

SHELLEY

Passionate about Perth

THINK TANK CHIEF A FINALIST IN TOP AWARDS

SHELLEY resident Marion Fulker chose Perth as her home when she was in her early 20s, raised her family and worked hard to contribute to the city.

Her efforts were recognised recently when she was named a finalist in the 2017 Western Australian of the Year Awards.

The awards recognise a diverse range of talented West Australians who demonstrate excellence in their field and make a positive contribution to the community.

Nominated in the business category, Mrs Fulker is one of 27 finalists across seven categories, including Aboriginal, arts and culture, business, community, professions, sport and youth.

She was selected for her work as inau-

gural chief executive of business think tank Committee for Perth.

Under her leadership, the committee promotes and enables change to improve cultural diversity, economic prosperity, sustainability and amenities.

"I'm thrilled to have been nominated. I'm someone who has chosen Perth as my home," she said.

Mrs Fulker is an adjunct research fellow at the University of Western Australia.

In 2016, she was named the WA Telstra Business Woman of the Year in the For Purpose and Social Enterprise category.

The overall Western Australian of the Year will be announced on Friday, June 2.



Marion Fulker.

Not a batty idea for controlling mozzies

CANNING Men's Shed president Don Buchanan started building bat boxes for his local community after receiving an unusual request from his eight-year-old granddaughter.

Mr Buchanan, who lives in Shelley, said he was asked to build a roosting box for bats for his granddaughter's primary school.

"From then, my interested in micro-bats began," he said.

Mr Buchanan has since built scores of the boxes for his local community.

He said micro-bats lived in a

5km radius of water sources, such as ponds, lakes and rivers, and were a natural way to control mosquitoes and other insects.

Mr Buchanan encouraged people who live near a water source to install a bat box in their garden.

"A single bat can eat up to 1200 mosquitoes per hour," he said.

Bat boxes cost \$25 and can be purchased from the Canning Men's Shed by emailing canningmensshedsecretary@gmail.com or calling Mr Buchanan on 0418 504 261.



Don Buchanan encourages people to install a bat box in their gardens.

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Have you heard?

Virtual reality having real impact in aged care

Virtual reality is no longer something from science fiction and it's having a very real impact on people living with dementia.

Residents at SwanCare's Kingia residential care facility recently tried out a virtual reality headset and the reaction was so astounding it brought visitors and staff to tears.

The initiative is the brainchild of Debbie de Fiddes, a dementia design specialist, who works with SwanCare to provide innovative ways to improve residents' quality of life. Kingia also features an interactive technology wall as well as a sensory garden, all designed for people with dementia.

"Virtual reality has an amazing ability to re-connect people with dementia to their past, to their fundamental identity," de Fiddes said. "Technology-based therapy will have an immensely positive impact in aged care, and it's becoming more and more accessible."

Be rewarded \$2,000!

SwanCare is now rewarding those who refer someone who purchases a retirement home at Bentley Park with up to \$2,000 cash.

The reward is open to anyone and for a limited time only. Visit www.swancare.com.au or call (08) 6250 0016 for details. Conditions apply.

Property of the month

103 Plantation Apartments

Now there's an opportunity to make the ever-popular Plantation Apartments at Bentley Park your new home. Set in a lovely garden-atrium complex, apartment 103 features three bedrooms, one bath plus extra WC, good-size kitchen, generous living and balcony areas, basement car parking and an additional lock-up basement storage unit. Provides access to all SwanCare amenities and services, including 24-hr resident support and security. \$540,000.

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SwanCare

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