

BULLSBROOK • BINDOON • GINGIN

Advocate

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WEDNESDAY, July 28, 2010

PHONE: 9237 1900 FAX: 9237 1901 CLASSIFIEDS: 13 20 13

12 OLD GREAT NORTHERN HIGHWAY, MIDLAND 6056

NEWS: P7
DIVIDING ROAD
POLLIES TALK UPGRADES



WIN: P17
COLD FUSION
WIN TICKETS TO SWAN LAKE ON ICE



SPORT: P31
ATHLETIC PROWESS
BRINGING HOME GOLD



GETTING UP TO SPEED ON SAFETY

Bullsbrook District High School students Ashleigh Treede and Anthony Porter check out Targa West Rally driver Steve Jones' R35 Skyline GTR as part of a safe driving course on Monday - Report, page 5.

Picture: Matthew Poon
www.communitypaper.com.au 2735524

Fly's days numbered

By LUCY RICKARD

Report prompts call to arms

A REPORT into the increasing prevalence of stable flies in the Shire of Gingin has uncovered some startling facts about local knowledge of the pest and put the Shire a step closer to eradicating them.

The key recommendation of the report carried out by forensic entomologist David Cook was that the Shire should employ a full-time officer to deal solely with stable flies from October to May at an estimated cost of \$100,000.

As part of its pre-budget deliberations

on Friday, the council voted to set aside \$30,000 from the 2010-11 budget for the position, double the amount for the previous year, and would be colling on ratepayers to make up the shortfall with a voluntary levy of \$25.

Dr Cook was employed by the Shire to investigate stable fly breeding for eight days in May, and said misconceptions about where the flies bred was one of the

main issues, creating a rift between vegetable growers and farmers.

"People think the stable flies come from horses because of the name, but it's just an historical name," he said.

"Leftover residue from vegetable waste is the perfect environment for breeding stable flies.

"The flies emerge early in the morning and they will fly off in search of livestock

for blood. The biggest problem is that most of the people didn't even know they were breeding stable flies."

Shire President George Gifford said the council was impressed with Dr Cook's findings, and said he had "quite spectacular success" during his time in the region.

"It makes a big difference if someone can travel around and talk to people and look at what they're doing, advising them on what they're doing wrong and helping them do it properly," he said.

More, page 4

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