to devote time and energy to foster children and Marie Kelly is one of them.

Despite retiring from full time foster care some 15 years ago this sprightly septuagenarian still cares for two teenagers, who are part of the extended family of her first foster child. "Teenagers are hard work", she says and looking into her twinkling blue eyes I can tell that despite her last remark she loves them dearly and is more than happy to be caring for them at this time of their lives.

Marie says that you must have a heart for fostering and a heart for children, there are many children who require foster care and so many diverse needs within families and communities. Parents may be unable to care for children or it may be that children cannot reside in the family home, nevertheless the ideal is for relationships to be healed and children reunited with parents. She attends Church regularly and her faith has given her strength and compassion and much love to share with the many foster children that have made a home with her over several years.

Marie was nominated for the Regional and Achievement Community Awards in 2012 and was the well-deserved winner of the Rinehart Family Volunteer Award for that year.

The Department for Child Protection and Family Support plan to use one of the empty shops in Manjimup during the Bluegrass and Old times Music weekend, to promote foster care and raise the profile of the Department within the community. There will be free workshops and craft activities, including guitar and singing workshops, drumming workshops, "make your own instrument craft" and play dough fun. Neil Barclay is a music and drama teacher and gifted musician, and talented young person Josef Witek will be involved in facilitating the guitar and singing workshops. Sean from Djembemoves will also be holding drumming workshops.

There will be an information session about becoming a foster carer on both days at 1:30 pm. Staff from the local office as well as some of the Department's dedicated foster carers will be available to talk one on one and share their experiences with anyone who may have questions.

The Department is always looking for committed carers and welcomes young carers coming forward that can provide short, long term or respite arrangements in a loving and supportive home to some of the state's most vulnerable children and young people.

Anyone who is interested in becoming a foster carer or would like to be involved in making a difference in children's lives is welcome to come along and have a chat.

Those unable to attend can obtain more information on becoming a foster carer by calling 1800 182 178 or visiting [www.cfps.wa.gov.au](http://www.cfps.wa.gov.au) or [www.facebook.com/FosterCareWa](http://www.facebook.com/FosterCareWa)

### Turning the Page

Manjimup's first library, was located in what is now the Shire Rangers' office at the Town Hall. Initially the community donated books and volunteers managed the collection. It is thought the Shire took it over around 1966, a Librarian was employed, and a small fee was charged for book borrowing. Around 1975 it became a WA Public Library, moved into the Lesser Hall behind the town hall and consequently book numbers increased immensely. While locals lamented the loss of the Lesser Hall as a function facility the larger library was certainly very welcome. Then in 1989 the Manjimup Community Centre opened with a purpose built Library, and it has been there ever since.

Are our Libraries under threat from the rise in popularity of ebooks and the possibility of "real" books becoming a thing of the past? Perish the thought! A visit to our Library proves it is still one of the most popular places in town where you are assured of obliging, friendly assistance with any query on any subject. Recently the Library catalogue and membership application and book ordering has become available online.

Friday morning there is Story time for pre-schoolers and if you happen to be there you would surely agree it's a lovely atmosphere. Singing, and reading stories to little ones has definitely not gone out of fashion. Over the years there have been local and visiting authors' book launches, and many writing workshops which have always been well attended.

September will be a busy month at the Library, with workshops by ABC Open Producer for the South West, Ruslan Kulski. These will be held on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, and aim to teach us how to record the stories of local identities and unsung heroes.

The annual Book Fair will be on again, September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, where you can pick up a bargain or two, and on the same weekend there will be a book launch by local author Michael Isles with his book A Time for love. And if that's not enough, that weekend will be the launch of the Library online service. Don't let anyone say the Library is a dull place where everyone speaks in whispers!



### FOOTY FEVER

There is definitely a buzz around Manjimup in September, you can feel it in the air. Shop windows around town are decorated in a definitive way: you may notice balloons in various colours decorating mailboxes and farm gates, and team jackets and scarves are worn everywhere.

What is bringing all this on? Well footy finals of course!

Manjimup is one of the smaller regional towns in Australia and yet boasts three football clubs: Deanmill, Imperials and Tigers, each with a long and proud history, and throughout the years they have produced many fine players who have gone on to play in the WAFL and AFL. When you consider this, it is not surprising that footy fever strikes the town, and for those of us who look forward to the rivalry and sporting of team colours, the finals this year will begin with:

1<sup>st</sup> semi Final : Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August  
at Imperials,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Semi Final : Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>  
September at Deanmill,  
Preliminary Final : Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>  
September at Boyup Brook  
**And finally the Grand Final  
Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September at  
Kojonup.**

Good luck to all the teams!

**Unsung Hero Workshops  
13<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> September**  
In the gallery at the Manjimup  
Community Centre

Free workshops on interviewing,  
photographing and recording  
unsung heroes

Contact the Manjimup Library for  
bookings.

### ASPARAGUS



Nothing says spring is on the way quite like the first pale shoots of asparagus spears beginning to push their way through the damp earth. So I was delighted when I made my way to the bottom of the vegetable patch the other morning to discover half a dozen spears ready for picking, we had a couple of warm weeks and that was enough to persuade the woody crowns lying dormant all winter to burst into life.

This will be my third year of harvesting from my small patch so I am hoping for a bumper crop this year, the first two years of growing allowed the crowns to develop and the plants to become established. Cropping is heaviest in the third to sixth years and plants will crop for fifteen to thirty years, good value for money here!

They are not hard to grow, merely requiring a deep well drained soil, plenty of organic matter and compost and some protection from frost and cold winds. Asparagus should be cut just before the spears start to open at the top, and I find the easiest way is a clean cut with a sharp knife just below the ground, once the soil warms spears can grow at a prolific rate and can be picked regularly over a period of six to twelve weeks. Plants grown commercially in the south west come from the Albany/Denmark area and are mainly harvested from late August to December. Lightly steamed asparagus make a decadent sandwich with cream cheese and smoked salmon. They are also quite delicious as a pizza topping with salami and mushroom or in fritters with corn and chives.

If you want to savour the taste of spring with the sweet earthiness and gentle crunch of this most delectable of vegetables perhaps the best way of cooking them is simply, just as I did.

#### *Liz's Kitchen Rules*

**Ingredients:** 1 bunch asparagus (about 500 grams), 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil, 2 tablespoons freshly grated Parmesan cheese, 1 teaspoon freshly grated lemon rind, salt and black pepper.

**Method:** Wash and slice asparagus into 10cm lengths. Drop into boiling water and parboil for 2 to 3 minutes, drain off the hot water, toss in a bowl with olive oil, parmesan and lemon rind, season to taste. Serve warm.

This recipe serves four, if you can bring yourself to share!

#### *Quick & Easy Asparagus*