

press clip



The Weekend West

Saturday 28/12/2019

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CUT STRAIGHT TO YOUR NEWS

WA TRAVEL NEWS



William
Yeoman

MANDURAH — DIGITAL & ANALOGUE

Mandurah will receive a new digital tourism hub with interactive touchscreen and a walking tour and Visit Mandurah ambassador program. The projects have been made possible by Visit Mandurah's \$139,100 share in the recently announced \$600,000-plus State Government Regional Economic Development Grants. Mandurah Mayor Rhys Williams says the projects would be a great addition to Mandurah's tourism precinct. The State Government has committed \$28.8 million over five years towards the RED Grants program for projects that will drive jobs and economic development in regional communities.

BOOST FOR BRIDGETOWN

In more regional funding news, the McGowan Government has contributed \$385,000 to two Bridgetown projects, which will boost aged care and provide better support for regional arts and culture events in the region. Geegeelup Village, which provides independent and aged-care accommodation for seniors, has received a Lotterywest grant of \$181,022 to support better accessibility at the facility. Bridgetown Town Hall and Civic Centre, used for such events as Blues at Bridgetown and the Bridgetown Winter Festival, has also received \$204,148 from Lotterywest to refurbish the facility — the first upgrades to the 1936-built facility for three decades.

EUROPEAN ESCAPE DOWN UNDER

Nestled within forest and lush gardens on the banks of the

Margaret River, La Foret Enchantee features two secluded, private adult sanctuaries: Il Palazzo, and La Cabine. Both are now available to book for couples through private properties. Drawing inspiration from Italian and French architecture and design, the villa Il Palazzo includes a stylish kitchen, dining room, his-and-hers dressing rooms with crystal chandeliers, an octagonal bedroom with a circular king-size bed and fairytale turret, marble ensembles, and an outdoor terrazzo bath. La Cabine is a rustic hideaway, furnished with French antiques and vintage treasures collected during the owners' travels. For more information, visit privateproperties.com.au, call 08 9750 5444 or email bookings@privateproperties.com.au.

KIDS RE(TREAT) AT PAN PACIFIC

Pan Pacific Perth hotel's summer holidays Kids Retreat package offers an interconnecting room complete with access to the heated pool and a free in-room movie and a huge bowl of popcorn. There's also a free kids' buffet breakfast at Monterey's Brasserie with any paying adult. Other package highlights include saving 50 per cent on a second room with guaranteed interconnecting Deluxe or Premier King and Twin rooms, decorative theming in the kids' bedroom and 25 per cent savings at all food and beverage outlets. Valid for bookings made no later than January 31, 2020 for stays from now until February 29, 2020. anpacific.com/en/hotels-and-resorts/pp-perth/offers/kids-retreat.html

LEADING THE BOARD

Professor Ross Dowling has been appointed chairman of the board of Destination Perth, which promotes Perth and surrounding precincts to domestic and international leisure travellers. Professor Dowling says: "We live in a remarkable, vibrant, pristine city, one of the best on earth, and my goal is to further establish Perth and surrounding

regions as a must-visit tourist destination. New York has Central Park, we have Kings Park; Paris has the Eiffel Tower, we have the Bell Tower; London has the Thames River, we have the Swan River; Barcelona has Camp Nou Stadium, we have Optus Stadium; Rome has St Peter's Square, we have Yagan Square — the comparisons are endless."

Sculpture by the sea returns to Cottesloe in 2020

Annual outdoor sculpture exhibition Sculpture by the Sea, Cottesloe returns March 6-23, 2020. Celebrating its 16th year, the exhibition is one of Perth's largest free public events, attracting an estimated 250,000 visitors. More than 70 artists from 20 countries will showcase their work across the 18-day exhibition, including international artists Karl-Christian Geleff (UK), Dave Glass (Portugal) and Vaclav Fiala (Czech Republic). Some of WA's leading sculptors exhibiting in Sculpture by the Sea, Cottesloe 2020 include Alessandra Rossi, Olga Cironis, Mikaela Castledine and Tony Davis, who is also set to join the Decade Club after exhibiting at Cottesloe for his 10th time.



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SCARBOROUGH FRINGE

The City of Stirling has released its Sunset Veranda 2020 program as part of the Fringe World Festival. The pop-up beachside venue will be held at Scarborough beach from January 17 to February 16. Events include Summer's Last Stand, a live music youth event presented by RTRFM 92.1, the Sunset Veranda Comedy Gala with a great line up of comedians, and a range of activities and workshops to keep the kids entertained. For the full Sunset Veranda program and to purchase tickets go to stirling.wa.gov.au/sunsetveranda.



Fringe World returns to Scarborough.



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Il Palazzo luxury. Picture: Matthew Moyes



Jiao Xingtao's Yellow (2015) and Green (2012). Picture: Clyde Yee