

Car Park Social: The Debut EP

BY KYRON SMITHSON

In mid-March last year, local anaesthetist Paul Ricciardo shaved his luscious curls and set aside his dreams of being a rock star. Jon Carlson, along with his partner Brittany, considered how the birth of their first child in April would be impacted by a global pandemic. Daniel Seinor and Scott White stared down the barrel of a drastically altered education system, uncertain how they would teach their students. Esperance as a community braced for hard times, for sad times. We prepared for the unknown that lay ahead.

Soon however, extreme tension within our small community turned into a sense of relief. Both State and Federal Governments initiated strategies that would manage the spread of the C-Virus. It helped, of course, that we are extremely isolated and have an anything-but-dense population distribution. Of anywhere in the world, Esperance was particularly fortunate.

With expectations of not touching the Esperance blue with a surfboard for an extended period, Ricciardo was relieved to find himself back in the ocean. But one fateful day, Paul took the full force of a Southern Ocean wave to his right shoulder, dislocating and tearing ligaments in the process. Surgery quickly followed and Paul's 2020 came to a standstill.

Jon Carlson swung me a call as he regularly does. "Kyza, Paul's talking about writing a grant application for Car Park Social. What are your thoughts?" Jon was somewhat sceptical but my reply was, "If anyone can pull it off, it's Paul." Roughly three months later, I was in the car on the way to Perth and I received a message from Jon letting me know their grant application was successful. "Holy hell," I thought to myself.

A whirlwind ensued as the full scope of the project, made possible by this grant, came to life. Following their first post-COVID lockdown performance, a sold out show at The Indian Ocean Hotel in Scarborough, Car Park Social headed to Coolgardie to become the first full band to record at the newly developed train station recording studio. The studio was developed by Brenton Meynell of Barefoot Bands and Drew Goddard of Karnivool, in partnership with the Shire of Coolgardie and Coolgardie Community Resource Centre.

I watched as Car Park Social worked away in the space, Carlson sending through updates as track after track was laid down in the most interesting of locations. Further contributing to the work was Chris Edmondson, Travis McIlroy and Jamie Sher. Edmondson, our regional-based WAM committee member, spoke highly of working with Car Park Social, saying it was a pleasure to see a band that truly knew the sound they were chasing. Travis and Jamie created an unbelievable array of content. I caught a glimpse of the train station through a 3D walk through developed by Jamie. Gobsmaacking.

In between laying down their sections, Dan, Paul, Scott and Jon lost themselves in the sheer sparseness of Coolgardie. They commented that there was little distraction outside of the studio and that the quiet, the heat and the desert strangely made it a fertile creative ground. I feel these factors will shine through in the music produced by the band while in the Goldfields.



NEW MERCH & 375ml CANS NOW AVAILABLE !!



LIVE MUSIC EVERY FRIDAY & SUNDAY
OPEN EVERYDAY 11.30am-7.30pm (9pm Fri)

luckybaybrewing.com.au

PH: 0429 777 714 R: 63 BANDY CREEK RD, BANDY CREEK



CAR PARK SOCIAL
EP LAUNCH

BROUGHT TO YOU BY CAR PARK SOCIAL, THE CANNERY ARTS CENTRE AND KYZA PRESENTS

WITH GUESTS XIII // BODES WITH BAND // TRAC // CHRIS EDMONDSON // B.M.P

SATURDAY 20TH FEBRUARY, 2021
CANNERY GARDEN 18:00-23:00

CANNERY BAR OPEN // FOOD AVAILABLE

TICKET INCLUDES COPY OF EP // \$30.50 • BF CANNERY MEMBERS, \$44.00 • BF NON-MEMBERS
TICKETS VIA [HTTPS://WWW.CANNERYARTSCENTRE.COM.AU](https://www.canneryartscentre.com.au)



A few months on, Car Park Social are now releasing their first single, *Blind*. It's an expertly crafted track which is just so damn warm. Now I join the lads on their journey towards releasing their first EP at The Cannery Arts Centre on February 20. It blows my mind to think that two years ago Daniel and Paul played early sets at Cannery open mics. It blows my mind to think that a surfing injury played a solid part in Car Park Social being able to fully realise themselves as a band and bring their songwriting to life. It blows my mind to think that their debut EP was crafted in an isolated Goldfields town by Brenton Meynell and one of WA's most talented musicians, Drew Goddard.

February 20 at The Cannery marks the culmination of a journey for the four Esperance lads (yes, Scott, you're local now). Head along to celebrate and enjoy the Car Park Social experience. An amazing line-up will also take the stage, with acts selected based on their involvement with the project. We have XIII featuring Drew Goddard on drums, Dan Sanders of Gyroscope on vocals and Mickey Deville. Local lad Bodes with his band, TRAEC, Chris Edmondson and finally B.M.P, the Brenton Meynell Project. This night will be truly special and we hope to see you all there.

SEE CAR PARK SOCIAL LIVE

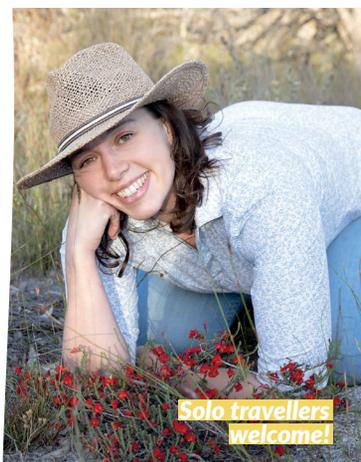
Tickets for their February 20 gig are available from www.canneryartscentre.com.au. Each ticket purchased includes a copy of the one and only Car Park Social debut EP.



Triggerplant

Guided botanical walking tours

Cape Le Grand National Park



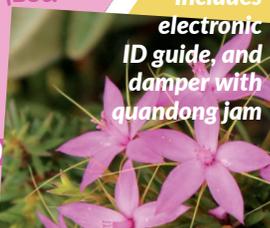
I was so fascinated by the flora of this great southern edge that I moved across Australia during a pandemic to start my venture, Triggerplant.

Slowly savour the ecology of our summer wildflowers with me, Kelsey Tucker (BSc. Adv. Hons.), official plant nerd.

\$180 per person half day
\$300 per person full day

To book call 0428 060 550

f /triggerplant @ /triggerplant



Includes electronic ID guide, and damper with quandong jam