

THE following cases were heard in the Esperance Magistrates Court on Tuesday, February 5:

Mandy Lu Hussen, 53, entered a plea of guilty to a charge of possessing a prohibited drug, namely cannabis and possessing a smoking utensil used for smoking a prohibited drug.

The court heard that at 1.40pm on October 18, 2012, Esperance detectives executed a Misuse of Drugs Act search warrant on a residence on Canning Drive in Pink Lake.

Officers located 28 grams of cannabis leaf material in the kitchen, as well as two smoking utensils.

Hussen made full admissions to the charge.

For the possession of cannabis, Hussen was

fined \$600 with an order for the destruction of the drug.

She was fined a further \$400 for the charge of possessing a smoking utensil with an order for the destruction of both utensils.

Hussen was ordered to pay court costs of \$125.70.

Brian Rodney Stringer, 54, entered a plea of guilty to a charge of driving a motor vehicle on a public road with a blood alcohol content of 0.116 grams.

At 3.41am on February 2, Stringer drove a Mitsubishi Triton ute north along The Esplanade when he was stopped by police for a random breath test.

It was ascertained that Stringer had consumed alcohol and a disqualification notice was issued.

He was taken to Esperance Police Station for a breath analysis test where he gave a calculated reading of 0.116 grams.

Magistrate Hall said: "This is your fourth offence of this nature."

"I'll impose the minimum penalties but even then they'll be quite high."

Stringer was fined \$1200, was ordered to pay court costs of \$129.35 and saw his motor driver's licence disqualified for 17 months, less the period elapsed under the disqualification notice.

Henry David Coppen, 25, entered pleas of guilty to a charge of obstructing public officers and a charge of disorderly behaviour in public.

The court heard that on November 23, 2012, Coppen was on Burton Road.

Police had been called following a number of reports of people fighting on the road.

Coppen was asked to leave the area three times, but instead yelled and swore at the attending officers as well as other members of the public.

At the time his actions obstructed police in their ability to

deal with the other person involved.

Magistrate Hall told Coppen: "It is one thing to get into a fight but to continue doing so after police attention is another."

For the disorderly charge, Coppen was fined \$250 and was ordered to pay court costs of \$68.

He was fined \$350 for obstructing police.

Rodney James Hunt, 57, entered endorsed pleas of guilty to a charge of possessing an unlicensed firearm and failure to ensure the safe keeping of firearms or ammunition.

At 10.24pm on December 26, 2012, police attended a residence on Phillips Street in West Beach in relation to a domestic incident.

A search of Hunt's bedroom revealed firearms and ammunition, stored in a wardrobe.

At the time, Hunt did not have an approved firearms cabinet. He admitted he had never owned a firearms cabinet and had always used his wardrobe to store them in.

The items were seized.

Hunt told the court: "Unless you knew

where they were, you wouldn't have seen them anyway."

Magistrate Hall reminded Hunt of the dangers should his house be broken into.

"A firearm is hot property for burglars," he said.

"If in the wrong hands, the community would be put in danger."

Hunt was fined \$1000 for failure to keep safe the firearms and ammunition and was ordered to pay \$258.70 in court costs.

For the possession of an unlicensed firearm he was fined a further \$1000.

Matthew Edward Biddiscombe, 29, entered a plea of guilty to a charge of driving a motor vehicle on a public road with a blood alcohol content of 0.094 grams.

The court heard that at 12.36am on December 19, Biddiscombe drove a Ford sedan in the car park of the Australind Tavern off Old Coast Road when he was stopped by police.

It was ascertained that Biddiscombe had consumed alcohol and he was issued with a Disqualification Notice.

This is his third excess 0.08 charge.

Duty counsel said that Biddiscombe said he had consumed alcohol that evening, but thought he was OK to drive.

He was fined \$900, was ordered to pay court costs of \$68 and saw his motor driver's licence disqualified for

13 months, less the period elapsed under the Disqualification Notice.

Jordan Jake Florisson, 20, entered a plea of guilty to a charge of damaging property.

At 1.20pm on December 22, 2012, Florisson was at Port Authority Beach when he became involved in an argument with another person.

The victim got into their car and locked the doors before attempting to drive away.

Florisson threw a rock which hit the rear canopy window and caused the glass to break.

Magistrate Hall acknowledged the offence was on the low end of offending and that this was out of character for Florisson.

He was granted a spent conviction.

"To throw a rock at someone's property is obviously the wrong thing to do, the rock could have easily gone the wrong way and caused more damage," he said.

Florisson was fined \$500 and was ordered to pay court costs of \$129.35.

He was ordered to pay the restitution of \$512.25.

Natasha Louise Spooner, 38, entered a plea of guilty to a charge of disorderly behaviour in public.

The court heard that at 2.50am on January 23, Spooner was outside a residence on Burton Road in Castletown when she became involved in a fight in the

middle of the road.

Spooner was observed yelling abuse and obscenities at the other person. Police arrived but Spooner continued to yell.

Duty counsel for Spooner said: "She had a few glasses of wine and doesn't really remember what happened."

Magistrate Hall said it was obviously inappropriate to fight in the street at that time of night.

Spooner was fined \$400 and was ordered to pay court costs of \$68.

Graham Peter Zwiers, 52, did not appear on a charge of having no authority to drive disqualified or suspended.

At 9.55am on January 8, Zwiers drove a Ford Falcon sedan west on Pink Lake Road near Harbour Road.

He was stopped before it was ascertained he was not authorised to drive that class of vehicle.

Zwiers' licence had been suspended in the Esperance Magistrates Court on December 4, 2012 - a suspension that was in place until October 4 this year.

His duty counsel said: "He was only going to take his dogs down to the beach."

Zwiers was fined \$400 and was ordered to pay court costs of \$129.35.

His motor driver's licence was disqualified for nine months cumulative.

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RESIDENT have been given a few more days to enjoy the Esperance Tanker Jetty.

Jetty open for longer

ESPERANCE residents have been given a few more days to enjoy their beloved Tanker Jetty, which will remain open beyond February 4.

The jetty was due to be closed to the public on Monday in order to commence stage one of the Esperance Waterfront Project.

However, the Shire of Esperance decided to keep the Esperance Tanker Jetty open for several more days after

an unexpected delay in the commencement of construction.

"We've been given a couple of days grace, so we've decided to keep the jetty open a bit longer," Esperance Shire Council chief executive officer Matthew Scott said.

"It will allow the community a few more days to utilise the Esperance Tanker Jetty before it closes for five months."