

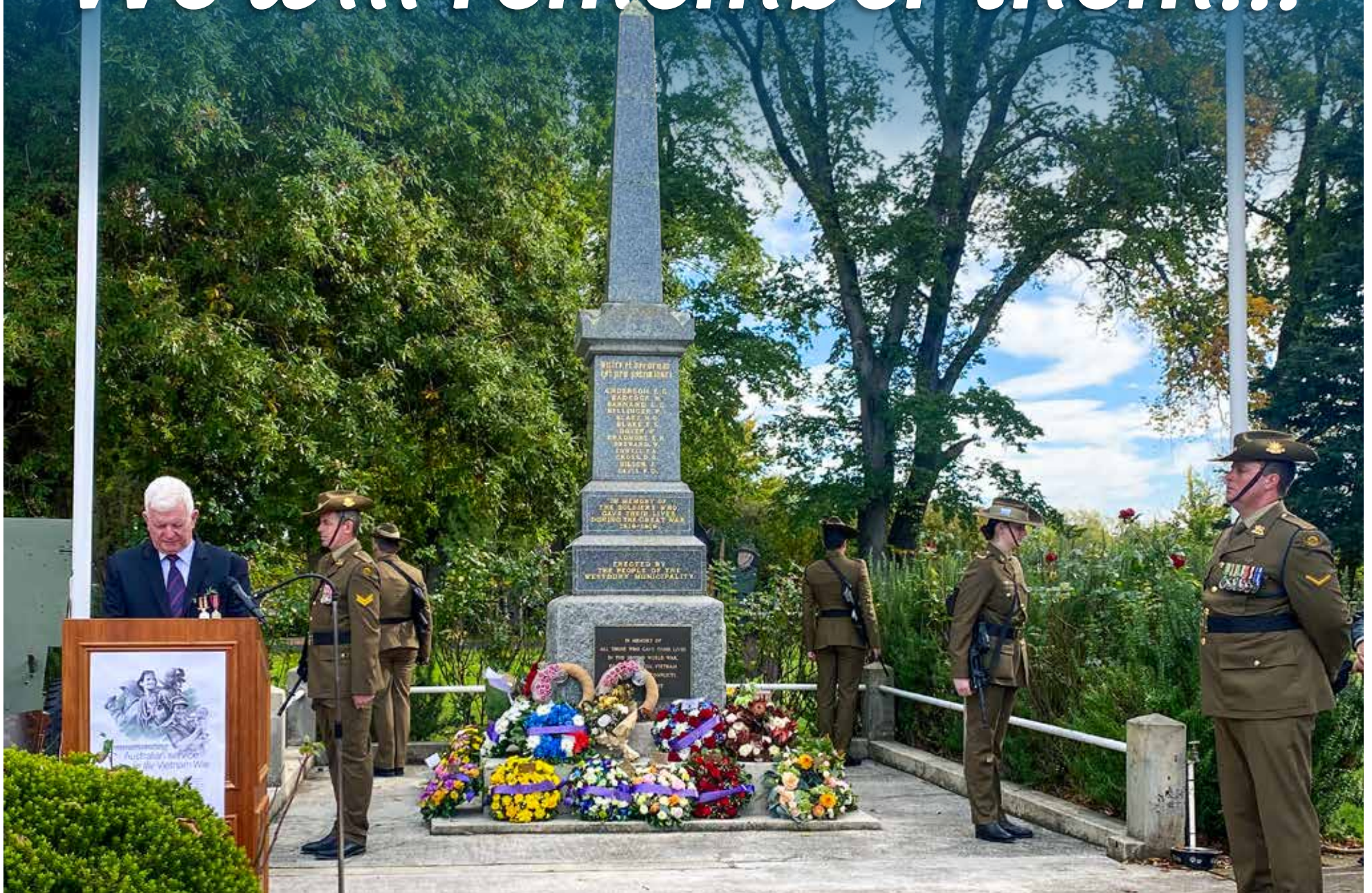
Meander Valley Gazette

Your independent community newspaper

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 05 MAY 2023

FREE EVERY MONTH

We will remember them...



► The Catafalque Party guarding the Westbury cenotaph on ANZAC Day.

MEANDER VALLEY residents of all ages and walks of life turned out in large numbers to commemorate ANZAC Day this year.

From the smaller memorials to the larger cenotaphs around the municipality, people attended to remember, reflect and honour those who have

served our country and who serve today.

Heavy fog provided a solemn cloaking at ANZAC Dawn Services in Westbury

and Deloraine.

Nearly 200 people came to the Westbury Dawn Service and the morning service, whilst a 500 strong crowd, the largest

crowd in recent memory, attended the Deloraine Dawn Service.

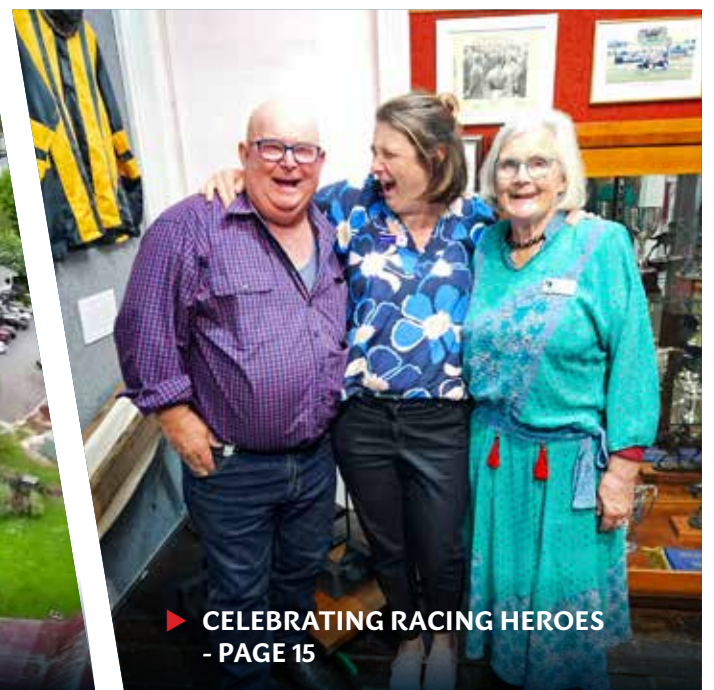
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DETAILS

The Meander Valley Gazette is an independent newspaper, printing and delivering 9,500 copies to all homes and select businesses in Meander Valley every month. The Gazette is also online so users can browse the complete archives and read the latest articles and newspapers.

Our mission is to be a trusted record of community news, views, and issues affecting the lives of the people in Meander Valley and to build and enrich social connections within our community.

Towns and suburbs in the Valley include Blackstone Heights, Bracknell, Carrick, Chudleigh, Deloraine, Elizabeth Town, Exton, Golden Valley, Hadspen, Hagley, Jackeys Marsh, Meander, Mole Creek, Parkham, Prospect Vale, Reedy Marsh and Westbury.

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Pasifika entertain in Deloraine

THE MEANDER Valley community had an opportunity to experience Pasifika culture at the Deloraine Little Theatre.

More than 50 dancers from East Timor, Tonga, Samoa, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands shared their talents and cultural traditions with an enthusiastic and appreciative

audience.

It was an ideal opportunity for us to get to know our newest residents.

Hopefully there will be further events and opportunities for these talented neighbours and the Deloraine community to become better acquainted.



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

IS THE WRITING ON THE WALL FOR COUNCILS?

The Local Government Board was tasked by the Tasmanian Government to review the role, function, and design of local government in Tasmania so that our councils have a sustainable future.

The recent Auditor General's report has highlighted a growing divide in sustainability between urban and rural councils.

Sustainable councils must have sufficient revenue/scale, resources, capability, and capacity to deliver their critical functions into the future, and it appears that many councils will be facing financial difficulties in the near future.

In their Stage 2 Report,

it is clear that the Local Government Board favours the restructuring of local Councils.

They argue that just "moving the deck chairs" is not going to improve local government in the long term and that fundamental structural reform is needed.

Based on the inertia and limited outcomes from Councils' previous engagement in voluntary structural reform, they propose combinations of mandated sharing and consolidation of services and/or forced amalgamations to form fewer, larger councils.

The new language in their proposal is *mandated* change.

Not all councils provided submissions, but most of

those who did support the need for greater economies of scale and service consolidation.

They recognise that these outcomes can be achieved through fewer, bigger councils or better centralised service sharing arrangements.

The Stage 2 report does not set a target number of councils.

It presents modelling that reveals nine large, economically viable and cohesive councils based upon social catchments.

Some councils have read this as a threat.

Hopefully, the model will encourage enough councils to take the bull by the horns and seriously consult and engage

with their communities and each other in voluntary reform.

The alternative is *to be reformed*.

The amalgamation of the Westbury and Deloraine Councils in the 1990s resulted in a larger council that is in a stronger position than either of them would be today.

Do Councils know what their communities value, the services we need and the ways in which we would like them delivered?

When are councils going to take the lead and shape their destiny for the communities they serve?

Craig Zimitat, PhD
 Editor

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT LOGGING

Dear Editor,

I would like to encourage Meander Valley residents to see what really happens at a logging coup that Sustainable Timbers Tasmania claims to maintain or enhance the environmental and cultural

values of the area in a partial harvest operation.

The reality is quite the opposite.

Following harvesting of Coupe HU304A on the North Western slope of Quamby Bluff and the follow up fire bombing, what is left is a bare lifeless scorched earth.

Important native

habitats for endangered species like the Tasmanian devil have been totally destroyed and thousands of litres of fuel consumed to create an ecological disaster in an era of climate crisis.

Before labelling me a greenie whinger, please go see for yourself.

Access is off Nuttings Road for walkers or if this

is not an option for you, drive along Meander Road and look to the lower north West face of the bluff to 700 metres.

When will the truth be told about the unsustainable nature of these practices?

Lucinda Springfield,
 Golden Valley

MEANDER VALLEY GAZETTE SCHEDULE 2023

EDITION	ADVERTISING BOOKING DUE	AD ARTWORK DELIVERY	EDITORIAL DEADLINE	PUBLICATION DATE
June	May 15	May 19	May 19	June 1
July	June 19	June 23	June 23	July 6
August	July 17	July 21	July 21	August 3
September	August 28	September 1	September 1	September 7
October	September 18	September 22	September 22	October 5
November	October 16	October 20	October 20	November 2
December	November 28	December 1	December 1	December 7

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Website: www.meandervalleygazette.org **Find us on Facebook and Twitter**

ANZACs commemorated

► **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

THE 0700 Carrick ANZAC Morning Service was well attended by a gathering of over 50 residents and visitors around the renovated memorial.

The service, emceed by Councillor Kevin House, commenced with the New Zealand and Australian National Anthems, with hymns lead by Lindsey Gillam and prayers led by Lyn Watson.

Carrick Girl Guides attended to the flag ceremony and distributed ANZAC biscuits.

At Hagley, about 80 people attended the 0945 ANZAC Morning service at the Hagley Soldier's Memorial at the recreation ground.

The service was emceed by Heather Malerbi, Lions Club of Hadspen South Esk, with prayers and the blessing led by Rev Paul Hobby.

Hagley Farm School students

spoke about the meaning of ANZAC to them, whilst Russell Cowan recalled family memories.

Laying of wreaths was followed by the call of the Honour Roll by Ben Whitchurch of the Hagley Diggers Cricket Club.

ANZAC Day was commemorated by about 50 people at the ANZAC Morning service. Led by Mr Gleeson, the Welcome to Country was followed by the Australian national anthem.

Readings and recitals were offered by Brittany and Typer Chandler-Onions, Harriet Rollins, Logan Harrower, Harvey Atkins and Laylah Hodge.

Sprigs of rosemary were laid on the cenotaph in honour of the fallen. The service ended with God Save the King.

In Westbury, the march to the cenotaph was led by Nanette

Steers.

The 11.00am service was emceed by Bob Sackley, President Westbury RSL.

Lee Briant sang the New Zealand and Australian national anthems.

Lt Col Nick Howlett (retired) delivered the address, in acknowledgement of the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War.

The prayer was led by Pastor Matt Holloway, Westbury Baptist Church, with readings by students from the Westbury Primary School: Willow King, Callen Poulton, Flynn Triffitt and Isla Westwood.

A Catafalque party, conducted by Geoff Shaw, attended the Dawn and Morning Services.

Jackson Wright of St Patrick's College played the bugle for the Last Post and Reveille.

Music was provided by the U3A Guitar group and The Tartan Terror Pipe band.

The Table for the Fallen Soldier, rich in symbolism, reminded people of the enduring sense of loss and gratitude for the fallen and the sacrifices by them and their families.

After the service, Brian Mitchell opened Westbury RSL's installations saluting Vietnam Veterans' service.

Later, the talented Loui Moran from the Westbury Primary School entertained RSL crowds singing Aussie favourites accompanied by the guitar.

ANZAC was commemorated in Mole Creek by about 50 people at the ANZAC Morning service. Led by Mr Gleeson, the Welcome to Country was followed by the Australian national anthem.

Readings and recitals were offered by Brittany and Typer

Chandler-Onions, Harriet Rollins, Logan Harrower, Harvey Atkins and Laylah Hodge. Sprigs of rosemary were laid on the cenotaph in honour of the fallen. The service ended with God Save the King.

At Deloraine, the services, emceed by Greg Hall AM, President of the Deloraine RSLA, commenced with a Welcome to Country by Elder Hank Horton and the New Zealand and Australian National Anthems.

Guest speakers included Terry Roles (Dawn Service) and Corporal Abbey Walters (Morning Service). Prayers were led by Pastor Greg Beck and Ben Harker bugled the Last Post and Reveille and the service ended with God Save the King.

The ANZAC street parade stretched from one end of Emu Bay Rd to beyond the British Hotel.



► Sinai-Beth, John Donaldson, Greg Johnston and Sandra Pearn, Westbury.



► Parade Marshall Peter Ashton leads veterans from the cenotaph, Deloraine.



► Ian Boxhall and Michael Tye, Mole Creek.



► Carrick Girl Guides raise the flag, Carrick.



► Readings were delivered by Hagley Farm School students, Hagley.



► Corporal Abby Walters delivered the morning service address, Deloraine.

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Northern Correctional Facility Project update

THE TASMANIAN Government is committed to developing a new Northern Correctional Facility (NCF).

The modern facility will be specifically designed to deliver improved rehabilitation and reintegration opportunities for offenders who come into contact with our Corrections system, with the overarching purpose to make our communities safer.

The Department of Justice, through its dedicated NCF Project Team, continues to progress the due diligence investigations required as part of the normal statutory planning process for the development of this project at the Ashley Youth Detention Centre (AYDC) site.

NCF Development Proposal

The Traffic Assessment was based upon the following proposal.

The NCF is expected to be constructed in two stages.

Stage 1 is expected to take two to three years to complete and is anticipated to be operational while stage two is under construction.

Once fully operational (following stage 2) the NCF

will be staffed with up to 370 staff, with approximately 230 facility staff plus other site visitors, such as visitors to offenders, deliveries, ancillary support staff etc., expected to be present during the busiest time of day (weekday).

The NCF facility will operate 24/7.

Traffic Impact Assessment

The Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) was completed by independent specialists Midson Traffic Pty Ltd.

The TIA investigated the traffic and parking impacts of the proposed correctional facility development at 4260 Meander Valley Road, Deloraine.

The transport network assessed consists of Meander Valley Road (B54), Highland Lakes Road, Bowerbank Link Road and the Bass Highway.

Meander Valley Road carries approximately 1,900 vehicles/day near the AYDC site (2021 data).

Traffic flows are greatest from 8-5pm, with the peak from 1-4 pm.

Meander Valley Road carries 11.4% heavy vehicles.

The Bowerbank Link Road

carries approximately 2,500 vehicles/day.

It is estimated that the total traffic generation would be between 30-40% of current flows.

It is estimated to be an additional 772 vehicles/day, with a peak of 180 vehicles per hour.

Presumably this is between the proposed NCF, the roundabout and Bowerbank Link Rd.

The assessment proposes two options for access to the AYDC site: (i) utilise and upgrade the existing AYDC access; or (ii) construct a new access to Meander Valley Road.

The report does not recommend either option but supports both options with careful design considerations.

The report notes that a single access would have less impact on traffic flow on Meander Valley Road, and that both options require modifications to the road corridor width to accommodate turning facilities (without requiring property acquisition of neighbouring properties).

The report notes that the NCF must provide a minimum parking provision of 169 spaces

based on 270 offenders and 230 on-site staff.

The report does not mention traffic flows from the proposed NCF along Meander Valley Rd through Exton (60km zone) to Westbury.

The impact of slow moving machinery is considered minor.

The Historic (European) Heritage Assessment (HHAR)

This assessment was conducted by independent specialists Southern Archaeology.

The AYDC site is on the boundary of the traditional lands of the North Nation and the North Midlands Nation and, more specifically the Pallitorre and Panninher clans.

The Historic (European) Heritage Assessment (HHAR) was completed by independent specialists Southern Archaeology.

There are no plans yet for the site, although development is expected to be focussed around existing infrastructure and to the western side of the property.

The whole of the property was thoroughly searched for historical and Aboriginal heritage material to allow for potential development

anywhere on the property.

The AYDC site has a rich European history dating from the 1820s.

The proposed works at the AYDC site are not within an area listed on the Tasmanian Heritage Register (THR), Commonwealth Heritage registers or World Heritage listings.

The site was first granted to Gamaliel Butler around 1825 and together with subsequent land grants, was named 'The Retreat'.

The assessment identified an 1830s shepherd's hut in the northeast of the site, destroyed in the 1950s, but it is not within the current AYDC site.

The original 1912 farm dairy is the earliest structure present, considered to be of moderate archaeological significance, though modified from its original form.

This report determined that the proposed development is unlikely to impact significant archaeology during works, but care should be taken in specific areas in case archaeological material is discovered.

The full reports can be found on the DOJ website: www.justice.tas.gov.au/

WinterFire 2023 – bigger and brighter than ever

WINTERFIRE 2023 is not just any event, it's an experience that will leave you in awe.

Presented by Arts Deloraine, this community-driven event is a vibrant and entertaining celebration of the arts, showcasing a range of artistic disciplines that will leave you mesmerised.

It's an event that heavily relies on social capital and the generous volunteer efforts of various community service organisations like Apex, The Lions Club, and Rotary.

At WinterFire, the community comes together

to create a safe and secure family environment for all attendees, with support from the State Emergency Services and Deloraine Fire Brigade volunteer members.

Uncle Hank from the Kooparoonia Niara mob will welcome everyone with a Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony, setting the ambiance tone for an unforgettable winter's evening.

You'll witness a Viking camp, fire spinning circle, a community parade and the lighting of the famous sculpted bonfire.

Local youth bands and soloists like Scatter Brain, Alegria, Mankind, The Stingrays, The Delttime killers, Mandown, Neil Gibson, Kianna Lehman, Jason Taylor, Ertler Sisters, and The Original Caretakers will take the stage.

You'll be enthralled by inspiring drumming groups like Taiko Drumming, and the Deloraine Big Band will be the main act whilst providing the backline and production support.

Foodies, you're in for a treat with plenty of delicious food options like wood-fired pizzas,

food from the Himalayas, dumplings, seafood, coffee, and hot chocolate with divine sweets.

And don't forget to drop by Arts Deloraine's mulled wine bar and their traditional marshmallow stall.

WinterFire 2023 is made possible by the generosity of sponsors like the Foundation for Rural Regional Renewal and Bendigo Bank, with support from the Meander Valley Council.

Arts Deloraine is also currently conducting community workshops for

fire spinning, adding to the excitement.

WinterFire's Artistic Director Rebecca Rowe is working with local schools to encourage student participation and families' engagement with the event.

So, mark your calendars for the 10th June and brace yourself for a fun-filled celebration of the arts and community at the WinterFire 23 at the Deloraine Showgrounds.

It's an event you and all your family members don't want to miss!



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Grenoch renovations improve access



▶ Andrew Johnston, Greg Burgess, Marc Smith and Annette Viney (Rotary), Nadine Ozols, CEO and Michael Duniam, ICT & Project Manager at the new front entrance.



▶ Greg Burgess, Andrew Johnston, Anette Viney and Marc Smith (Rotary), Nadine Ozols, CEO; Lexie Scott and Christine Chilcott (Auxillary) in the visitor's lounge.

AGED CARE Deloraine opened renovations at Grenoch that provide an enhanced visitor experience with a welcoming open foyer area with clear

access to Reception, tea and coffee facilities and a remodelled Care hub. A painting, hung in the Visitors Lounge, was

commissioned in recognition of the work of the Aged Care Deloraine Auxillary. The renovations have been a long drawn out process,

with delays due to COVID, storm water damage to the lounge area and damage to the floor by an errant donkey! Renovations to the Entrance

and Care Hub of Grenoch were funded through a generous donation of \$150,000 from the Rotary Pratt Foundation.

Meander Valley Council wrap

THE THIRD meeting of the Meander Valley Council for the year, attended by all Councillors, was held at the Lyell St Chambers on 20 April, 2023.

The first order of business related to Council's support for the LGBTQ+ community.

Councillor Loader presented a motion to support the annual raising of the Rainbow Flag above the Council Chambers on the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) Day.

Councillor Dudman spoke eloquently on his personal support for the motion, saying that the decision may seem unnecessary or irrelevant, but that this show of support would

make a difference to many people.

The motion passed with the support of Mayor Wayne Johnston and Councillors Stephanie Cameron, Lochie Dornauf, Kevin House, John Temple, Anne-Marie Loader and Ben Dudman.

Council approved grant and sponsorships to a total value of \$7,900.

Grants were awarded to Launceston City Football Club for a historical documentary, Pickleball Assoc Tas for pickleball kits and the Meander Valley U3A for Pickleball support.

Sponsorship was provided to support six young people to attend national and international sporting events.

The Council approved new tourist

signage for the Bass Highway that will replace the *Be Bowled Over* signs at the entrances for Westbury.

Council approved receipt of \$3,350,000 in Capital Grant Funding from the Australian Government under the Community Development Grant program toward the Deloraine Recreation Precinct redevelopment project.

The Council also received the first quarterly financial report, and the report on progress of the 2023 Annual Plan.

Two revised policies related to Council representation and Councillor expenses were approved.

There were no planning applications

before Council.

At the Council Workshop on 28 March, Councillors received briefings on TasNetworks North West Transmission Developments, UTAS Northern Transformation Project status and Birrale Rd upgrades.

There were discussions in relation to Deloraine car parking, and Councillor term priorities.

This report represents salient elements of the meeting. Full details may be found in the Agenda and Draft Minutes published on the Council Website.

The accuracy of minutes is subject to ratification at the May 2023 meeting.



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Talking Tourism

**Mark Flanigan,
President - Great Western
Tiers Tourism Association**

WHO WANTS tourism anyway? This might seem a strange question from someone whose role, in part, is to promote tourism.

But it is a question that is always kept in mind during the work of the Great Western Tiers Tourism Association (GWTTA).

I would guess that most people who live in the Meander Valley love it deeply.

They love the landscape, they love the villages and towns and the way that life isn't too rushed.

I would venture that they also appreciate the range of opportunities in the valley; opportunities for work, recreation, services and shopping.

Tourism, or more correctly, the visitor economy is a major contributor to the lifestyle that we lead in the Meander Valley.

Often when people think of 'tourism' they think of visitors from overseas being ferried around in buses from one attraction to another.

The visitor economy is much broader than that.

It includes visitors from the

Big Island, day trippers from Launceston or Burnie, as well as visiting family and friends.

These visitors, and the money they spend, are a significant part of our local economy.

It isn't just restaurants and accommodation businesses that are involved in the visitor economy.

Nearly every business in the main streets from Hadspen to Mole Creek depends on visitors for at least part of their turn over.

And these small businesses employ our friends and family.

There are also flow on effects to businesses that service these enterprises like electricians, plumbers and accountants.

We all gain from a vibrant visitor economy.

This isn't a new idea.

As long ago as 1895 early European settlers were introducing trout into the lakes on top of the Great Western Tiers/ kooparoonia niara recognising that the combination of mountain scenery, the Mole Creek Caves and the fertile valley floor would soon bring the district 'to the front as a tourist and holiday resort'.

In 1903 work began by the Mole Creek and



Northern Tasmanian Tourism Associations to build new tracks and huts to improve access to the Tiers.

The families involved in this early work are still part of our local society.

Names like Howe, How, Parsons, Richie, Lee, Green and Johnston.

Our main strategy has been to build on the region's strengths and promote the Meander Valley and the Great Western Tiers/ kooparoonia niara as the Short Walks Capital of Tasmania.

I will cover more of this story in the next column.

The job of the GWTTA is to strengthen the visitor economy in Meander Valley.

Our activities are designed to, firstly, support operators and secondly to increase the number of people visiting the region: to increase the length of time they stay and to increase

the amount they contribute to the local economy.

Importantly, we don't want hordes of visitors.

The aim isn't to simply concentrate on numbers – the aim is to increase the number of 'high-yielding visitors'.

We want to attract people who connect with the things that we think are important and want to look after what we love.

Meander Valley Vineyard is a classic example of what a vibrant visitor economy can bring.

Bron and Jade, together with their young family, moved from Melbourne, bought a vineyard and found friendship and a new lease on life.

"We wanted all those things that Tassie does so well – a sense of space, a lifestyle and a place for our kids to connect with nature".

They also found a business

where their family could grow together.

Now, they are an important part of the visitor experience in Meander Valley.

From time to time the Association holds networking events which are an opportunity for people involved in the visitor economy to come together and celebrate their achievements.

Our next event will be held on May 17 at the Meander Valley Vineyard.

We will hear from the new CEO of Tourism Tasmania, Sarah Clark, about what is in store over the coming months.

So if you are a part of the Meander Valley visitor economy come along and hear more of Bron and Jade's story.

If you wish to join the GWTTA or sign up for the networking event contact secretary@greatwesterntiers.org.au



Looking for purposeful local employment?

Working in aged care might not be for everyone – it's hard work and requires plenty of genuine compassion and resilience. But for those with the passion to help others, it can be a wonderfully rewarding and purposeful career pathway.

Aged Care Deloraine is a large employer in the area, currently employing over 120 staff. We are a not-for-profit community-based organisation committed to the wellbeing of our residents and the wider community. To serve the community to the best of our ability, we rely on a committed team of employees and volunteers who make a real difference in the lives of our residents every day.



We have recently added additional shifts to our rosters to improve the quality of care and services and have plans to add more. This means we have further employment opportunities and we need suitable people to join our team.

If you want a job that enables you to give back to the community and the individuals (our residents) who have given so much to us – consider working in aged care.

We are currently recruiting for Registered Nurses, Extended Care Assistants (Carers), Cleaners and Catering Assistants and have vacancies for casual and permanent positions.

Applications for employment can be emailed direct per the email below.

An incidental discovery

IN 2022 Private HR Bakes' dogtags were found in an auction lot purchased by the Banjo Patterson museum in NSW.

Their discovery led to an unexpected link between Deloraine and a small village in the UK.

Private H R Bakes' name appears on the front panel of the Deloraine Cenotaph along with 105 others from the Deloraine area who paid the supreme sacrifice during WWI.

Private Bakes served with the 12th Battalion and died of pneumonia in an Australian military hospital in Sutton Veny, England on the 24/01/1919.

He was 21 years of age.

Owners of the Banjo Patterson Museum, Sharon and Alf Cantrell's research lead them to Sutton Veny in the UK where they discovered a very

close relationship between Sutton Veny and Australia which continues to this day.

AIF troops were barracked in camps at Sutton Veny (and nearby Codford) prior to deployment to northern France.

They discovered that 142 Australian soldiers are buried in the local St John's Church cemetery.

Remarkably, generations of children attending the Church of England Primary School in Sutton Veny have been looking after the war graves since 1919.

The school holds an ANZAC service every year where the children lay flowers on every Australian grave.

St John's Church holds a village ANZAC Service on the nearest Sunday to ANZAC Day in recognition of the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) and to all Australians who died in Sutton



Veny during WWI.

Overlooking the war graves is an outline of the ANZAC Badge cut, by Australian soldiers, into the hillside outside Sutton Veny.

In recognition of their contribution to the war, this badge is still maintained today and can be seen from many miles away.

A framed plaque was presented to the school by The Banjo Patterson Museum on



▶ **Left: Private Bakes' dogtags. Above: Peter Ashton DCM of the Deloraine RSL Sub-Branch with Private Bakes' nieces.**

the 25th April 2018, thanking their past, present and future students for tending to the graves of the 142 Australian Soldiers in their care.

A local connection to Private Bakes was established

and Peter Ashton DCM of the Deloraine RSL Sub-Branch presented Private Bakes' surviving nieces with an the information pack provided by the Banjo Patterson Museum.

See: www.suttonveny.co.uk

The hand-made world of Mathew Simms

ART Forum with Dr Richard Dunlop

NOT FAR north of the new 'authentic' kebab shop in Westbury, you can follow the appropriately-named Deviation Road, and soon you will witness the astonishing hut constructed by professional artist, Mathew Simms.

Protected by a natural moat, Mathew's solo architectural effort is perched in a field populated by three sheep, which Mathew shepherds and harvests for clothing and some milk.

The hut itself is made of materials which would probably have ended as hard waste in less imaginative hands.

Nature is experienced here

in the raw, and any stray timber (especially willow) is carved into clogs, frames, dolls, clothing for dolls, unique musical instruments, painting surfaces, and chairs.

All seem to have their origins in gypsy folk art from central Europe.

However, Mathew would largely prefer to be left alone within the world he has created, seated on a chair carved with sympathy to the grain, using tools which in turn he has hand-wrought.

In art-historical terms, Simms' hut is reminiscent of the Bribie Island hut of Ian Fairweather, a towering genius artist who concentrated in his later years on the production of paintings

which hybridized cubism and post-war abstract expressionism.

Both Fairweather and Simms exhibit great sensitivity to materials, with Simms' best paintings responding to the contours of rudimentary boards about the size of colonial wooden shingles.

In the case of 3-D works, Simms is at his best when the mark of the hand-tooling is left distinctly under-finished, like that of convict stone masonry.

The by-product of his processes, mounds of shavings, are sculptural too, and eventually cover all surfaces.

The determination and aptitude to build one's own hut the two have in common.

But that's where the similarities end, and any further comparisons are tenuous.

Simms' diverse output includes various sculptural, musical and painted works and these are often available for purchase at Evandale Market (where Mathew has a stall), or through Despard Gallery (Hobart) (where you will pay a substantially higher commission, usually a 100% mark-up on the 'wholesale' price with works placed on consignment as the Gallery spends money on promoting its artists via, for example, the video mentioned below).

Clogs, ephemera and examples of curious one-off works by Simms also periodically appear in

the West Barrack Street Junk Shop in Deloraine, but you usually need to be quick to get the best ones.

QVMAG, Launceston's Regional Gallery, has a couple of examples of chairs made from scavenged timbers in their permanent collection, and in my view, should continue to collect in greater depth as we have another "Jimmy Possum" legend emerging with Mathew.

This month's challenge for Artforum followers: View "The Little World of Mathew Simms" on Youtube and expand your own a little.

The author is a professional artist www.richarddunlop.com.au and collects examples of Simms' work.

Prepare, plan and protect this winter

The cooler months bring colds, the flu, COVID-19 and other illnesses. That's why being prepared is the best way to protect yourself and your family.

Find out more at www.health.tas.gov.au/winter-wellness



✓ Prepare

Be prepared by being up to date with your vaccinations – they'll boost your immunity against COVID-19 and the flu to reduce severe illness if you get sick.



✓ Plan

If you're at a higher risk of becoming very sick from COVID-19 or flu, make a plan with your healthcare provider for how you will access testing and antiviral medication if you get sick.



✓ Protect

Protect yourself and others by remembering to wash your hands, cover your coughs and sneezes, and stay at home if you're unwell.



Winter
wellness



Rehabilitating the Wildwood

WILDWOOD IS a reserve of 5.7 hectares (14 acres) along the Meander River, and on the same side and upstream from the Apex Caravan Park.

Prior to the Rotary Club of Deloraine purchasing it in 1997, it was known as the Westhorpe picnic ground and recreation area.

In the middle of the 19th Century it was used for cricket matches, football, footraces and social events.

Rotary has been looking after Wildwood since it bought it (and ensured it remained a community asset), but finds it is unable to give it the attention it needs, as the Rotary members are focused on running the Tasmanian Craft Fair and many other projects.

To ensure it remains an asset open to the public, Rotary approached the Meander Valley Council, to purchase it privately and thus keep it in

community hands.

Council investigated and for a small purchase price has obtained Wildwood as an extension to the walking areas along the river.

The land is low lying river flood plain, subject to flooding, with a mixture of some oldgrowth native trees and exotics.

It contains habitat for native animals, including frogs, but with a revegetation program, it will become much more important.

Wildwood is a beautiful spot to walk around, ride a bicycle through, fish or exercise your dog.

As the Meander River forms over 70% of the property boundary of Wildwood, and the river is the water source for Deloraine and other downstream communities, it is of the utmost importance to ensure its health.

But there is a significant

growth of Sycamore trees and other introduced weeds which need to be controlled to realise the potential of this historic and beautiful site.

What is missing from Wildwood being rehabilitated and becoming a significant area of close proximity to Deloraine, are volunteers eager to be involved in a group activity.

This might come about through the formation of a dedicated Wildwood Landcare group, which is a grassroots movement modelled around a shared vision to protect, enhance or restore natural environments in local communities through sustainable land management and conservation activities.

Activities may include:

- Protection of remnant vegetation communities that are rare in lowlands and near towns;



- Revegetation with native species;
- Riverbank stabilisation;
- Controlling and eradicating weeds;
- Protection of the frog ponds.

Rotary is willing to assist by providing up to \$6,000 if a Landcare group is set up, for initial planning and set-up costs.

Further funding could be

obtained from grants from government bodies – especially to improve the riparian zone along the river.

If you are interested in becoming involved, a public meeting will take place from 7.00pm on Thursday 8th June at the Rotary Function Centre in Alveston Drive.

It is anticipated there will be representatives from Rotary, the Council, NRM North and Landcare to answer questions.

WESTBURY
RSL Club

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Look no further than 'The Garrison' at Westbury RSL!

Our function venue is the ideal setting for weddings, parties, and community gatherings.

With a stunning location and top-notch amenities, we have everything you need to make your event a success.

Whether you're planning an intimate gathering or a grand celebration, our team is here to help you every step of the way.

So why wait?

Book your next event with us today and make it an unforgettable experience!

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Westbury, Tasmania

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www.westburysl.com.au

Sustainability stories: everyday people doing their bit

BRETT AND Kellie were each thinking about the purchase of new cars. The cost of fuel was one issue front of mind for each of them.

They were digging deep into their pockets to pay for fuel for driving to Launceston for medical appointments and to Hobart for work; from the farm to Deloraine for the kids catch the bus to school.

At home, they had roof top solar systems. In Western Creek, Kellie had installed an 8Kw system on her roof with solar hot water, whilst Brett, in Deloraine, had a three-phase, 17Kw system with 13kw Tesla battery.

Some people might consider a hybrid vehicle, especially if they did not have solar. It would at least impact on their fuel bills. But for these two choosing a hybrid was not even an option.

Why continue paying through the nose for fuel and annual maintenance offset by some efficiency with the electric operation, when overall the car burns fossil fuels that contribute to climate change? A full electric vehicle could be charged during the day using free power generated by their solar systems, or overnight at home using off-peak power at 13c/Kwh.

Kellie's car has an 87kw battery and she uses 17% of the battery charge for the daily trip from Western Creek to drop the kids at the bus in Deloraine and then on to Westbury.

She charges it during the day using a single phase charger drawing from roof top solar panels or off-peak, and sometimes uses the free EV charger at

the Western Tiers Visitor Centre.

Kellie is looking at installing a home battery and SMART EV charger. Brett installed a SMART three-phase EV charger at home that uses only solar or a combination of solar and off-peak power to charge the car.

A trip to Lonnie typically uses 45% of his 85kw battery, which is replenished after about 4hr of charging at home. He and Kellie have recently used the DC fast charger at Westbury, while shopping on the way home, to re-charge from 46-90% for \$28.

On the way to Hobart they use the PLUGSHARE app on the car to map the route to Hobart via chargers at Fingal, Campbell Town, Oatlands, New Norfolk, Kempton or Brighton.

Forking out about \$20 to do that 250 km trip, they arrive in Hobart with a full charge to come home.

Did they make the right decision? Absolutely, 100%. Kellie and Brett admit to occasional fears about range and running out of charge, but "How often do people run out of petrol? They know where the servos are."

Brett said that "I've travelled about 15,000 Km and paid less than \$200 for the privilege."

He's really annoyed that he spends \$60 every month filling up on fuel to mow the lawn! But not for much longer.

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Brian Mitchell MP
Your Federal Member for Lyons

Works Hard. Gets Results!

For assistance with all federal matters, please contact me on (03) 6398 1115 or email me at Brian.Mitchell.MP@aph.gov.au

Authorised by Brian Mitchell MP (ALP, Tasmania) 53B Main Road Perth Tasmania 7300

New legislation regarding second hand boats

MARINE AND Safety Tasmania (MAST) will soon be introducing new legislation to better manage the transfer and registration process for recreational vessels.

This is an important change to Tasmanian legislation, which is designed to better manage transfers and registrations of vessels and improve safety outcomes.

Many older vessels may have been modified since their construction, which could affect the safety of the boat itself.

Common modifications include – new engines, brackets and fixtures being

screwed into the vessel, additional weight being added with pot haulers, larger fuel tanks etc.

The way a vessel has been stored, maintained and used also affects its condition.

Under new legislation to be implemented, you will be required to declare that your boat is not unsafe when registering or selling a vessel.

In addition, the person buying the boat must also declare that they are satisfied the vessel being transferred to them is not unsafe.

Both the seller and purchaser will have 14 days to notify MAST of the transfer.

Many vessels are

advertised for cheap prices on various platforms.

There is no such thing as a cheap boat! Often once you start digging you can find a lot more problems than first meet the eye.

MAST's best advice is to take someone who knows about boats when you are viewing the boat before purchase.

MAST will update its website with regard to the the implementation of this new legislation at: www.mast.gov.tas.au over the coming months to ensure sellers and buyers understand their obligations.

Westbury's backyard bandicoots

Sarah Lloyd, OAM

ONE OF the basic principles of conservation is to protect what's already there, because doing so saves the enormous expense and effort required to bring threatened species back from the brink.

The Eastern Barred Bandicoot is a case in point.

Two hundred years ago, these small pointy-nosed marsupials were numerous and widespread in south eastern Australia.

In Victoria, their distribution coincided with rich agricultural land, and areas of suitable habitat rapidly disappeared.

The remaining population persisted in the western town of Hamilton, but for various reasons, it crashed in about 1975.

By 1993 there were possibly only 100 to 150 animals living in car bodies at the Hamilton tip so a captive breeding program using 40 animals was initiated to rescue the functionally extinct bandicoot.

Offspring were used to establish populations on fox-free Churchill, French and Philip Islands in Port Philip Bay, and subsequently in feral predator-free sanctuaries.

Before long a serious malformation in their lower jaw that prevented proper foraging was detected in some of the animals.

Genetic testing indicated that they were descendent from only 19 of the original 40 taken into captivity, and



they had lost 40 percent of their genetic diversity in 2 decades.

Tasmanian bandicoots came to the rescue with several males introduced into the breeding program.

Bandicoots in Tasmania have fared better than their mainland kin, mainly because of the absence of that wily predator, the fox.

Bandicoots 'freeze' when they sense danger, a strategy that works well for overhead raptors, but not for foxes – or cats.

However, our bandicoots are not immune from the same dangers that sent Victorian animals to the brink; they are coping with loss of habitat, predation by cats and dogs, pesticides, toxoplasmosis and traffic.

Westbury has long been known as a bandicoot

hotspot, and a small group of residents concerned about the plight of these endearing marsupials has recently formed Westbury Backyard Bandicoots to ensure that they persist in the town.

Another guiding principle of conservation is to find out where a particular species lives and get an idea of its numbers.

We know bandicoots are scattered in backyards and hedgerows, but to get a better picture of their whereabouts we need your help.

Please get in touch if you have bandicoots living in your garden so we can map the bandicoots of Westbury.

And stay tuned for more information about bandicoots and other native species that share our towns in Meander Valley.

Light Up Meander returns with a bang!



AUTUMN ENDS with the annual Light Up Meander community fireworks on Saturday 27th May.

The event draws together community members, old and new, for a social evening at the Meander Memorial Hall.

Gates open at 5pm for the BBQ and bar at 6pm.

Hang around for the fireworks at 8pm!

The Meander Progress Association and the

Meander Hall Committee received the 2022 Community Event of the Year Award for their fireworks night that lit up the town.

Proceeds of the event go towards the purchase of the 120 year old St Saviour's Church and Cemetery from the Anglican Church.

The land for the church was originally donated to the diocese by local families.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR JUNIOR BAND 2023

Expressions of interest are invited from children aged 8-12 years who are interested in joining a junior band run by the Deloraine Community Band to take place at the band rooms in the Meander Valley Performing Arts Centre on Tuesdays from 5pm-5.30pm.

Subs: \$60pa for individuals. \$130pa - family of 3 or more.

Instrument Hire: \$120 per year.

Instruments available and for hire are: trumpets/cornet, clarinet, flute and saxophone.

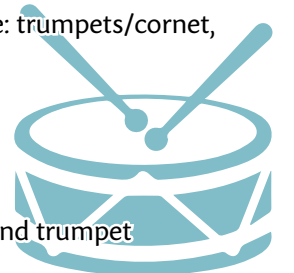
Contact:

Anne Harvey: 0419 681 197

Stuart Harvey: 0409 974 359

Cameron Scott: 0498 473 947

For lessons on drum kit, bass guitar and trumpet contact Cameron Scott.



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JOBS, HEALTH, COMMUNITY.

Rebecca White MP

Labor Member for Lyons

6212 2225
rebecca.white@parliament.tas.gov.au

Authorised by REBECCA WHITE,
33 COLE ST, SORELL

Tasmanian **Labor**

The change makers: celebrating local volunteers

Wendy Newton

“The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but by the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others.”
- DeAnn Hollis

MEANDERVALLEYConnect Inc. has recognised the vital work of our volunteers at the Deloraine and Mole Creek Online Access Centres by nominating them for a Volunteer Group Award as part of the Tasmanian Volunteering Awards 2023.

The nomination is one way to say thank you for the work our volunteers do in helping to provide free digital access and in building digital literacy in our communities, over 6,000 volunteer hours each year.

Finalists in the eighth annual Awards will be announced as part of National Volunteer Week celebrations 15 – 21 May.

The volunteer-led Centres, which are assisted by a grant from Libraries Tasmania, have been

servicing our communities since 1998, providing invaluable access to digital technology, advice and training to those who don't have access to equipment or the skills to digitally engage.

It can be difficult to keep up with the rapid changes in new technology and different platforms required by government, business and industry, and access isn't always easy – in fact, TasCOSS identified Meander Valley as one of 28 communities in Tasmania as having “digital inclusion disadvantage”, with 23.1% of households in Deloraine and Westbury unable to access the internet from home.

Apart from enabling access to the internet and free Wi-Fi, the Centres are a ‘one-stop shop’, with volunteers performing a range of invaluable services, from providing general advice on IT applications and mobile phones, to printing, scanning and helping set up email accounts.

There are also training



► Online Access Centre volunteers Asuka and Sandra.

opportunities for those who would like to stretch their digital skills even further.

According to Communities Tasmania, volunteering is Tasmania's largest sector, larger than both the private and government sectors, with approximately 300,000 Tasmanians contributing a staggering \$4 billion in benefits to the state in 2019 – but there's also a ‘feel-good factor’ for the volunteer.

Research shows that giving to others can bring about a sense of purpose and greater connection,

reducing stress and stimulating better mental health.

While volunteering is a powerful way to build more resilient and connected communities, and for individuals to build networks, skills and gain experience, often it is the motivation to ‘give back’ that drives people to volunteer.

Long-standing Deloraine Online Access Centre volunteer, Sandra, who has volunteered at the Centre for more than 20 years, said, “I enjoy helping others and

keeping my skills alive.

If you don't use it, you lose it, especially when it comes to technology.

And you meet lots of interesting people, too.”

The Centres are open 10.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday at Deloraine and Mole Creek for all your technology needs – and if you are passionate about contributing to your community and would like to find out more about volunteering at either of our Centres, we would love to hear from you.

The Denture Centre

Specialising in full dentures, partial dentures, Oral Armour mouthguards, repairs and relines.

Age pensioners may pay in instalments over 6 to 12 months.

Telephone 03 6331 7240
22 Tower Hill Street, Deloraine
www.thedenturecentre.com.au

Nikki Sabok visits Deloraine every Tuesday morning

TANIA RATTRAY MLC
INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR MCINTYRE

Your full-time, independent Legislative Council Member representing the Meander Valley community

Contact details Mobile: 0427 523 412
Office phone: 03 6350 5000
Email: tania.rattray@parliament.tas.gov.au

At the movies with the Western Tiers Film Society

Clare Andersen

In California most farms heavily rely on private groundwater in the aquifers. Many are looking at integrated permaculture to use less ecological capital. By recognising limits and focussing on resilience, reliance on this precious resource is reduced.

Our May movie, “The Biggest Little Farm”, focuses on this drive towards sustainability of the land and in nature by using soil regeneration methods to restore and rebuild existing systems towards full health.

By mimicking, on their 240-acre plot, the biological balance found in the earth's ecosystem, the Chesters utilise the harmonious interconnectedness of nature.

That allows for a less destructive and healthier farm, as the best and most moral strategy for raising crops and livestock.

Through biomimicry, they try to replicate the strategies found in nature to solve human-induced challenges, developing the entire space into a biodiverse micro-system.

In the process, they aim to produce food that tastes better and is more nutrient-dense.

Whilst our couple just happen to be a documentary filmmaker and a chef cum organic blogger, they don't hide from the reality that farming is ‘not all roses’.

With always moving pieces, they repeatedly have to figure out solutions to urgent, everyday problems, such as how to stop snails from infesting their lemon trees, or killing ducks, and realise that keeping the dream alive is a never-ending process, and often hard, heartbreaking work.

THE BIGGEST LITTLE FARM
MAY 13

2018 PG, Documentary US, 91m Director John Chester
Shortlisted for the 2020 Academy Award for a Documentary, John and Molly Chester's Apricot Lane Farm showcases the complexity of nature and an epic attempt to farm within a reawakening ecosystem.

Follow them through their successes and failures as they work to develop their small farm outside of Los Angeles.

“I thought it was very interesting to see how they made the animals and habitat all work together over a 7 year period. If only we could apply what they learned to the real world and find some balance in the environment.” -4/2021 Audience reviewer

Rotten Tomatoes Critics 91% / Audience 95%

For information about the WTFS, email them at westerntiersfilmsociety@gmail.com or call 0418 389 868 for a membership application and program

Nothing better than a biccie

Wendy Hays

THERE'S NOT much better than a cup of freshly made tea or coffee and a home-made biscuit.

The word biscuit is derived from the French bis (twice) and cuit (cooked) although the biscuit of today is rarely baked twice.

I have tried many recipes for Melting Moments but this one is my favourite because it is not too sweet.

Be sure that you don't melt the butter; it should only be softened.

They are lovely sandwiched together with plain, butter icing and jam or maybe even an orange cream icing.

Whatever you choose to sandwich them together with, they are sure to be enjoyed.

Melting Moments

Ingredients

- 180g butter – softened in the microwave
- ½ C custard powder
- 1/3C of icing sugar
- 1 and ¼ C plain flour
- 1 ts. baking powder
- A few drops of vanilla essence (optional)



Method

- 1 Turn oven on to 180C and line 2 oven trays with baking paper.
- 2 Using an electric mixer, beat the softened butter, vanilla and icing sugar until light, fluffy and white.
- 3 Sift together the flour, custard powder and baking powder then stir into the creamed butter and sugar mixture with a knife or metal spoon.
- 4 Lightly roll the dough into about 12 even sized balls. Place on prepared trays and flatten each ball with a lightly floured or wet fork.
- 5 Bake for about 15 – 20 minutes or until lightly golden brown.
- 6 Cool on a wire rack before sandwiching together with your choice of filling.

Patsy Crawford scribbling away

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS done and dusted. Thought I'd got all of that out of the system when the kids grew up.

But even if the grandchild cohort is well past Peppa Pig and Thomas the Tank Engine, we still have a raucous old time of it when the house is invaded between terms and what is normally a disorderly, whiffy-dog place inhabited by me, him and Spud becomes Teenage Central.

Still disorderly, still whiffy-dog but now enhanced by high-end sneakers, communication and music devices, the entire Harry Potter collection and youthful bodies no amount of rubbish food seems able to satisfy.

I hate it when older people say, 'when our kids were little blah blah', but I'm saying it anyway.

When our children were little we had few of the above to lavish on them.

What my sisters and I mainly did when we had a few minutes to ourselves was either shove the kids

into a small wading pool or give them pick up sticks and the twister game, then race off, play canasta or five hundred and listen to Neil Diamond.

Occasionally we'd sing along with the music.

I have, on vinyl if you please, Hot August Night, the album cool people proclaim is so cheesy they're embarrassed to say they bought it.

Well, not me.

There's something about Neil Diamond that's so old-slippers comforting.

His songs are a link to a time that straddled the divide between Sgt. Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band and Never Mind The Bollocks, Here's The Sex Pistols.

It was fun to be around music then.

The lyrical, slightly cerebral rock-pop Beatles drifted into the raging intensity of Sid Vicious, Johnny Rotten and the punk scene.

Somewhere in between, Neil Diamond hauled a band into the Greek Theatre in Los Angeles and recorded Hot August Night.

The album sold in the millions, which makes me wonder that if hardly anyone admits to buying it, where did all those records go? Perhaps they've been

banished to some naff world inhabited by aunties in permanent press slacks and great-uncles who fart out loud at family reunions.

Or whipped out of their album cover and slotted into Place Without A Postcard, which could be confusing for Midnight Oil fans wondering where all those strings came from.

The thing about the record is that it's comfy in its own skin. There's not a song you can't hum along to.

And we gave full voice to them on those long-ago card afternoons, screeching Brother Love between no-trump bids and lay down miseres, dealing cards in sync with the drum intro to Crunchy Granola Suite.

Unless you're into country music it's been a little difficult to do that in recent years.

So often songs are sung by urban black American rappers in a language impossible to understand or roared full throttle by women barely discernible through swirling mist and their phalanx of campy male dancers.

Hot August Night had none of that.

Just Neil, denims, a big band and a bunch of damned good songs.

Good Lord.

Councillor

Ben Dudman

*You're Better
with Ben*



✉ ben.dudman@mvc.tas.gov.au

☎ 0447 935 137 📱 BenDudmanTas

Authorised by Ben Dudman, 105 Meander Valley Rd, Westbury.

upcoming workshops at art as mania

Lampshade Making	May 6th	11:00 - 3:00
Creating & Understanding Abstract Art	May 17th	10:00 - 4:00
Yes... You can Draw!	June 21st	10:00 - 4:00
Dreamscaping	July 14th	10:30 - 12:30
Creating & Understanding Abstract Art	July 19th	10:00 - 4:00
Introduction to Scratchboard	August 12th	9:30 - 4:00
Yes... You can Draw!	September 13th	10:00 - 4:00
Ukrainian Egg Dyeing	September 22nd	9:30 - 3:30

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live streaming on mvfm.com.au

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Phone: 03 6362 4969

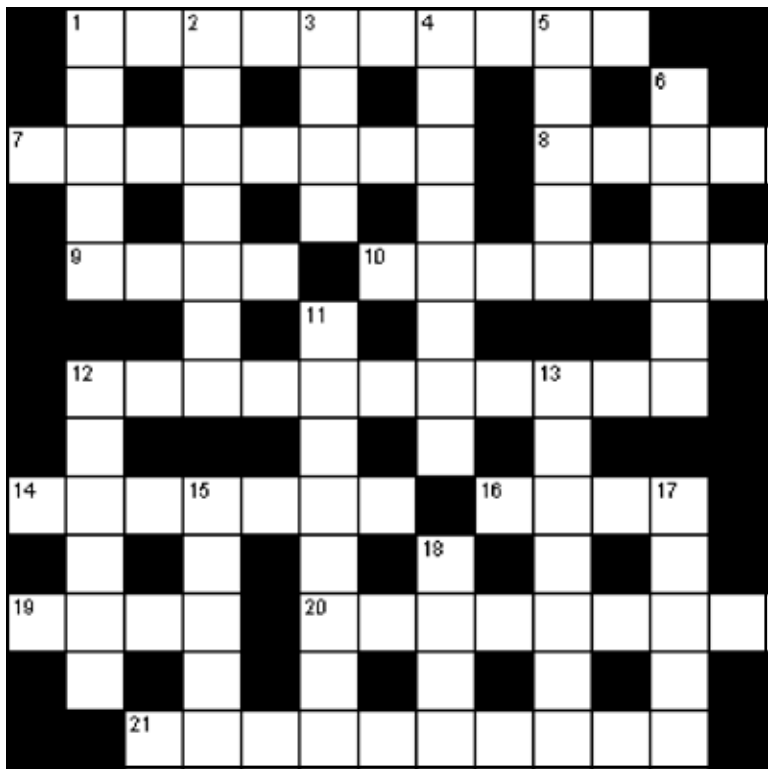
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CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 1 Shorten (10)
 - 7 English county (8)
 - 8 Depose (4)
 - 9 Failure (4)
 - 10 Wreck (7)
 - 12 Modish (11)
 - 14 Adoration (7)
 - 16 Raiment (4)
 - 19 Cash register (4)
 - 20 Lift (8)
 - 21 Taught (10)
- Down**
- 1 Distant in manner (5)
 - 2 Natives of Brittany (7)
 - 3 Otherwise (4)
 - 4 Finally (2,3,3)
 - 5 Edible fish (5)
 - 6 Onto dry land (6)
 - 11 Assiduous (8)
 - 12 Two-shilling coin (6)
 - 13 Flagrant (7)
 - 15 Hairdresser's establishment (5)
 - 17 Wide (5)
 - 18 Bill of fare (4)

SUDOKU

			7	6				
								8
				1	3	5		
9			5					2
6			7	1	8			5
		8	2				3	9
			6					1
				9				
	8	3			2	7		

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HOW TO PLAY Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9, each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9 and each set of 3 x 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9. Best of luck!

Crossword May 2023 solution



Sudoku May 2023 solution

9	6	7	2	5	1	3	8	4
4	8	2	7	9	3	6	5	1
1	5	3	4	8	6	9	2	7
9	3	1	6	2	4	8	7	5
5	4	5	8	1	7	9	2	3
2	7	2	6	8	3	5	4	1
7	2	9	4	8	1	3	5	6
8	1	8	5	6	2	4	7	9
3	8	4	2	9	6	7	5	1

EVENTS DIARY		
<i>Thanks to the Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre for event information</i>		
Tuesdays, 2 - 2.30pm	Story Time at Westbury Library	During school term. Westbury Library, 33 William Street, Westbury. 6701 2189.
Tuesdays, 10am - 12 noon	Hadspen Playgroup	School term. 47 Main Road, Hadspen. Contact Abby Johns 0417 264 378, hadspenplaygroup@gmail.com.
Tuesdays, 10 - 11.30am	Happy Hands Art Time, 1-5 Year Olds	School term. Deloraine Seventh-Adventist Church Hall, 4445 Meander Valley Rd.
Tuesdays	Hidden Talents Craft Group	10am-12 noon. Deloraine Gospel Chapel, 46 Parsonage St, Deloraine. All welcome.
Tues and Thursdays, 9-12	Westbury Men's Shed	Corner of King St. and Franklin St. Westbury.
First Wed/month, 4pm - 6pm	Asperger's Peer Group Deloraine	Deloraine House 112 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine 6362 2678
Wednesdays, 7-9pm	Trivia Night	Bolters, Prospect
Wednesdays, 1-4pm	Indoor Carpet Bowls	Western Tiers Community Club
Thursdays, 10-11.30am	Chat Westbury Play Gym, 0-5 Year Olds	School term. Westbury Sports Centre, Franklin St. \$3.50 per child (under 12 months free). 1st visit free.
Thursdays, 7.30-9.30pm	Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting	Westbury Uniting Church Hall. cnr William and Dexter Sts. Contact phone 0409 931 727.
Fridays, 1-3pm	Cards (Crib, Canasta etc)	Western Tiers Community Club
Fridays, 3-4pm	Tai Chi	Western Tiers Community Club
Fridays, from 8	Live Music	British Hotel, Deloraine
Fridays, 7 to 9	Live Music	Wandering Trout, Mole Creek
Saturdays, 9 to 11	Parkrun	Town Common, Westbury
Saturdays, 9 - 11	Parkrun	Town Common, Westbury
Weekends, 10 to 4	Rupertswood Crop Maze (until April 16)	Rupertswood Farm, Hagley
Weekends, 1 to 3	Live in the Vines	3 Willows Vineyard, Montana
Monday 1, 1-4	Bingo	Western Tiers Community Club
Wednesday 3, 7 to 9	Trivia Night	British Hotel, Deloraine
Thursday 4, 10-12	Golden Oldies men's group	Western Tiers Community Club
Thursday 4 - Saturday 6, 8 to 4	AGFEST 2023	Quercus Park, Carrick
Friday 5, 7 to 9	Celtic Players	Empire Hotel, Deloraine
Friday 5, 11-12	Singing - with Roy	Western Tiers Community Club
Saturday 6, 9 to 1	Deloraine Market	Deloraine Showground
Saturday 6 - Sunday 7, 1 to 7 and 10 to 4	Crop Maze	Rupertswood Farm, Hagley
Saturday 6, 8 to midnight	Old Time Dance	Western Tiers Community Club
Sunday 7, 1 to 5	Adam Page Rock n Roll Show	Westbury RSL
Sunday 7, 2 to 5	Raw Jam	Empire Hotel, Deloraine
Monday 15, 1-4	Bingo	Western Tiers Community Club
Tuesday 16, 10-12	Deloraine Probus Club	Rotary Function Centre, Alveston Drive
Friday 19, 11-12	Singing - with Roy	Western Tiers Community Club
Saturday 20, 8 to 1	Westbury Market	St Andrews Church, Westbury
Saturday 20, 9 to 1	Mole Creek Market	Mole Creek Memorial Hall
Saturday 20, 7.30 to 9	Story & Myth: Retold	Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre
Saturday 27, 5 to 11	Light Up Meander	Memorial Hall, Meander
Monday 29, 1-4	Bingo	Western Tiers Community Club
Monday 29, 4 to 9	Fire Spin Jam	Deloraine Riverbank



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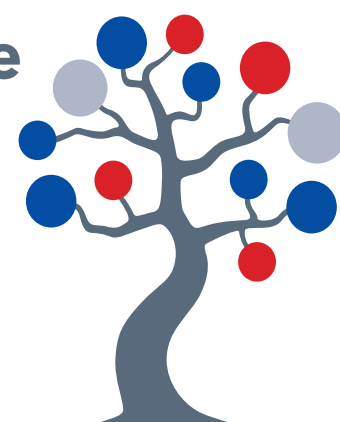
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Celebrating heroes from Deloraine's racing days



▶ Anne Marie Loader, former jockey Beverley Buckingham and Barry Lee. Photo by Craig Zimitat.

ABOUT 50 people attended the opening of Past the Post, an exhibition at the Deloraine & District Folk Museum showcasing the history of Deloraine's racing days.

'Past the Post' celebrates the people and horses who shaped Meander Valley's remarkable racing history, telling the stories of talented gallopers, passionate trainers and owners, fearless jockeys and keen spectators.

The "sport of kings" was established in Deloraine over

152 years ago with time-honoured races like the Deloraine Cup, the Meander Cup, the Epsom Handicap, the Tasmanian Derby, the Grand National Hurdle and of course, the Grand National Steeplechase.

Easter was a highlight of the annual racing calendar, drawing crowds of thousands to Deloraine, changing the face of the township.

Curated by The Deloraine & Districts Folk Museum volunteers, "Past the Post"

was developed in partnership with the Meander Valley Council, and collaboration with local racing identities who have loaned rare items of memorabilia for display.

The exhibition is open to the public from 9am – 5pm every day from April 1- June 30.

Admission is free to all Meander Valley residents.

The Deloraine & District Folk Museum is located at 98 - 100 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine

Deloraine Bowls Club honours

AT THEIR annual dinner the Deloraine Bowls Club recognised many years of commitment to the club with Life Memberships presented to Tony Smith and Pam Cresswell.

The secretary of Bowls North presented 50 Year Certificates to Berry Carter and Win Gleeson for the active participation in Pennant Bowls.

Between them they have represented the state in bowls, won team titles and individual titles and have over 100 years of pennant bowling.

Winter is here: time for the ritual deadheadings

The Exton Gardener

I'M GOING out to deadhead my *agapanthus*. Sadly, *agapanthus* has become an environmental weed in some areas and is a notorious self seeder in my garden.

It's such a shame as it's such a useful, statuesque and hardy plant so I try to catch it for deadheading in that moment between flower fade and seed ripening and dispersal.

It's not the only plant that I try to deadhead before seed drop.

Interestingly I find many South African plants are

unrestrained spreaders if given half a chance.

Just think species *gladioli*, *montbretia* (*crocsmia*), *capeweed*, *gazanias* and some species of red hot poker (*kniphoffia*.) They do so well in our climate and have no natural predators so I prefer to stop them seeding if I can.

Which brings us to the delightful fairy fishing rods or *dierama*.

They are so incomparable when in flower with their arching stems dancing in the breeze.

I have several different varieties and colours and I

couldn't not grow them.

But their seeds are a menace and young plants pop up everywhere so I do my best to deadhead them in time too.

You might not think that a dahlia might be on my deadheading list but there is one that I've found to be a real curse.

This is the striking "Bishop of Llandaff" with its scarlet single flowers and dark, almost black foliage.

It was one of the first dahlias I ever bought and it was such great addition to the summer garden.

But this Bishop is notoriously promiscuous and there is a forest of seedlings everywhere.

They are usually in all shades of pink or red, some with the dark leaves of their parent.

I grew some on for a while but the Bishop's children are not really gardenworthy so I'm tracking them down and removing them, along with their parent.

I had to admit defeat here - deadheading these dahlias would be incessant.



I'll grow only doubles from now on.

They rarely set seed.

I find myself watching a lot of British gardening shows.

They are always emphasising the need to leave seedheads over winter "for the birds." Now this is all very well in Britain where many small birds and mammals are seed eaters but our birds have never evolved to feed on exotic

seedheads over winter.

Self seeding can be a real curse with many annuals and perennials, so while I'm happy to encourage cosmos to seed, I'm going to work my way through the garden deadheading the enthusiastic plants like *echinacea*, *astrantia*, *rudbeckia*, *verbascum*, golden rod and *phlomis*.

One can have far too much of a good thing!

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