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FREE

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Manji Cafe Bytes

SAYING FOR THE MONTH

Enjoy the little things in life because one day you'll look back and realize they were the big things.

Kurt Vonnegut

CHAT SUBJECT

Competition time is coming up, how far can you spit a cherry pip?



Welcome to our 19th Edition, and I am sure we don't need to remind you that it is December. You will have seen at least one Santa around by now and how about the fantastic Christmas decorations that are brightening the town up a treat. Congratulations to those who worked so hard to bring Christmas to our hearts.

Also, the enthusiastic, energetic Cherry Festival committee will be sure to know what month it is too. They are an amazing group who continue to show us the real meaning of the word success, increasing every year. And well done Paula Benson for all the cherries painted on shop windows throughout town, don't they look great!

Merry Christmas everyone, from the Café Bytes team, have a wonderful festive season and our best wishes for 2016.

We always welcome your ideas at manjicafeytes@gmail.com and copies are also online at <http://www.manjimup.crc.net.au>.



CALLING ON MANJIMUP'S GENEROSITY

Leanne Storey would like to share the following with Manji Cafe Bytes' readers:

During my time undergoing radiation and chemo at SCGH I became Facebook friends with a lady by the name of Tina Totten who runs Halls Head Bargains, selling new and used items (mainly clothing) over Facebook. She runs it from her house/shed. Full/part proceeds go towards cancer and local charities (up to \$100 at a time).

Tina contacted me probably around July asking me to choose a charity or needy person that she could raise money for in donations of \$100.00. I had no idea who to donate the money to, until I talked with the staff at SCGH oncology unit, who also give treatment to children. They try to add as much fun as possible with games, toys and parties. The staff raise what money they can themselves to provide this for the kids.

So I arranged with Tina to donate 'outdoor games' for Sir Charles Gardiner Paediatric Cancer patients. These were delivered in October. I was too ill to go up at that time.

This is the reply following the donation- "Thank you so much for the presents for our paediatric patients. As you know, these children go through a rough time and having some fun games in the outside area will be a lovely distraction and a fantastic treat for them. It was very kind of you Leanne to think of us, and amazing, Tina that you guys raised so much money. The hopscotch is getting a lot of use now it's warmer and the courtyard is a great setting for it."

As SCGH is a government facility the individual area/contact cannot be mentioned, so only Tina's and my name can be mentioned.

I currently have bags of clothes which the cancer council didn't want (clothing exchange at Crawford Lodge is too logistically difficult for them) that I hope to take up before Christmas, and get some photos with Tina. I'd still like to keep raising funds to buy gifts for SCGH paediatrics.

I'd like to ask our community if they would help this cause - especially as Christmas nears and these kids are still receiving radiation. It may help towards a Christmas party.

Contact Leanne Storey, ldstorey007@gmail.com or 0418 826 159

MANJIMUP CHERRY HARMONY FESTIVAL

The 2015 festival will be held on Saturday 12th December and promises to be bigger and better than ever.

The festive mood begins on Friday evening with an art trail and art deco walk in the CBD, tickets are \$25 and can be purchased from Déjà vu Cafe. I'm sure many of you have noticed that numerous shop fronts have a fresh new look, Lisa Hannaford will talk you through the Art Deco around town with a walking tour on the 11th December.

Local Bridgetown identity Jon Doust will take up the reins once again as Master of ceremonies ably assisted by Wyatt Nixon-Lloyd and Jordan Piggott.

Among the guests this year are Sabrina Hahn well known Garden expert and broadcaster, Master Pizza Chef Theo Kalogeracos and country singer Dave Verrall, look for them at various venues throughout the day.

There will be plenty of local produce on display and for sale with cooking demonstrations and wine tastings at the Genuinely Southern Forests Food Avenue on Brockman Street.

The Déjà vu Café Art Exhibition opened on 14th November and will be showcasing local artists until the 15th December.

Roving Street Theatre, Ricochet Circus, DJ Rev and Street Theatre will keep you entertained. Take a look at the latest fashion with Southern Belle, parade commences at 1.00pm on Giblett Street. See the axemen in action at the Log Chop events in Coronation Park from 11am to 2.00pm and don't forget to watch the Cherry spit competition. Rounding off the night with a free concert at Manjin Park.

Newton Orchards host the Long Table Lunch on Sunday 13th December.

For further information go to www.cherryfestival.com.au or Manjimup Cherry Festival on Facebook

Crime Prevention and Community Safety

A draft Strategy, now open for public comment, has been prepared to guide Council's approach to sport and recreation across the Shire.

Copies of the draft Strategy and the community feedback forum details can be found at www.manjimup.wa.gov.au, collected from the Shire of Manjimup Administration Centre or viewed in one of our libraries.

Formal submissions for consideration to be in writing and lodged with the Shire of Manjimup, P O Box 1, Manjimup or emailed to info@manjimup.wa.gov.au, on or before **Friday 18 December 2015**. All comments will be considered.

For further information, please contact the Shire of Manjimup, Community Development Officer, Sharon Wilkinson on 9771 7752. Manjimup's Forum where you can have your input will be on Tuesday Dec 8th 2015, 6 to 8 pm at Council Committee Room.

RSVP essential. Forum will not be held if there are no recorded attendees.



Holidaying on your Door Step

When we're hanging out for a break away from home and routine life, the dream is usually somewhere which involves a road journey, sometimes a few hours' distance away, and those hours we spend in the car can gobble into our leisure time. Everyone arrives a bit tired and sometimes more than a smidgeon cross.

So consider this. Recently we heard of some very happy local people who didn't travel far at all, they just loaded their car and drove 10 Km out the road and spent a weekend at Fonty's Pool. Not really what you consider a weekend away?

Well what do you actually need for a break away from home? You need accommodation, food, comfy chairs, and your bed. And that's what Fonty's have on offer, minus the stress of driving. My informants were a group of 8 who fitted comfortably into the Lodge, a three bedroomed home. They just took their clothes and food along, and loved it so much that before they left they booked for another weekend next year. Or you could book a Park Cabin, these accommodate 6 people; Luxury Four Star chalets that hold 5; or you can take your camping gear out and rough it in style, with or without power, and have the use of a campers' kitchen. Expected to be open in December will be two bedroom chalets, sleeping 6. And do you realize that if you have a well behaved pet, you maybe could take it along with you?

It's also not unheard of for local caravanning groups to tow their vans out to Fonty's for a weekend, where they can enjoy each other's company, swim if the mood takes them and sit by the pool for sundowners. All very easy and stress free.

Not far back along the road you have the Truffle and Wine Company to lose yourself for a few hours for a meal, coffee and cake, or wine tasting. Or, why not wander over to the park's kiosk for a coffee or an ice cream perhaps?

Fonty's Pool is a local icon, it's been around "forever" with so much history attached. All we locals are so proud of it in our community, and appreciate the hard work and effort of the current owners to put it further out onto the Aussie map.

This is only a short version of what Fonty's have to offer, their web site is a very interesting read, with the history of Archie Fonty and the pool. We recommend you check it out at <http://www.fontyspool.com.au/>

CHERRY RIPE

With cherries ripening in the south west from November until late January it is easy to see why they have become synonymous with Christmas around this area. What could be nicer than a dish full of these delectable red fruit over the festive season?

The main cherry growing areas in Western Australia are located in a narrow area between Donnybrook and Pemberton, 85% of WA Cherries are produced in this area with earlier crops predicted this year due to a spell of warm weather.

Cherries are native to most of Europe, Western Asia and parts of North Africa where they have been eaten since prehistoric times, most of our eating cherries are derived from either *Prunus avium*, the sweet cherry or *Prunus cerasus*, the sour cherry.

The French word for cherry is *cerise*, Spanish *cereza* and Turkish *kiraz*, truly exotic names which describe them very well, cerise being a deep pinkish red just like a ripe cherry.

Cherries are a rich source of antioxidants and vitamin C and are anti-inflammatory as well so they have many health benefits, always a good excuse to eat a few more.

Look for local cherries at the Farmer's Markets and the Cherry Harmony festival, they are available in most supermarkets under the Genuinely Southern Forests brand.

Liz's Kitchen Rules CHOCOLATE CHERRY TRIFLE

Ingredients: 500g fresh ripe cherries pitted and coarsely chopped, 1 300g chocolate sponge roll cut into 1cm thick slices, 400g thick vanilla custard, 100g chocolate broken into pieces, 300ml thickened cream, 25g icing sugar, 1/4 cup cherry brandy

Method: Pour custard into a pan with chocolate pieces, gently heat, stirring until chocolate has melted into the custard. Cover with cling film and cool. Place slices of chocolate roll in the base of a trifle bowl. Pour over a little cherry brandy until just soaked. Add cherries, reserving a few for decoration. Spoon the chocolate topping over and chill. Whip the cream with the icing sugar, chill until ready to serve, then pile on top of the trifle, decorate with grated chocolate and fresh cherries.

Simple to make, delicious to eat, this is a perfect recipe for Christmas, enjoy!



IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS

It never fails to amaze me how fast time speeds up when December 1st arrives and the countdown to Christmas begins. Before I know it, the festive season is here and I am still looking for Christmas presents.

The three wise men started it all, bringing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to baby Jesus. Then came Father Christmas, Santa Claus and St Nicholas, all very well for them but I don't have elves to help out in the workshops nor do I possess a sleigh with reindeer to deliver for me.

However I have been looking around and here are six of the best which some lucky recipient may find in their Christmas stocking this year.

FOR THE BBQ LOVER: A Custom BBQ Branding Iron with 52 interchangeable letters that enables you to brand your name on a steak, this could be handy at Christmas lunch with all the family around. It doesn't say how long it takes to alter the letters after branding a hot t bone so if everyone wants their name added there may be a little confusion arising with the smoke.

FOR THE PUZZLER: Cubebot small wooden Robot Puzzle. Apparently inspired by Japanese Shinto Kumi-Ki Puzzles, no I haven't a clue either. As your wooden robot will not pour you a glass of sherry or hand you a mince pie, it falls a bit flat in my estimation.

FOR THE SOPHISTICATED: Anchorman Hip Flask, holds 178ml liquid and as the average shot is about 45ml, cheers! As an added extra, large red letters proclaim, "I love Scotch, Scotchy Scotch Scotch here it goes Down Down into my belly", a very merry Christmas guaranteed.

FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART: Retro Gum Ball machine, a fetching shade of red with a metal stand and coin operated slot. The idea being you put your coin in, turn the lever and out comes your gumball. It does seem to hold rather a lot of gumballs so a passion for chewing and a strong jaw required if you are to empty it before next Christmas.

FOR THE ADRENALIN JUNKIE: Jetpack or Flyboard experience, fly through the air with your jetpack unit blasting hundreds of litres of water through specially designed thrust nozzles to enable you to fly as high as 10 metres above the water, Grandma perhaps? Maybe not, check your insurance policy and pack a crash helmet for this one.

FOR THE OUT AND ABOUT: Night walker flashing shoelace lights, these are guaranteed 150,000 flashes, watch the night light up with every step you take. Ideal combined with the illuminated skeleton socks, might treat myself to that one.

So there you have it, gift giving sorted, wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas and a prosperous and happy new year!

Chi Chi Amusement Bar

Have you seen this old advertisement in town? Do you know anything about the business, apparently dating back to the mid 1960's? We had this photo sent to us, suggesting we make enquiries so we are putting it out there to see who remembers. If you are across the road from the Blue Tiger Café you can see an aged shop sign, above the new verandah.

Asking a few long term locals has not revealed any information except that it was thought to be called Chi Chi or similar, had pin ball tables and sold fish and chips.

If you recall finding some amusement in that shop perhaps you might like to share it with us? Maybe a bit of interesting town history can be discovered.

