

MEDIA STATEMENT



Monday, 29 February 2016

Withers artist encourages residents to connect with their community

An art project that encourages Withers residents to connect with their community will culminate with local youth painting a permanent outdoor ping pong table to be placed in Maidens Park.

The ping pong table is the final work being organised by Withers artist-in-residence Kelly Darragh, who has worked closely with the community on a range of projects over recent months.

The steel ping pong table will be available for the entire community to enjoy, with paddles and balls provided. It has been funded by the City of Bunbury and South West Development Commission.

The table will be officially unveiled at the final Love Where You Live Summer Cinema Series event on Friday, 18 March.

It is a fitting finale to a successful artist-in-residence program that has included “craftafternoons”, painting workshops and skill-sharing workshops with other artists, such as screen printing and art from recycled materials.

One of the most successful activities has been the “yarn-bombing” of trees on Hudson Road, which involved crocheted and knitted items being wrapped around tree trunks between the Hudson Road Family Centre and Withers library.

Projects have been run from the Withers Art Studio, located at the Hudson Road Family Centre.

Bunbury Mayor Gary Brennan said it was initiatives such as the artist-in-residence program that gave people pride in their community.

“It is fantastic to see the community engaged in a project that brings many benefits to a part of our city that is increasing its profile as a positive place to live,” Mr Brennan said.

ENDS

Jamie Tatham, Communications Officer

T: 9792 7136 **T:** 0447 936 037 **E:** jtatham@bunbury.wa.gov.au

4 Stephen Street, Bunbury WA 6230 - PO Box 21 Bunbury WA 6231

TTY: 13 36 77 **F:** (08) 9792 7184 **W:** www.bunbury.wa.gov.au