

Further to our Big Cat tale in September 2018, it seems that a strange creature has been spotted on a remote South Australian property. Several lambs had been killed, noises were heard at night sending the farm dogs into a barking frenzy and the property owner went out with a torch catching a glimpse of the animal which reportedly was big with a boofy head. A motion activated camera was set up near a sheep’s watering trough, a photo was captured which is thought to be that of a Tasmanian Tiger. Neil Waters, founder of Thylacine Awareness Group of Australia (TAGOA), set up trail cameras on the property hoping to get some footage of the animal. The photo seems to show an unusual four-legged animal with what appears to be eyes ringed with white fur walking past the water trough. The Tasmanian Tiger (thylacinus cyanocephalus), was Australia’s largest carnivorous marsupial, instantly recognisable with its striped lower back, it was the size of a very large dog or wolf. The last known animal died in captivity at the Hobart Zoo in 1936 but there continue to be reported sightings in the remoter parts of Australia, although none have been confirmed scientifically. Distinctive marsupial paw prints have also been photographed recently, Thylacine tracks are different from other native animals, they had a very large rear pad and four obvious front pads, arranged in almost a straight line. Hindfeet were similar to the forefeet but had four digits, rather than five, their claws are non-retractable. Despite all this, there is still no definite proof that Tigers are out there, the mystery continues. Liz.



A Sombre Walk



Over the Christmas period I was fortunate enough to experience the Albany Field of Lights, accompanied by a magnificent full moon. The photo was captured by my daughter with her iphone. There was a resemblance to Broome’s Stairway to the Moon and I thought this appropriate for the situation we were in on Anzac Drive, the dreams the soldiers would have had in their hearts as they left Albany to do their bit for home and country with that very same moon shining down on them.

We hear at least 50,000 visitors have so far experienced the sombre walk through the 16,000 lights, and with the installation by British artist Bruce Munro (renowned for his Field of Light at Uluru) remaining until April that figure will grow considerably.

Some may say it is glorifying war, but to me it was acknowledging and revering the contribution from our soldiers as they left their loved ones, so many of them touching Australian soil for the last time, and Albany being the last glimpse of Australia for those Australian and New Zealand Army Corps as they departed for the horrific battlefields of The First World War. In 1914 over 41,000 Australian and New Zealand troops sailed away in a convoy of over 40 ships, so many never to return.

If you have the opportunity, a walk through the lights is thoroughly recommended. Kathy.

# Manji Cafe Bytes

## Byte sized stories

January 2019, Edition 56

Artist: John Duncan

FREE

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Welcome to our first 2019 newsletter, Happy New Year! The tinsel has been packed away until December comes around again and Santa and the reindeer will be having a well earned rest. We hope the Festive Season went smoothly and happily for everyone. When a new year dawns we spend a little time wondering what lays ahead for the twelve months, and how the blank canvas before us will be filled. Let us hope that 2019 coasts along trouble free.

Christmas Breakfast in the Park



The Manjimup Timber & Heritage Park was alive with Christmas Celebrations, Thanks to combined church efforts who put together Carols by Candlelight and Breakfast in the Park on Christmas Day.

Thanks to Rochelle for contributing this story and for the generous offer of Seventh Day Adventist Church Christmas Breakfast in the Park. Christmas day was a beautiful day. The Timber Park was the location of our Christmas breakfast. Starting at 8am, we served up hot and cold drinks, fresh cooked pancakes with a variety of spreads and fresh fruit platters. The berry platter was kindly donated by Kevin and Shirley Needs, from the berry farm on Ipsen Street. We hosted 50 people, some from Perth and Broome Hill. The children had a fantastic time playing on the play equipment, while the adults enjoyed the relaxing atmosphere. Our family has loved serving up Christmas breakfast for the past 3 years and we hope that you'll continue to encourage and support the new 'hosts' this coming Christmas. We wish the Manjimup community a happy and safe 2019. Rochelle Price & team from the Manjimup Seventh-day Adventist church.

Further information can be found on the Manjimup Christmas in the Park & Carols by Candlelight Facebook page.

Quote for January:

“May all your troubles last as long as your New Year’s resolutions!” – Joey Lauren Adams (1968-)

Chat subject for January:

Did you tick anything off your bucket list in 2018?





It’s a bit sad to see how the Swan Bell Tower has become overshadowed by all the buildings around Elizabeth Quay, but it drew a snatch of attention recently with the installation of another bell. Weighing in at 6.5 tonne, this new addition was described by Swan Bells Foundation Chairperson as being “equivalent in weight to the Perth Zoo’s three elephants”, now that’s a hefty weight! This bell was a Centenary project for First World War 100 year commemorations, and named the Anzac Bell. It is the largest swinging bell in the Southern Hemisphere. The bronze was donated by WA businessman Mark Creasy, who also tossed two gold sovereigns from 1912 and 1914 into the metal as it was being poured into the mould - it is traditional for some gold or silver to be added to a big bell and as many servicemen in the first world war came from the gold fields, it was very appropriate. The bell was in place for Remembrance Day, November 11th.

The original bells in the Swan Bell Tower were a bicentennial gift from London to Perth in 1988. Apparently the church spire at St Martin in the Fields, Trafalgar Square London that held twelve of these bells had become too old and crumbly to hold their weight and they were going to be melted down, made into smaller bells. But luckily we managed to score them. These twelve bells have huge historical significance; first hanging around in the 14th century and were recast in the 16th century by order of Queen Elizabeth 1, then recast again around 1750 by order of King George 11. They are one of few sets of royal bells and the only ones known to have left England, ringing out at some awesome historic occasions, such as England’s victory over the Spanish Armada in 1588; the celebration of every British Monarch coronation since King George 2nd in 1727; the homecoming of Captain Cook after his voyage of discovery (which included Australia) in 1771 and as well, they have rung in 275 UK New Years. Remember the nursery rhyme, Oranges and Lemons, The Bells of St Clemens? That’s a whole lot of historical background. And now they ring out here, over our capital city! In 1988 a further five bells were cast in the same UK foundry as the original bells, with a donation of metals mined in WA. They were then sent here to Perth as a gift from the UK businesses in City of London, and the City of Westminster.

After arriving in WA they waited a long time before a home could be found, the original plan being that they would suit UWA, but they were just too heavy for any existing placement – the largest bell (named Zachariah), weighs 1,551 kilograms.

When the University of WA gave up trying to accommodate the bells the WA Government took over the challenge, with Premier Richard Court promoting the idea of our very own bell tower. In 1997 the WA Government commissioned the casting of the “Millennium Bell” making 18 bells total, one of the largest ringing bell sets in the world. You may recall the opposition the bell tower received, lots of hoo haa about it being a waste of money and what all. The tower commemorates WA’s millennium, officially opened on December 10th 2000. As a comparison in height, our Swan Bell Tower is 82.5 metres; the Statue of Liberty reaches 46 metres; the Leaning Tower of Pisa 56 metres and the Eiffel Tower 300 metres. I recall seeing tiles on the paving surrounding the Tower which had school children’s inscriptions in, but there is no room for them now. I wonder where they are stored. So next time you hear the bells ringing think about its history, and how we are forming part of the future history.


Kathy.

Manjimup Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service Christmas Eve Lolly Run

Contributed by Lyndall Rumenos, with an amusing tale of the Lolly Run. On behalf of our community I wish to thank the Manjimup Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service (VFRS) for their dedication to the safety of all in our area.

A big thank you as well to the employers of service members who allow these worthy volunteers to attend where needed, in valuable work time. The members of the Manjimup VFRS attend fires and car accidents in our Shire and have gone through extensive training and study, also in their own time.

The Manjimup VFRS bring smiles to the faces of those young and old on Christmas Eve. They drive the streets in their fire trucks and support vehicles accompanied by Father Christmas. Captain Michael Whitelaw of the Manjimup VFRS said they have been doing this for three years now and the children love the sounds of the sirens and a wave from the jolly old man and VFRS members, with the added bonus of lolly hand-outs. On a personal note, our son Christopher is a member of the Manjimup VFRS and last year I was excited when informed he was to don the very merry red suit. On hearing the sirens in our street I ran out the front, jumping up and down, taking photos and screaming with delight. I thought Father Christmas was a little reserved as I blew him a kiss and asked for lollies. Not to worry I thought, and rushed inside to post a photo of my Santa son on facebook. Later that evening and in a stern tone, I was politely told that it was a pity I could not recognise that a particular chubby suited man was not my son. I was devastated - the Santa I blew a kiss to was indeed someone else. I quickly deleted my facebook post despite receiving many likes. He was indeed a Santa but on the east side of town, and we live on the west side. This year I was a little more reserved and gave the regular ‘royal wave’ as the truck passed by, knowing my son was again deployed to the east. I find it uncanny that the photos I took on this particular Christmas Eve did not turn out!



Manjimup Speedway 50th Celebrations



The club has a 50th anniversary coming up in season 2019-2020 and are planning to hold a big event to celebrate this milestone, date will be finalised when meetings for next season have been allocated. It is hoped to get past drivers, volunteers etc back to the club to join in the celebrations, any memorabilia out there would be most welcome. The first races of the season were held recently on the club’s upgraded track, club members have done a tremendous amount of work in the off season with 5000 tonnes of white clay being brought in for a complete resurfacing. Safety fencing has been completed at the new viewing area on corners 1 and 2 and there is a new spectator entrance off Towie Road. All this was much appreciated by the crowd who turned up to witness two great nights of racing at the end of December. Manjimup Speedway Club are looking for any old photos, articles or information about the club, time to drag out those old photo albums and newspaper clippings! If you have anything that may be of interest contact Club Vice President David Fall on 0400 307 566 or Manjimup Speedway on Facebook.

Liz.



CRC Volunteer Co-Ordinator

At the end of last year the Bytes team said farewell and thank you to Rae Starr who has been our ever obliging Editor since May 2015. Now we are under the guiding hands of Kayla Williams, who has bravely taken on Rae’s role of Volunteer Co-ordinator.

Kayla has been an enthusiastic member of our team since commencing as a Trainee studying Certificate IV in Community Development, over a two year period. Her passion and enthusiasm has paid off, as she has become a Customer Service Officer, with a permanent position within the Manjimup CRC.

Kayla has become well known to CRC customers and is always ready to help, with her willing, friendly manner. We worked with Kayla prior to Adam joining the team and bringing the new look to Bytes in March 2018. Kayla would patiently work with us each month to fine tune our stories and photos onto paper and out into the public eye.

Congratulations Kayla on accepting the Volunteer Co-ordinator’s role, We are sure all the volunteers will find you a pleasure to work with.  
Liz & Kathy.



Liz’s Kitchen Rules

The French used to call tomatoes pommes d’amour : apples of love. This delightful, edible fruit, Solanum lycopersicum, is a species of the nightshade family and its use as a food is believed to have originated in Mexico. Like so many of our commonly grown food plants it was introduced to Europe in the 16th century by the Spanish after their colonization of the Americas. The glorious red fruit was regarded with suspicion by some (red being the colour of danger) and thought to be poisonous or some kind of aphrodisiac, perhaps the Garden of Eden’s forbidden fruit should have been a tomato! It is unclear when and where the first tomatoes were planted in Australia but they are probably the most popular home grown vegetable (botanically they are a fruit) that we cultivate in our gardens. Our temperate climate is ideal for these sprawling vines, they need a long growing season, plenty of water and are gross feeders. Give your seedlings a hard time in their punnets, allow them to become a little root bound and flower, water occasionally if they need it. Plant them deeply into a good rich soil with plenty of added organic matter and an appropriate fertiliser, mulch with straw and water consistently, tie them to stakes as they grow and they will reward you with a fine harvest. There are many varieties available and we all have our favourites, I like the taste of Grosse Lisse, this is a great all-rounder, ideal for sandwiches and great for making sauces. Roma are perfect for sun dried tomatoes with a little salt, basil and olive oil. Cherry and Grape tomatoes grow well in pots and are just the right size to snack on. Most commercial varieties are red, in contrast Heirloom tomatoes come in a riot of colours, green, yellow, orange, pink, black and purple and more besides. Tomatoes are packed full of goodness and contain the anti-oxidant lycopene which helps to mop up damaging free radicals, vitamins include A, C and E.

Summer Tomato Salad



Ingredients: About 500g tomatoes quartered (any combination of tomatoes), 1 small red onion finely chopped, 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil, 1 tablespoon red wine vinegar, salt and pepper to season, ¼ cup fresh basil leaves. Method: Place tomatoes, onion, oil and vinegar in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper and toss gently to combine. Cover and place in fridge for 1-2 hours to allow flavours to develop. Prior to serving toss in basil. You can crumble a little Fetta cheese over the top and a drizzle of Balsamic Vinegar or toss in a few black olives, up to you. This goes well with cold meats as a side salad and makes a nice light lunch served with crusty bread.

Liz.

Australia Day Celebrations - Pemberton Pool



Don’t forget, this year’s Shire Australia Day Celebrations with Citizen of the Year Awards Ceremony will be held at Pemberton Pool, on Saturday 26th January.

*Picture supplied by Wendy Eiby on Flickr*