

'Brook Fest, the party at the Pump Track

Shire of Donnybrook Balingup 22 April 2024



On Friday 12 April 2024, the Pump Track in Donnybrook came alive with the sights and sounds of 'Brook Fest, a festival that was created by young people for young people during Youth Week.

The Youth Innovators from Donnybrook District High School (DDHS) provided the ideas and inspiration for this event, which was facilitated by the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup for people aged 10-25 years.

'Brook Fest had live music featuring successful competitors from the Donnybrook Apple Festival New Sounds competition. The performers were singer Maddison Sawyer, guitarist and vocalist Ruby Wren, and guitarist and vocalist Charli Piper. There was also entertainment from a new band from Bridgetown High School known as the Floorboards, as well as performances and stories from local Noongar artist Troy Bennell, a silent disco, face and body paint with UV paints, giant lawn games, food trucks and stalls from Investing in Our Youth and Cleanaway.

'Brook Fest was made possible with the assistance of a youth week grant from the Department of Communities, and the generous contributions and support from South West locals made the event both highly enjoyable and successfully engaging. We would also like to acknowledge South West Water Cartage for keeping our attendees well hydrated, St John Ambulance for providing their services to keep everyone safe, ECU South West for keeping people comfortable in colourful recliners, Headspace Bunbury for providing sensory toys for the "quiet zone," and MC Stephen Dennis for being our 'host with the most.'

We are also very grateful to our local volunteers, including the Youth Innovators from DDHS, who were all key to the events success.

The Shire is eager to receive feedback on the event, particularly if you were attending 'Brook Fest. You can get in touch with the Shire through any of the following methods to let them know what you liked, and suggest improvements, ready for the next event.

Vivienne MacCarthy
President for the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup

