

Today in History

Today is Monday, August 5, the 217th day of 2013. There are 148 days left in the year.
1305 Sir William Wallace, champion of Scottish independence, is captured by the English and later executed as a traitor.
1879 First game of night football at Melbourne Cricket Ground, under gas-lights.
1915 Warsaw, evacuated by the Russians, is occupied by the Germans.
1924 The comic strip Little Orphan Annie, by Harold Gray, makes its debut in the US.
1962 Anti-apartheid fighter Nelson Mandela is arrested at a police roadblock. **1974** US President Richard Nixon admits he withheld information about the Watergate break-in.
2005 With limited oxygen remaining, seven sailors are stranded on board a Russian mini-submarine on the sea floor off Russia's Pacific Coast. All are eventually rescued.

Today's Birthdays

Harold Holt, Australian prime minister (1908-1967); Neil Armstrong, US astronaut and first man to set foot on Moon (1930-2012); Cammie King, US actress (Gone with the Wind) (1934-2010); Gary 'Angry' Anderson, Australian rock singer (1947-); Samantha Sang, Australian singer (1953-).

Thought For Today

I slept, and dreamed that life was Beauty; I woke, and found that life was Duty.
Ellen Sturgis Hooper, American poet (1816-1841).



Tanker Jetty's future hangs on report

FROM THE COAST
 ■ Malcolm Heasman



The Esperance community does not want for much. Beyond the natural landscape, we have fantastic facilities available to meet the needs of a wide range of community activities, such as sports. We have art centres, the Bijou Theatre and the Civic Centre to meet our cultural and entertainment needs. Recreational facilities provided include playgrounds, parks and

gardens, coastal steps and camping facilities. The Shire of Esperance operates and maintains many community assets. The airport, roads, buildings, recreational facilities, drainage systems, coastal facilities and the Wylie Bay Waste Facility are just some of these assets. The cost of maintaining these services for use by the community is considerable and growing annually. Last year, some of the projects completed included the construction of the GSG car park, the updating of the reticulation systems on the GSG and the airport was up-

graded to include security screening systems. So far this year we have seen extensive drainage works completed on Forrest Street and Leake Street to address flooding concerns in that area, as well as the introduction of a roundabout on the intersection between Windich Street and Andrew Street. The need for maintenance is continual. With a largely ageing collection of infrastructure in the Shire of Esperance, by the time an issue is ticked off the "to do" list, several new tasks are added. There comes a point where infrastructure becomes too expen-

sive to continue to repair and operate. Sometimes we need to let go of old facilities to concentrate our focus on the provision of new services that are in demand. The Shire is evaluating whether or not our much loved Tanker Jetty has reached this point. The Shire of Esperance spends a significant amount of money every year to keep the jetty safe for the community to use. Coastal engineers visited Esperance last week to complete a structural assessment of the Tanker Jetty. The findings of the report, when received, will update the Shire's

current knowledge of the condition of fixings such as nuts and bolts holding the jetty together, rot in the superstructure timber and any presence of borer attack in the underwater section of the piles. The future of the jetty depends largely on the outcomes of this report. We hope to be able to reopen the jetty to the community soon, but we should all start to prepare ourselves. From a safety and structural perspective, it may not be possible to keep the Tanker Jetty operational for very much longer.

Rocky economic road lies ahead

■ Paul Osborne, AAP

Kevin Rudd and Tony Abbott face the same rocky economic road, but are driving very different political cars. The Prime Minister's focusing on supporting "jobs and growth", by allowing larger budget deficits before returning to surplus in four years. Mr Abbott's targeting Government waste, spending and debt and tax cuts to build a "strong and prosperous" economy. These are the key messages each will take to a Federal Election. But the factor looming over both models is the outlook for the global

economy. Labor believes it's done the best it can to head off the negative headwinds coming from abroad, while making \$17 billion in savings and giving the economy the room to move. It argues the coalition, if it wins Government, faces the same conditions - so what will it do to protect jobs? "We are calling it as we see it," Treasurer Chris Bowen says. "There are challenges in this en-



Tony Abbott

vironment ... that require careful management." The careful management means taking the budget further into deficit over the next two years. The upside for Labor is it will have budget room to make spending promises during an election campaign focused on jobs. Labor can also boast no cuts to services, family payments or pensions and the retention of the cash payment school

kids bonus, which the coalition will abolish. Abbott says the Government has lost fiscal control. "What you get from Labor is more spending, more deficits and more boats," he adds. Labor argues cutting government spending now would be irresponsible, especially for business and industry, and wants to know what Abbott proposes to do. For voters, the main question is which side will be the better economic manager, given the circumstances. One thing's for sure, Australia could be in for a rough ride.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Your letter to the editor must be SIGNED with the writer's full name and residential address and telephone number. Send to: Letter to the Editor, Kalgoorlie Miner, PO Box 10392, Kalgoorlie 6430; or email to news@kalmminer.com.au (include full address and phone number). The Kalgoorlie Miner is bound by the Independent Media Council Code of Conduct (independentmediacouncil.com.au). If you believe the code has been breached and wish to complain about an article in this newspaper, contact the Readers' Editor by email: readerseditor@wanews.com.au or in writing to the Readers' Editor, GPO Box N1027, Perth, WA 6843. If the complaint is not resolved to your satisfaction the Readers' Editor will pass it on to the Independent Media Council for review.



Kalgoorlie Miner

Get your local daily
Home Delivered and Save!

*Purchase **6 months** subscription & receive 2 weeks subscription **FREE** \$199.20 including delivery! **SAVE \$16.60!**

*Purchase **12 months** subscription & receive 1 month subscription **FREE** \$398.40 including delivery! **SAVE \$33.20!**

Subscriptions can be purchased here at the Kalgoorlie Miner.

127 Hannan Street
 Phone **08 9022 0555**