

Westbury club turns 50



► Members and friends of the Westbury Rotary Club gathered to celebrate 50 years of service.

THE ROTARY Club of Westbury celebrated its 50th anniversary at a sold out function held at the Westbury RSL on Sunday 4 June 2023.

The club was formed on the initiative of the Rotary Club of Deloraine and granted its charter on June 7, 1973. The inaugural President of the Rotary Club of Westbury was popular businessman

Ellis Shaw.

Fifty years later, Ellis was one of five charter members attending the anniversary event. Other charter members present were Ray Boyer, Graeme Page, Roy Axelson and David Baxter.

Meander Valley Mayor Cr Wayne Johnson and the Hon Mark Shelton, Speaker of the House of Assembly, were

also present to celebrate the milestone event.

The function acknowledged the success of the club, over fifty years, in the contribution made to the local community and projects with a national and global reach.

Over just the past three years, the Rotary Club of Westbury has contributed over \$120,000 to local, Australian

and overseas projects.

Rotary District Governor Bob Calvert congratulated past and present members of the club for their 50 years of "service above self" and singled out past club president, Sue Poulton, for a special award to acknowledge her contribution to the Westbury community.

A highlight of the function was past president Andrew

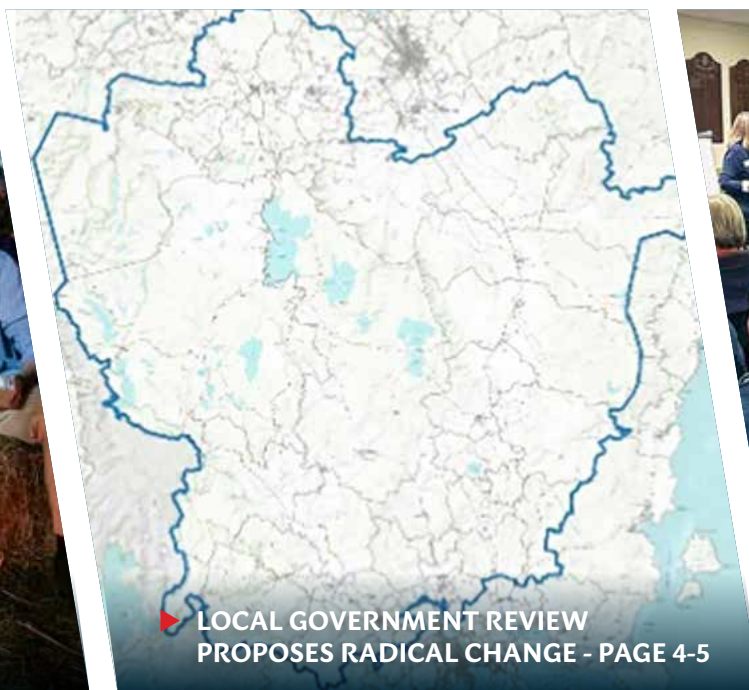
Wood's panel interview of charter members Graeme Page and Ray Boyer and long serving members Barry Pearn, Graham Dent and Annette Barrett.

Annette was the club's first female member and first female president and blazed a trail which has seen a steady increase in female membership at the Rotary Club of Westbury.

► PHOTOS ON PAGE 3



► WINTERFIRE WARMS COMMUNITY - PAGE 7



► LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW PROPOSES RADICAL CHANGE - PAGE 4-5



► LOCAL LOVE FOR WILDWOOD - PAGE 8



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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Burn wood with a flame to reduce smoke emissions

TASMANIANS ARE being encouraged to 'Burn Brighter This Winter' to reduce wood smoke pollution.

Wood heaters are a common and efficient way to warm homes and keep well in winter.

Often wood heater owners allow wood to smoulder overnight to keep homes warm and this can often result in visible smoke around many towns and suburbs across Tasmania.

To reduce smoke emissions residents are encouraged to burn wood with a flame (Burn Brighter) when loading in new wood, rather than loading wood and shutting down the air intake straight away – which results in higher smoke emissions.

The amount of smoke coming from a wood heater is dependent on the age and type of heater, but also on how it is operated.

Dr John Innis from the

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says air quality monitoring undertaken across Tasmania shows that there is poor air quality in several locations during the winter months.

'On still winter days and nights, smoke tends to linger and build up around towns and suburbs, which is unpleasant, can be a nuisance and can also have negative consequences on our health.'

The EPA's annual 'Burn Brighter This Winter' campaign, provides easy-to-follow advice about how wood heaters can be operated to reduce smoke emissions.

'To reduce smoke, make sure you always burn with a flame (don't let your fire smoulder); after reloading, open the air intake and burn your fire on high for 20 minutes, especially before

retiring for the night; only burn dry, seasoned wood; and ensure the flue is clean', Dr Innis says.

'If you can, go outside every once in a while, and check how much smoke is coming from your chimney.'

If it is regularly producing a lot of smoke even with good operation you may need to have your heater checked or the flue cleaned'.

For further information about smoke levels in your area, smoke alerts and health advice for people affected by wood smoke visit www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/publichealth/alerts/air/

More information about how to use your wood heater responsibly and reduce smoke pollution can be found on the EPA website at www.epa.tas.gov.au/burn-brighter

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WINTERFIRE

Dear Editor,

Kudos to Arts Deloraine on Winterfire 2023. This event brings so many different people and groups together and celebrates all that is

wonderful about our Meander Valley community.

It was great to see so many young people showcasing their creativity and talents with music, movement and the creation of the lanterns. Huge congratulations to everyone

who took part.

Winterfire is fast becoming that event that draws people from far and wide, supporting our visitor economy and providing an outstanding event for locals too. With Tourism Tasmania's successful 'Off

Season' campaign, Winterfire adds yet another reason to come to our beautiful Valley during Winter.

Winterfire: community working together at its best.

Cr Anne-Marie Loader

THINK BEFORE YOU CHOP

Dear Editor,

Before you cut down a tree - think about what the tree actually does. With all the CO2 we put out into the environment, they are

struggling to convert these vast amounts back into oxygen.

They help us to breathe. Without trees we would not be able to exist.

A large mature tree does a tremendous amount helping us daily.

And, besides all you see above the ground, there is equal if not more going on below the ground. It takes more than your life-time for a tree to mature and then it keeps doing its job when we have all finished our short life

here.

Be gentle with our trees. Go plant a new one today for grandchildren to enjoy. It takes that long.

Annie Sommerville, Elizabeth Town

DELORAINÉ COMMUNITY CAR

Dear Editor,

The Deloraine Community Car has been part of our community now for over 30 years.

This service is provided by the Deloraine Community Car Committee with the ongoing support from the Meander Valley Council.

This service is available

to any residents of the area who require transport to appointments Monday – Friday, all year round.

We are reaching out to the Community in search of more volunteer drivers.

Whether you'd like to drive weekly, fortnightly, monthly, or as an 'on call' driver - any time offered by you is appreciated by those without their own

transport or family members to transport them.

Although most of our drivers are retired, driving helps them stay connected and give back to their community.

All that is required is a valid Driver's Licence, and a 'Working with Vulnerable People' card, (you will be reimbursed for this card - should you need to apply).

If you have a caring nature, time to share, and enjoy helping people in your community, please contact Sharyn Jackson (Coordinator) on: 0427 504 546, to discuss how you can help.

We look forward to welcoming you to the team.

Lyn Wadley, Deloraine



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Milestone birthday for the Rotary Club of Westbury



▶ Event organiser Carol Wood, Jane Dent and Rob Dent.



▶ Rotary District Governor Bob Calvert congratulating the Westbury Club.



▶ Attendees enjoyed a delicious brunch.

Meander Valley Council wrap up – June 2023

Ordinary Council Meeting - Tuesday 13 June

MATTERS DISCUSSED at the prior Council Workshop (23rd May) included the 2023/24 Budget estimates, Councillor pitches related to their priorities, the Future of Local Government Review, Review of Council Community Pools and Natural Swimming sites and Launceston City of Gastronomy report and funding.

Question time focused primarily on the Local Government (LG) Review.

Meander Valley Councillors had discussed the LG reforms at one workshop, but they were yet to consider the reforms in detail and form a Council view.

The General Manager noted the short time frame for council discussion and consultation.

There was an intention for several consultations with the community ahead of the 2nd August deadline for submissions to the LG Board.

There were no updates regarding the proposed Northern Correctional Facility.

Council also noted that parts of the Liffey Falls (upper section) trails were now open.

Council discussed a request from the Department of State Growth to accept ownership of the two visitor information bay structures located on

State Government land on the approaches to Deloraine on the Bass Highway.

The original proposal was to reject the offer, however Councillors voted to both accept the request and allocated a budget for an upgrade to signage and maintenance for four years.

Crown ownership of the land would continue.

Council approved variations to the 2022-23 Capital Works Program, including fund for renewal of the Steel Arch Bridge in Deloraine.

Council also approved the Risk Management Policy and the Risk Appetite Statement which defines how much risk Council is willing to accept, across various categories of risk, in pursuit of its strategic goals.

The priority strategic risks noted were: LG reforms; attracting and retaining skilled staff; increased costs of living/doing business; costs of new customer service systems; and Cybersecurity, privacy, and data management.

Council approved names of the following roads: Horsepower Lane off Seymour Street, Carrick; Capstone Rise and River Mint View for the new roads within the subdivision development at Lot 1 Panorama Road, Blackstone

Heights; and Hadspen Hills Drive and Sandscape Court for the new roads within the Hadspen Hills Estate.

There were no Planning Authority decisions.

Council approved the proposed submission to the Tasmanian Planning Commission in response to the Draft Planning Policies.

Ms Jo Oliver, Consultant Town Planner discussed the paper.

Some issues she noted were the lack of clarity as to what the Policies aimed to achieve; the urban centric nature of the policies and the significant impost of proposals/processes on council Planning Authority decision making.

The agenda for the Closed Meeting included discussions related to contracts for sale of real estate and Acting General Manager arrangements.

Contracts were awarded to design and construct Mt Leslie Rd Prospect and the Footbridge over Meander River, Deloraine.

Special Council Meeting - Tuesday 27 June

The council workshop session, on 13 June, discussed the draft 2023-26 Northern Tasmanian Development Corporation Agreement to facilitate significant improvement in prosperity in North and

North-East Tasmania; Budget Estimates, Long term financial plans and rates; and Draft Annual Plan Projects 2023-24.

At this meeting, Meander Valley Council approved its 2023-24 budget.

The budget incorporates a \$16.4m capital works program that includes enterprise software renewal (\$342,000), Blackstone Rd intersection upgrade, the development of new footpaths along Church Street (Carrick) and East Barrack St (Deloraine), upgrades to the Deloraine and Cluan facilities including the development of a weighbridge and other infrastructure to support waste management and renewal of road, bridge and stormwater infrastructure, and new intersection designs for Meander Valley Road at Hadspen.

New and carried over community recreation infrastructure also features the development of the Deloraine Squash Courts and progression of the Deloraine Racecourse Recreational Precinct.

The general rate rise will be 7.9%, which is lower than the Council Cost Index 8.1% (i.e. increase in the cost of council business).

Fees will increase, and even with council operating its waste facilities at a loss this

year, the waste management charge will also increase.

Operational expenditure of \$27.4m includes roads, footpaths and drainage (\$2.8m), essential services (\$4.2m), community development and facilities (\$3.0m), against projected operational revenue of \$26.7m.

Meander Valley Council will continue to have the lowest average general rate in the north of the State and the second lowest in Tasmania.

Council has developed the budget to deliver an operating loss (deficit) position of \$730,200.

Council's operating position is very much dependant on rates (66%) and State/Federal grants (20%).

As responsible financial custodians, Council presented a financial plan for the next decade which shows modest profits achieved over time supported mainly by rate increases.

This report represents salient elements of the proceedings and documents tabled at 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 July 2023 meeting.



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Mary - Carer

Mary is a carer for her husband, Bruce, who has Huntington's disease.

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Local government review pitches mega-councils

THE LOCAL Government Board has made it quite clear, from their perspective, that council amalgamations will happen.

The Board has presented a number of possible models of new, amalgamated councils for discussion.

The Community Catchment Models are based upon social connections between existing urban centres and surrounding “suburbs” and rural towns.

The Board’s paper shows the consolidation of 29 regional councils into 9 mega councils as one possible outcome –

for example a mega council formed around the Tamar Valley catchment and another formed around the Northern and Central midlands.

There are also other combinations of existing councils proposed in their discussion paper.

In addition, Local councils have the opportunity to present different voluntary amalgamations which the Local Government Board would consider on their merits.

The Local Government Board will make recommendations to Government, whereupon

the final decision on forced amalgamations enters the volatile political arena.

If you want to find out more about the Review, or to have your say, go to the official site at www.futurelocal.tas.gov.au



Central & Midlands Scenario 1, Council B: Council B combines Meander Valley LGA (less Hadspen, Carrick, Prospect Vale and Blackstone Heights), the Northern Midlands (less Perth, Evandale and Longford) and some of the Central Highland LGA.



Central & Midlands Scenario 2: A new mega-council that combines Derwent Valley, Brighton, Southern Midlands, Central Highlands, Northern Midlands, and Meander Valley - less Carrick, Hadspen, Perth, Longford, and Evandale.



Central & Midlands Scenario 3, Council A: New Council A combines Meander Valley LGA (less Prospect Vale and Blackstone Heights) with existing Northern Midlands LGA.



Central & Midlands Scenario 4, Council A: New Council A combines Meander Valley (less Hadspen and Carrick areas), Northern Midlands (less Perth, Evandale, and Longford), and south to Central Highlands north of Derwent Bridge, the Steppes & Interlaken.



Tamar Valley Scenario 4: A new mega-council that combines West Tamar, George Town, and Launceston, Meander Valley (less area around Lake Rowallan).

THE TWO mega councils presented by the Local Government Board for discussion that affect the majority of the Meander Valley are largely amalgamations of existing local councils.

One is focused around central Tasmania (including Meander Valley and the Northern and Central Midlands and south to Bothwell and New Norfolk), whilst the other is focused on the regions around the Tamar Valley estuary.

In each case, potential benefits of these new mega councils come from their large, diverse populations and projected growth, and diversity of rateable land.

More income would allow for greater purchasing power, efficiency in use of common systems and processes, and ability to service the community, with a decreased reliance on shared service

arrangements.

The LG Board papers raise the likelihood that the central mega-council would rely on external Tasmanian and Commonwealth funding to maintain a much greater area of infrastructure and roads, respond to natural disasters and mitigate risks of climate change.

The main urban areas in these possible mega-councils would help to attract and retain workforce.

A larger workforce would potentially allow for greater efficiency and capacity (e.g. in planning and regulation), enhanced workforce management and more opportunities community engagement.

Their geographical size means that many already connected regional towns and their communities remain connected within the larger

council area.

In addition, former council hubs and works depots could be retained so that local staff, knowledge, and expertise is not lost.

The area covered by each also affords the opportunity for integrated management of natural resources, urban and regional planning and strategic development.

The greatest challenge for these mega-councils is ensuring council services are maintained, expanded, accessible and responsive especially in the newly amalgamated areas.

Hopefully those currently underserved areas would be better served.

Associated with this challenge is ensuring local representation and paying and supporting elective representatives to travel across and engage across their extremely large community.

Meander Valley residents might also be concerned about the potential impoverishment of rural communities resulting from decreased support for community events (e.g. local Show Societies, local theatre), community organisations and investment in their community.

Proposed amalgamations involving Meander Valley and Northern Midlands Councils

Three other possible new councils involving Meander Valley and Northern Midlands Council were presented by the Local Government Board for discussion.

Benefits from amalgamation primarily relate to their existing council areas.

The larger councils primarily join rural and agricultural communities and include already connected regional towns and their communities within the larger council area.

It is likely that the former

councils’ administrative hubs and works depots could be retained after some reconfiguration, so that local staff, knowledge, and expertise is not lost.

Some scalability and efficiency may be gained through a larger workforce and more staff focusing on regulation and planning especially for the larger of the three possible councils (Central & Midlands Scenario 3. Council A) and would have potential to invest in new digital technologies to improve service capacity to residents and businesses.

Existing community engagement and support mechanisms would likely continue as the Councils would have strong connections and understanding of community needs and desire to build and support their communities.

▶ **CONTINUES TOP OF 5**



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► CONTINUED FROM 4

The current Meander Valley Council, which covers a large area, has a relatively small population and increasing growth rate - mainly in the east, closer to Launceston.

The existing Meander Valley Council relies on external Federal income and the significant income from the population concentrated in Blackstone Heights and Prospect Vale, just as the Northern Midlands Council relies on its industrial area, Perth, Evandale and Longford.

In most of the possible councils presented by the LG Board these areas are consolidated into a greater Launceston (Tamar Valley) council and would significantly impact on the rateable income for the various models of an amalgamated Meander

Valley and Northern Midlands council.

Sustainability and Viability are the greatest challenges for the various models of an amalgamated Meander Valley and Northern Midlands council.

Two of the possible new councils that involve areas of Meander Valley (Central & Midlands Scenario 1, Council B and Central & Midlands Scenario 4, Council A) have quite small populations of less than 20,000 with relatively more older people living in smaller towns, with slow population growth which will affect service delivery modes and rateable income.

These two smaller councils may need to rely more on external grants and service sharing arrangements for technical and regulatory

services.

They would likely have difficulties in attracting and retaining quality staff.

Notably these proposed new councils do not include Blackstone Heights and Prospect Vale which impacts on the size of the population in the council and their financial viability.

The Board papers raise the likelihood that all three possible councils involving areas of Meander Valley would rely on external Tasmanian and federal funding to maintain infrastructure and roads, respond to natural disasters and mitigate risks of climate change (which is the case today).

Other possible amalgamations involving Meander Valley

There is potential for voluntary amalgamation of

existing Meander Valley and Northern Midlands Councils that includes the Blackstone Heights, Prospect Vale, Perth, Evandale and Longford.

The Northern Midlands Council would prefer no amalgamation but, if forced, would prefer to amalgamate with Meander Valley Council, with the new council retaining the existing borders.

The Great Western Tiers Tourism Association has floated an amalgamation of Meander Valley with Kentish, Latrobe and Devonport councils.

The last scenario is that Meander Valley prefers to remain as a single council which would potentially leave it without a "back-up" plan should mergers be forced.

Local Government Reform community consultations

Meander Valley Council is holding two community meetings and opening a community survey to seek feedback from the Meander Valley community about the State Government's proposed reforms.

- Monday 10 July, 6-7pm, Clarendon and Entally Room, Country Club Tasmania, Prospect Vale
- Tuesday 11 July, 6-7pm, Deloraine Community Complex, 6 Alveston Drive, Deloraine.

Feedback can also be provided directly to Council by completing a survey on the "Have Your Say" button on the homepage of Council's website at www.meander.tas.gov.au

THE TABLE below presents data drawn from the Local Government Board's discussion papers, comparing

various council amalgamation possibilities that involve Meander Valley.

It presents a number of

different areas as the basis for comparison (e.g. population size) and considerations of financial viability (e.g. rateable

income) and factors impacting on sustainability (e.g. population growth).

Refer to proposed

council maps and boundary descriptions on the opposite facing page.

Category	Measure	Central & Midlands Scenario 1. Council B	Central & Midlands Scenario 2.	Central & Midlands Scenario 3. Council A	Central & Midlands Scenario 4. Council A	Tamar Valley Scenario 4.	
Overview	Demographics	Population	15,439	52,990	27,831	15,060	123,051
		Median age	47.6	41.6	46	47.4	42.4
		Socioeconomic Index	3	2	4	3	4
	Housing	Total dwellings	6,140	19,972	10,998	5,971	48,739
		No. of single person households	1,863 (30.3%)	5,239 (26.2%)	3,074 (28.0%)	1,652	14,497 (29.7%)
		dwellings vacant	14.8	10.3	9.1	11.7	8.1
1. Place and Representation	Alignment with local communities of interest	Area workforce residing locally.	36.8%	51.6%	63.2%	35.2%	86.9
	Established commercial, administrative & service hub/s	Population within 30 mins of LGA hub.	74%	85%	87%	76%	92%
	Urbanisation	Population in urban areas of population 10,000 or greater.	0%	30%	0%	0%	66%
	Mobility/ Migration	Population living at a different address 5 years ago	30.8%	30.4%	30.4%	30.7%	34.8%
2. Future Needs and Priorities	Population growth	Population change 2011-21	303 (2.0%)	6,552 (14.1%)	2,819 (11.3%)	970 (6.9%)	11,422 (10.2%)
	Housing supply & infrastructure demand	Change in total no. of dwellings (2011-21)	113 (1.9%)	2,644 (15.3%)	1,291 (13.3%)	424 (7.6%)	5,048 (11.6%)
	Employment growth	Change in labour force 2011-21 by place of residence	6%	21%	14%	11%	13%
	Older/ageing communities	Population over 65	19%	14%	17%	18%	16%
	Younger communities	Population under 15	19%	22%	19%	19%	19%
3. Financial Sustainability	Value of rateable land	Residential	\$2,645,200,000	\$9,290,100,000	\$4,943,474,800	\$2,806,600,000	\$24,612,400,000
		Primary production	\$3,774,400,000	\$5,422,800,000	\$4,102,701,800	\$1,339,800,000	\$2,918,000,000
		Industrial	\$76,100,000	\$319,300,000	\$338,533,500	\$77,400,000	\$947,400,000
		Commercial	\$175,700,000	\$462,300,000	\$268,326,100	\$153,000,000	\$3,169,000,000
		Vacant	\$227,000,000	\$701,000,000	\$350,453,500	\$223,300,000	\$996,800,000
		Other	\$453,500,000	\$1,189,200,000	\$628,854,100.00	\$427,800,000	\$3,286,700,000
		Total value of rateable land	\$7,351,766,000	\$17,384,692,300	\$10,632,343,800	\$5,027,918,000	\$35,930,188,200
	Rates revenue applying current rates (Estimation)	Residential	\$5,800,000	\$21,000,000	\$12,278,171	\$5,700,000	\$67,300,000
		Commercial	\$500,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,001,420	\$500,000	\$14,200,000
		Industrial	\$300,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,813,926	\$300,000	\$5,600,000
		Primary production	\$5,100,000	\$8,400,000	\$5,531,617	\$5,100,000	\$5,900,000
		Vacant	\$700,000	\$2,000,000	\$841,827	\$700,000	\$3,000,000
		Other	\$200,000	\$500,000	\$275,361	\$200,000	\$2,500,000
		Total rate revenue	\$12,700,000	\$34,700,000	\$21,742,322	\$12,500,000	\$98,400,000
Council road Infrastructure (km)	Unsealed	1,014.2 (53%)	1,949.4 (57%)	630.0 (37%)	1,013.5 (53%)	731.5 (31%)	
	Sealed	900.6	1,444.6	1,090.3	891.3	1,618.1	

Are we on the edge of an existential crisis?

Mark Flanigan,
President, Great Western
Tiers Tourism Association

THE MEANDER Valley Local Government area as we know it may not exist for much longer.

The State Government, via the Local Government Board, is conducting a wide ranging examination of local government – *The Future of Local Government Review*.

Tasmania is widely regarded as over governed.

We have more politicians per head of population than any other State or Territory.

Tasmania currently has 29 Local Government Authorities covering a population of about 540 000.

For comparison's sake, Victoria has about one local authority per 100 000 people.

The Review Board recently came out and said that it was considering recommending forced amalgamations of Councils to bring the number down.

No-one knows how many they think is ideal, but suggestions have been made that the aim is somewhere between 9 and 3.

The final report from the Board is due with the Government at the end of October.

I'm not going to go into the pros and cons of forced amalgamations here.

Rather I want to do a bit of scenario thinking – what might the future look like? And more importantly, what would we like it to look like?

The hot money seems to be on the idea that Launceston City Council will expand to take in all of the Tamar Valley.

It will also absorb Perth, the airport, Longford, Prospect Vale and Hadspen.

What will happen to the rest of the Meander Valley LGA if this 'Greater Launceston' idea comes about?

There appear to be two ideas being floated.

First, that the balance simply gets absorbed into the Greater Launceston area.

The second is that we join a broad acre farming Shire based around the Midlands and Central Highlands.

Neither of these seems to be much chop to the Great Western Tiers Tourism Association.

They sound like the brain

child of a Hobart based academic who doesn't have a clue about what a community of interest looks like up here in the North.

Deloraine and surrounds has historically looked towards Launceston.

Maybe it is time for that to change.

Maybe our long term interests lie in looking north.

I can't imagine that Mole Creek or Elizabeth Town will get much service from either a Greater Launceston focused on the Tamar Valley or from our farming cousins in Cressy, Ross or Bagdad.

We have much more in common with the folk in Sheffield, the Mersey Valley and Devonport.

From a visitor economy point of view the north western end of Meander Valley has much more shared interests with Kentish and Latrobe shires – think Cradle Mountain, the Bass Strait coast and the very successful foodie Tasting Trail.

Our 'Short Walks Capital of Tasmania' strategy has many synergies with the landscapes of the north.

The links are already strong

with our northern cousins.

Look no further than the cross promotion between experiences such as 41 South, Van Diemen's Land Creamery and Anvers Chocolates.

We are much more likely to have strong representation in a grouping made up of Devonport, Kentish and Latrobe Councils than we will with either of the other proposals.

But this isn't just a visitor economy point of view.

There are strong community of interest associations in other large sections of our economy.

Horticulture, vegetable production, dairy and forestry all have very strong shared interests with the north and few with Launceston or Midlands.

Even in the conservation estate the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service has strong associations with Cradle Mountain and Narawntapu National Parks.

You might not be a particular fan of the Meander Valley Council but it is fairly coherent and does represent our community of interest well.

Some things that we take

for granted, like the great work that Tony King and his crew do in maintaining the Deloraine streetscape and the river foreshore could well be lost in a much larger Council or one that doesn't really understand our industries.

If amalgamations are going to happen then we need to have a clear idea about where our future interests lie.

The last thing we need is to sleep walk into the future.

I understand from talking to some of our Councillors that Council is going to seek community input into the position that they take into the Review discussions.

By all means rail against the proposed amalgamations but make sure that the Council has a sound Plan B.

One that represents our long term interests and not one that simply reflects past associations.

If you want to find out more about the Review, or to have your say, go to the official site at www.futurelocal.tas.gov.au.

If you want to get involved with the GWTTA then go to www.greatwesterntiers.org.au.



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Looking for purposeful local employment?

Aged Care Deloraine is currently seeking Registered Nurses, Extended Care Assistants, Catering Assistants, Cooks and Cleaners for casual and permanent positions. We are a local community based organisation committed to supporting older people. You may have noticed we have been advertising for staff more regularly; that's because we are continuing to increase our staffing resources, so we can continue to improve the quality of care and services.

As a care based organisation, our staff are critically important. We are a large employer in the area and expenditure on staffing accounts for three quarters of our total spend.

To put that into perspective, we will spend over \$10 million next financial year on staffing costs.

If you are interested in joining our team, please send your resume and a covering letter to:
employment@agedcaredeloraine.org.au

www.agedcaredeloraine.org.au

Phone: 6362 83000

Arts Deloraine's vision ignites with spectacular success

WINTERFIRE23 HAS taken the Deloraine community by storm, surpassing all expectations and cementing its place as a monumental success.

Under the coordination of Louise Middleton, Arts Deloraine orchestrated an extraordinary event that achieved ambitious goals with resounding triumph.

The overwhelming support from generous sponsors, exceptional talent of artists and performers, creative involvement of schools, and dedicated volunteers contributed to the event's remarkable success.

From start to finish, WinterFire23 provided an immersive experience that captivated the audience with its mesmerizing atmosphere and carefully curated sound landscape.

The artistic vision of Artist Director Rebecca Rowe, Assistant Director Cat Farrell, Entertainment Coordinator Fayth Drury, and Stage Manager Cameron Scott came to life, leaving attendees delighted.

WinterFire23 blazed its trail to success with unwavering support from

major donor Nutrien Ag Solutions and sponsors such as the Foundation of Rural and Regional Renewal, Bendigo Bank, and in-kind contributions from the Meander Valley Council.

These crucial contributions ensured fair compensation for over 120 performers, facilitated free community and school workshops, and supported service providers through volunteer donations.

WinterFire23 truly celebrated the arts and exemplified the power of community engagement and collaboration.

The performers of WinterFire23 were the true enchanters, mesmerizing the audience with their awe-inspiring acts.

From the captivating bat wings and fire dancers to the soul-stirring musical landscape and drumming ensembles, their performances ignited a spark of creativity in every attendee.

The profound impact of art, incorporating fire, light, and sound, on the human spirit was truly felt.

WinterFire23 showcased seasoned performers like the

Deloraine Big Band while providing a platform for talented local musicians like Kiarnna Lehman and Jason Taylor, as well as school youth bands Mankind and The Stingrays.

Arts Deloraine's collaboration with the Deloraine Dramatic Society Youth Drama Group and local schools nurtured a spirit of creativity, empowering the next generation of artists.

A standout moment of WinterFire23 was the lighting of the magnificent sculptural bonfire, created by Stephen Shayler-Appleton and lit by Uncle Hack Horton, Keeper of Culture of the Kooparoona Niara Mob.

This symbolic act paid homage to cultural heritage, adding a touch of uniqueness and significance to WinterFire23.

Behind the scenes, an army of dedicated individuals and volunteers from Arts Deloraine Management Committee, The Lions Club, Rotary, Apex, the Elizabeth Town Fire Brigade, and SES worked tirelessly to ensure the event's success.

WinterFire23 holds a special place in the hearts of many in



► Moments before the strawman's pants were set on fire at 2023's fantastic WinterFire celebration.

the Meander Valley.

The combined efforts of sponsors, performers, schools, and volunteers brought Arts Deloraine's vision to life.

This event stands as a shining example of the remarkable achievements

that can be attained when a community unites to celebrate the arts.

It is envisaged that the memories forged during WinterFire23 will continue to inspire and ignite the flames of creativity for years to come.

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www.tasmanianspiritonscreen.com



<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/grit-tasmanian-spirit-on-screen-short-film-festival-tickets-637850356587>




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Winter love for Wild Wood

A COLD winter's night didn't deter a crowd of around 60 community members from attending a public meeting to discuss the future of Deloraine's Wild Wood natural reserve with representatives from Meander Valley Council, the Rotary Club of Deloraine, Landcare Tasmania and NRM North.

Attendance at the meeting really showed that the community love Wild Wood, and want it to continue in some sustainable manner for

future generations.

The 5.7-hectare (14-acre) reserve was recently sold to the Meander Valley Council by Rotary with the stipulation that the reserve remain for community use.

A key objective will be to preserve the natural beauty of the reserve by planting native vegetation, removing weeds, protecting riverbanks, and creating a safe habitat for native fauna like platypus, birds, and frogs.

To this end, a Wild Wood

Landcare group was created at the meeting with about 40 of the attendees signing up to become members.

Landcare Tasmania and NRM North speakers offered to support the new Landcare group with training, planning, insurance, funding opportunities plus expertise in restoration and revegetation.

They will also be able to supply seedlings at cost.

Rotary will tip in a \$6,000 grant and a weed assessment as an initial boost for this work.

With its size, the Reserve has had, and can have, many uses.

A Wild Wood "wish list" of activities from speakers and community members included consultation with aboriginal elders, involvement of the local schools, clearing the waterway and creating access points for watercraft, creating viewing/fishing platforms, improving accessibility, linking the Wild Wood and the Show Grounds with a pedestrian bridge, and creating picnic spots with fire pits.

Council will be responsible for priority setting, safety,

approvals, and accountability.

This signalled to those present that the community needed to be "gentle with ambition" and that "a lot of paperwork" would be required!

Creating a masterplan for Wild Wood is the next step.

If you would like to join the Landcare volunteer list or share your views about how the reserve should be used, please phone or text your telephone and email details to Wild Wood Landcare coordinators, Paddy Murray 0427 837 830 or Peter Hansen 0419 025 792.

All volunteers will be kept up to date with progress.

Joan Pedley recognised as Paul Harris Fellow

Merrilyn Young

MRS JOAN Pedley was awarded a 2023 Paul Harris Fellowship by the Deloraine Rotary Club in recognition of her significant service to the community.

Joan has been volunteering and serving her community for most of her 92 years!

She has been an active member and stalwart of many community groups: the Deloraine Anglican Parish, the Dunorlan branch of the CWA, the Red Cross, Deloraine RSL Women's Auxiliary, Legacy and Deloraine Hospital Auxiliary.

Red Cross has been a big part of Joan's life and in 2019 she received an award for 60 years of service.

Joan also delivered Meals on Wheels until she turned 90 when she decided it was probably time to call it a day.

She was awarded Life Membership of the Deloraine Football Club in recognition

of her cooking and general services to the Club and her invaluable and untiring efforts over many years.

I have spent many cold and frosty Saturday mornings in the shop at the Football Club with Joan, she making sandwiches and me on the deep fryer.

The Deloraine Show has been a big part of her life.

She is a Life Member and the current Vice-Patron of the Show Society.

She was the Home Industries President in 1988 and 1989 and a regular exhibitor and judge over the years in particular with her cooking.

Her shortbread would regularly take out First Prize.

Joan's husband David was a WWII returned serviceman and she became involved with the Deloraine RSL Women's Auxiliary assisting in various

ways.

For many years she and a group of members would organise and cater for the annual luncheon of the local branch.

In 2012 The Returned Services League of Australia Women's Auxiliaries awarded Joan Life Membership in appreciation of services rendered as a member of the Tasmanian Branch of RSL Women's Auxiliary.

For many years she has made the wreaths to place at the cenotaph on Anzac and Remembrance Days.

Joan is a member of the local Legacy group and is the current President. She can still be seen selling raffle tickets outside Woolworths.

In 2001 Joan was awarded the Meander Valley Citizen of the Year Award in recognition of her contributions to her community.



▶ Rotarian Merrilyn Young OAM, Joan Pedley and Joan's daughter Lyn Wadley.

Meander Valley gains Emergency Response Trailer

THE MEANDER Valley Council has been equipped with an Emergency Response Trailer funded through the national

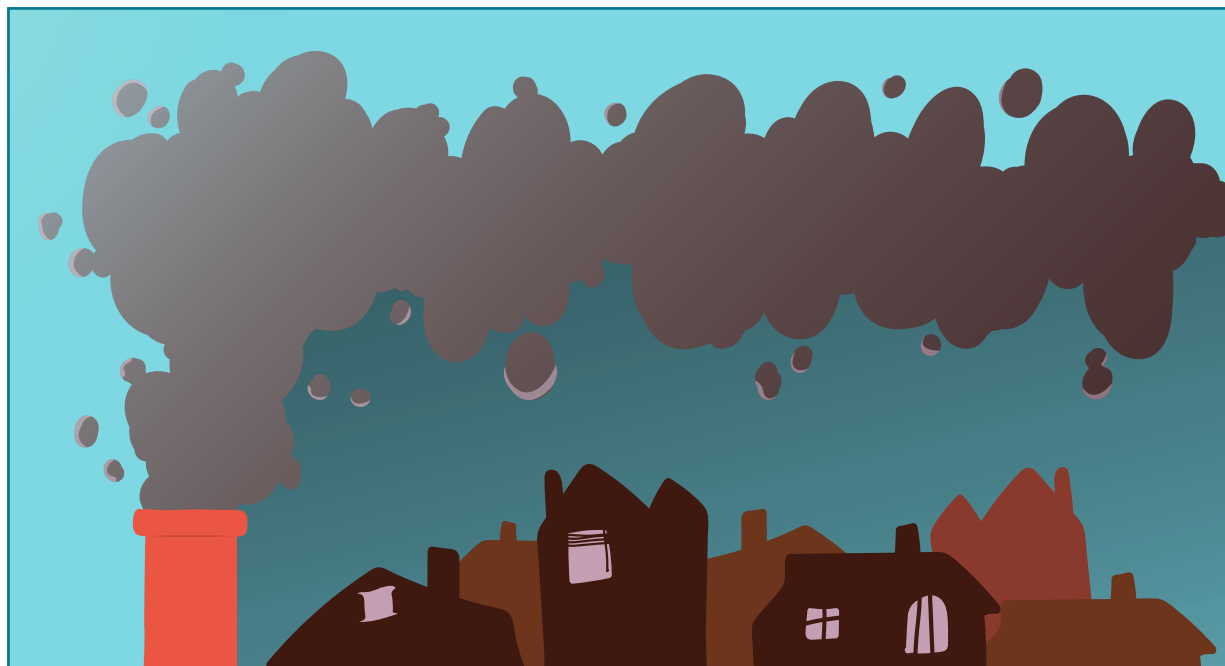
Disaster Ready Fund and Tasmanian Government.

The trailer will be equipped with various response and

recovery related equipment to improve the council's ability to react in a timely manner to emergency events.

The national Disaster Ready Fund aims to build critical projects that will reduce disaster risk, help to reduce

recovery costs and strengthen community resilience across Australia, including in the Meander Valley.



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BURN BRIGHTER THIS WINTER



Platypus Diary - on the move

Joy Kachina

IT'S THAT time of year when juvenile platypus are now on the move looking for new territory. By now they will have spent a few months in the maternal burrow and learning how to feed, play and socialise.

Adult platypus will tolerate a young female staying closer to home but the young males are pushed out and this can be a dangerous journey for them.

They need to find new territory along the river that is not inhabited by a resident alpha male.

As the young travel along the river, and overland too, they can fall victim to being run over on the roads.

There are a number of sites around Deloraine where platypus are often seen

crossing roads – in front of Dixie Blue, River Road near the train park and along Tip road.

Unfortunately, last week one of our community members reported a dead young platypus on the road by the Deloraine Tip turnoff. Please slow down near waterways and be mindful of these small animals crossing especially at night.

It is wonderful to report our young Meander River juvenile is still with us and thriving. I've nicknamed her 'Rocket' for obvious reasons.

We had a great community meeting last week with many residents keen to replant native habitat along the river and into the wild wood to support and nurture our local platypus population.

The Platypus Guardian was



▶ Platypus (C) Joy Kachina.

aired on the ABC on the 13th of June at 8.30pm.

It's surprising how many of the challenges facing the platypus in the Hobart rivulet are also affecting our population here.

If you missed it go onto iView on demand to watch it. An extraordinary guy with an extraordinary connection to a female platypus he called Zoom.

Colour through the frost

The Exton Gardener

I HAVE to admit it, my garden is a summer garden. Winter is the time to rug up and get out there and prune, mulch, weed and dig up and move plants.

Because we suffer rain and frost on heavy clay, not many plants will flourish and flower at this time of year.

My mother grew the winter glories of *cinerarias* and *ericas* near the sea but they don't survive here.

There are a few plants that manage the conditions though.

Camellia sasanqua is always welcome come June. It's so resilient and cheerful and the display can last for weeks.

Nearby grows a winter-flowering daphne. It's a bit large for its position but it's not a plant that is easily moved, so it's an excuse to pick lots of it to bring indoors where we can enjoy its wonderful perfume for a few days.

Daphnes tend not to be long lived on my clay soil, so I'll let it enjoy its time in the garden and one day I'll find the old tree peony that the daphne overshadows!

June is too early for the hellebore and cyclamen shows yet but I have a surprising

Nerine. I grow three different coloured *Nerines* and they always flower consecutively.

The red variety flowers first in autumn, then the white some weeks later. The white seems to flower for ages and is just starting to fade.

And now, it's the time of the pink! It's taller than the white but it's happily withstanding everything the winter weather can throw at it.

And finally there's the first of the iris. I have a large clump of the absurdly named *Iris unguicularis*.

Every year I tell myself I will cut all the leaves off this vast clump I have so I can see and appreciate the delicate flowers - and every year of course I forget! But there the flowers were today, nestling deep inside the foliage.

The usual colour for this species is a pale mauve but somehow, long ago in the past, I acquired this striking purple streaked variety.

Its name tag is long ago lost in the enthusiasm of its foliage but it is so delightful at this time of year.

Slugs just love to eat the stem just below the flower but if you pull out the budding undamaged flower stems and



take them indoors in a vase, the bud will open and you can enjoy the flower and its delicate scent.

There are more winter flowering plants to come.

In the next two months we will see snowdrops, primulas and narcissus.

But for now I'm glad there is this colour and beauty to be found in the rather sodden landscape that is my garden.

Labor has a plan with the right priorities for Tasmania

taslabor.org.au/rightpriorities

- ✓ Start repairing our health system
- ✓ Build our way out of the housing crisis
- ✓ Lower bills with Tas Prices for Tas Power
- ✓ Cut everyday costs for parents

Rebecca White
Tasmanian Labor Leader

Jen Butler
Member for Lyons

Authorised by Rebecca White MP, 33 Cole St, Sorell 7172



LANDSCAPE RESTORATION GRANTS AVAILABLE



Landcare Tasmania is delivering the Landcare Action Grants Open Round on behalf of the Tasmanian Government.

Landscape restoration projects and community projects are eligible. Round 1 Applications open 16th June and close 31st July 2023.



More information available at:
landcaretas.org.au/landcare_action_grants

Councillor Ben Dudman

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ben.dudman@mvc.tas.gov.au

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

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Northern Correctional Facility

Project Update July 2023

One of the key priorities highlighted in the Government's recently released [Strategic Plan for Corrections in Tasmania \(the Plan\)](#), is to improve and build infrastructure to deliver contemporary approaches for Tasmania's Corrections system. Modern, well designed correctional infrastructure is critical in order to provide targeted rehabilitation and reintegration programs and processes that improve lives and reduce harm for inmates within our Corrections system, and ultimately contribute to a safer community.

To support this Plan, the Tasmanian Government has committed to building a new Northern Correctional Facility (NCF) which will optimise the operation of the Corrections system. The NCF will support successful rehabilitation and reintegration through increased training and education opportunities, and by maintaining better connections to family and other support networks in northern Tasmania.

With its key focus on rehabilitation, the NCF will accommodate inmates who are progressing through their sentences and preparing for reintegration into the community. It will also include a reception centre for newly received offenders, and remand sections for both men and women who have been detained in custody pending their court appearances.

To enable the NCF's primary focus on rehabilitation and reintegration for inmates transitioning through their sentences, the Tasmanian Government is investing in an additional maximum rated accommodation facility at the Risdon Prison Complex in southern Tasmania. This includes \$50 million in the 2023-24 State Budget for the development of this new maximum rated unit, which will also help alleviate current bed pressures for this cohort of inmates.

Following consultation with the Meander Valley community last year and the planned closure of this existing Ashley Youth Detention Centre (AYDC) facility, the Department of Justice has commenced due diligence assessments on the site for the development of the NCF.

About the Due Diligence Assessments

The Department of Justice (DoJ), 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 important project at the AYDC site. As part of this, the NCF Project Team is working with independent consultants to prepare the following reports:

- Aboriginal Heritage Assessment;
- Historic (European) Heritage Assessment;
- Natural Values Assessment;
- Bushfire Hazard Assessment;
- Traffic Impact Assessment;
- Social Impact Assessment; and
- Economic Impact Assessment.

These assessments and reports will help inform the development of a Request for Tender (RFT) for architectural design services and the Development Application that will be submitted to the Meander Valley Council.

The NCF Project Team is committed to providing regular updates and information regarding the progress of the project to all interested parties. The reports for Traffic Impact, Historic (European) Heritage and Natural Values have all been published on the NCF website with the intention to make all reports publicly available, at the earliest opportunity. The next reports expected to be published soon are the Bushfire Hazard and Economic Impact assessments.

Social Impact Assessment

Responding to the community's request that a new Social Impact Assessment (SIA) be prepared as part of due diligence investigations, the Department of Justice has engaged social planning consultants, Andrea Young Planning Consultants and BBC Consulting Planners to prepare an independent SIA. These consultants are investigating issues raised by the community and will recommend ways to minimise potential impacts.

Building on the comprehensive public consultation already undertaken for this project generally, the specialist consultants are engaging with key stakeholders (e.g. local community services, business and industry), including nearby neighbours of the AYDC site, to further understand the social impacts that this development may have on the region. An important outcome of this work will be to deliver a Social Impact Implementation Plan which outlines how identified impacts can be potentially mitigated through the development of the facility's design and operational model.

The community will be consulted again when the draft SIA Report and Implementation Plan has been prepared (which is expected later this year), and they will have the opportunity to review and comment on the report before it is finalised.

Learn More

For more information on the NCF project's progress, please visit the project's website at www.justice.tas.gov.au/ncf

Members of the public who have questions about the NCF project are encouraged to contact the Project Team via email to northerncorrectionalfacility@justice.tas.gov.au

Landcare Action Grants applications open now

LANDCARE TASMANIA is delivering the next state-wide round of Landcare Action Grants opening in June.

These rounds of on-ground funding were set up by the State Government in 2018 with the support of the Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association and Landcare Tasmania and will now offer vital support for landscape restoration projects across the State.

Applications will open from the 16th June to 31st July 2023 and are open to a range of applicants including community groups, primary producers, landholders and land managers.

A further application round may be opened in late 2023 subject to funding availability.

In the first round, landscape restoration projects are a priority.

This includes projects which protect and enhance on-farm native vegetation, including planting new areas of native vegetation, protecting habitat, and maintaining and improving ground cover.

Other community projects, such as weed removal, fencing, fire management regimes and habitat augmentation are also eligible for funding.

The themes for projects in this grant round are supporting enhanced land management practices, assisting the community to holistically manage natural and productive land and waterways, and providing opportunities for landholders to implement carbon farming initiatives.

Funding is available for projects that can be completed by June 2025.

The preferred funding amount is \$5,000 to \$20,000 per project, but projects of outstanding merit requiring up to \$40,000 of funding will be considered.

Those wishing to learn more about the application process, funding, and obligations, should visit www.landcaretas.org.au/landcare_action_grants.

Tasmanian Dairy Awards 2023

THE TASMANIAN Dairy industry produces over 10% of Australia's milk production worth over \$500 million at the farmgate.

Our dairy industry is going from strength to strength, supported by Tasmanian dairy farmers who were recognised for their excellence in dairy business management at the 2023 Tasmanian Dairy Awards.

The 2023 ANZ Dairy Business of the Year Award is based on milk quality.

The three finalists were

selected out of a group of 27 Tasmanian dairy farm businesses who provided benchmarking data for the 2021-22 financial year.

The finalists selected this year were also finalists in the 2022 Awards which shows a consistent strong business performance of these businesses.

The finalists were The Avenue, in Parkham, owned by Aurora Dairies and managed by Pradeep Badavath; Ashburton, in Dairy Plains, also owned by

Aurora Dairies and managed by Francesco Fornari; and Woodrising Dairies, in Cressy, owned by Compass Tas Dairy Operations and managed by Troy Ainslie.

Woodrising Dairies won the 2023 award.

Finalists for the 2023 Fonterra Share Dairy Farmer of the Year Award were: Terry and Catherine Viney, farming at Chudleigh; the Dela Cruz Partnership, farming with 40 South Dairies at Mella; Ryan and Bridget Langley, farming with Circular Head Farms at

Redpa; Nathan and Cassidy Lawrence, farming with Stephen and Karen Fisher at Flowerdale.

Winning the 2023 Award, were Nathan and Cassidy Lawrence.

The Future of Dairy Scholarship was created by the Lawrence family, who farm on their property Janefield at Meander, in honour of their daughter Sophie's memory and to help other young people further their career in dairy.

The 2023 Future of Dairy Scholarship was presented to Gabriella Jago.

Five Tas Dairy Awards

were also presented on the evening:

- 2023 Mondelez Young Farmer Encouragement Award to Russell Grandfield
- 2023 NRM North Dairy Environmental Award to Meander Pastoral Co Pty Ltd
- 2023 Aurora Employer of Choice Award to Ashgrove Farms Tasmania Pty Ltd
- 2023 Fonterra Dairy Employee of the Year Award to Alexandria Shanks
- 2023 Safe Farming Tasmania Dairy Farm Safety Award to Compass Tas Dairy Operations

Graymont announces launch of community-focused Carbon Reduction Fund and invites applications for 2023 initiatives

We are proud to announce the launch of the Graymont Carbon Reduction Fund, an innovative, grass-roots initiative designed to support the development of carbon-reduction initiatives in the communities across the globe that we call home.

The fund's role is to support projects focused on:

- Protecting the environment by the responsible use of resources
- Reducing our carbon footprint through increased energy efficiency
- Developing and maintaining natural, biological 'carbon sinks' such as agricultural land, forests or peat bogs that act as a natural offset for carbon

If you have a project idea that relates to any of these topics, the GCRF is looking for you!

Graymont's mission is contributing to a decarbonized world by providing essential lime and limestone solutions.

For additional information, please contact Drew Moakes 0497563168 HSEQ Specialist

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By
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A poet and a one-man band

ON THE 13th of August at the Little Theatre in Deloraine, local music and poetry lovers are in for a treat when singer-songwriter Rob van der Elst and folk poet and artist Bruce Penn join forces to provide a very special afternoon's entertainment.

Besides performing their magic for the sheer love of music and the spoken word, Rob and Bruce will be dedicating the funds raised to Rotary International's Shelter Box Program.

These "boxes" each provide emergency accommodation and a range of tools for up to 10 displaced people.

Easily transportable, they can quickly reach areas where

help is required, instantly providing shelter and the means to begin rebuilding homes in times of global upheaval.

Both artists share a desire to contribute to communities in need and decided - what better way than to do what they do best!

Rob is well-known in the Deloraine community for his magical voice and stunning guitar playing, having performed around Tasmania since the 70's, initially with the Foggy Mountain Band, and later doing solo gigs by popular demand, the most recent being at the newly revamped The Hearth of Chudleigh Cafe.

Bruce has also made many

appearances in Deloraine, in the Winter Fire Festival and the Originals Only nights, performing readings that can verge on stand-up comedy as his poems encompass the dryly humorous as well as graver topics.

Audiences in venues including the Sydney Opera House have enjoyed his work that is an often-satirical commentary on our changing world.

His poems, accompanied by his vivid pencil drawings, have been published across the globe, including a dozen anthologies in Australia, as well as publications in Germany, China, Antarctica and New Zealand.



Working in tandem with another artist is new for Bruce, but the collaboration seems a natural way of sharing the good fortune of living in blessed Tasmania with those around the world who are not lucky enough to do so.

WHEN: Sunday, 13th August, starting at 3pm.

WHERE: Little Theatre, Meander Valley Performing Arts Centre, Deloraine.

TICKETS: (\$12) are available on trybooking.com and at the door, so come along for a great afternoon of music and poetry and support a very good cause at the same time.

GRIT: Tasmanian spirit on screen

THE GRIT Short Film Festival will screen at The Little Theatre in Deloraine on Thurs 13th July from 7pm until 9.30pm.

GRIT, *Tasmanian Spirit on Screen* features two short films made by northern Tasmanian film makers who have been commissioned by Wide Angle Tasmania to explore the concept of Tasmanian grit and resilience.

For 20 years Wide Angle

Tasmania, the state's only dedicated screen training organisation, has supported Tasmanians to make films that reflect and shape Tasmanian culture.

Three films have been selected for the festival.

They each provide us with role models for community action and help us to empathise and understand social issues in new ways.

In *Alone Together*, Penguin-based Dylan Hesp recruits us to join him on his simultaneously awkward and humorous quest to understand loneliness.

In *The Tea Leaf Reader*, colleague Elli Iliades of Devonport, presents a dramatic exploration of a mother facing the shame of being unable to read in order to keep her daughter safe.



In the third film *Grove of Giants*, directed by Bree Sanders, a team of scientists

and activists race against time to save the largest stand of old growth blue gums in the world.



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Ordinary Council Meeting Snapshot • 13 June 2023



Meander Valley Council
Working Together

Development & Regulatory Services
Council endorsed Meander Valley Council's submission to the Draft Tasmanian Planning Policies for lodgement with the Tasmanian Planning Commission.

Infrastructure Services
Under the Place Names Act, 2020, Council approved new road names at Carrick, Blackstone Heights and Hadspen.
Council accepted ownership of two visitor information signage bay structures located on the Bass Highway outside Deloraine from the State Government and approved funding for remedial work and maintenance costs.
Council approved funding changes to projects included in the 2022-23 Capital Works Program.
Council awarded contracts for the design and construction of the Meander River footbridge and works to Mount Leslie Road at Prospect Vale.

Governance
Council approved Council's Revised Risk Management Policy (Policy 1) and Risk Appetite Statement.

Ordinary Council Meeting agendas, minutes and audio recordings are available at www.meander.tas.gov.au



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			4	1				5

© 2023 Simply Daily Puzzles

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 July 2023 solution



Sudoku July 2023 solution

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

EVENTS DIARY 

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	Boogie Nights	Wandering Trout, Mole Creek
Saturdays, 6.30 to 8.30	Winter Festival	Love Lucy Boots
Saturdays, 9 to 11	Parkrun	Town Common, Westbury
Weekends, 1 to 3	Live in the Vines	3 Willows Vineyard, Montana
Saturday 1, 9 to 1	Deloraine Market	Deloraine Showground
Saturday 1, 4 to 7	Film & Fire Night	Mole Creek Memorial Hall
Saturday 1, 6 to 10	Christmas in July	Country Club, Prospect
Sunday 2, 2 to 5	Raw Jam	Empire Hotel, Deloraine
Wednesday 5, 7 to 9	Trivia Night at the British	British Hotel, Deloraine
Thursday 6, 12 to 2	NAIDOC Week Soup & BBQ Lunch	Deloraine House
Thursday 6, 10-12	Golden Oldies men's group	Western Tiers Community Club
Friday 7, 11-12	Singing - with Roy	Western Tiers Community Club
Friday 7, 7 to 9	Celtic Players	Empire Hotel, Deloraine
Saturday 8, 4 to 8	Feed the Animal!	Wandering Trout Taphouse, Mole Creek
Saturday 8, 7.30	Western Tiers Film Society - King Otto	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine (2021 PG, Documentary, Greek, 80m)
Sunday 9, 1-3	Wild Sea, Author Talk	Auntie Joy's Creative Studio, Chudleigh
Monday 10, 1-4	Bingo	Western Tiers Community Club
Saturday 15, 9 to 1	Westbury Market	St Andrews Church, Westbury
Saturday 15, 9 to 1	Mole Creek Market	Mole Creek Memorial Hall
Tuesday 18, 12	Deloraine Probus Club 'Christmas in July'	Carrick Hotel
Thursday 20, 4 to 9	Fire Spin Jam	Deloraine Riverbank
Friday 21, 11-12	Singing - with Roy	Western Tiers Community Club
Monday 24, 1-4	Bingo	Western Tiers Community Club
Friday 28, 6.30 to 9.30	Scott Lewis Live	British Hotel, Deloraine
Saturday 29-Sunday 30, 9.30-5.30	TAZPIN 2023	Australian Italian Club, Prospect
Saturday 29, 6 to 9	Harry Potter Trivia Night (SOLD OUT)	Western Tiers Distillery, Westbury

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- providing valley-wide IT support for individuals, homes and small business
- publishing the community newspaper, the Meander Valley Gazette



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Specialty Imaging Tasmania will provide ultrasound services on site Friday mornings. They will see any patients, but costs apply and some services are not available. To book, phone their Youngtown premises on 1300 675 827.

We also welcome **Dr Niloofar Mahabad** to the practice, working 5 days per week in Deloraine.

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New health care options in the valley

MEANDER VALLEY residents now have the opportunity to access Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) therapies to support their health and well being.

Registered Chinese Medicine practitioner Beata Pieczywek has recently opened her Healthy Touch practice in the Allied Health building, Deloraine Medical

Centre.

Beata moved to Deloraine after retiring from her singing career to focus on her work as a health practitioner.

The underlying principles of TCM are very different from traditional Western notions about health, illness and the workings of the body.

There is evidence that some psychological and/

or physical approaches used in traditional Chinese medicine practice improve quality of life and certain pain conditions.

For example, acupuncture may help ease types of chronic pain such as low-back pain, neck pain, osteoarthritis/knee pain, and carpal tunnel syndrome.

Beata offers a range

of treatments, including acupuncture, cupping, herbal medicine, heat therapies and reflexology massage.

She can also provide advice on the use of TCM therapies for other health and medical conditions.

Bookings are available weekdays at: www.healthytouch.com.au

Prevent staff headaches: three essential HR tools

Sandra Coghlan

- *Your local HR consultant*

DO YOU need to bother having employment contracts, company policies or an employee handbook in place? Definitely.

THESE ARE game changers for any business, big or small. They protect both you and your employees should things turn sour down the track.

Employment Contracts: Clear Expectations

These are crucial for both you

and your employees, allowing you to set clear expectations and avoid future disputes.

Is your employee working part-time? What is their roster? What is their award and classification level? Their rate of pay? Overtime rate? Applicable allowances and penalties? Do they need a specific ticket or licence for their job? Requirements to fill out timesheets, etc.

With an employment contract, everyone knows exactly where they stand.

Policies:

Fairness and Consistency

How do your staff know the 'rules' and standard of conduct in your business? This is why policies are important.

They bring consistency and clarity through detailed guidelines, and help you follow legislation, reduce risks and increase productivity.

Make sure to create, review, and explain policies properly to get all the benefits.

I recommend that you focus on anti-discrimination, sexual harassment, code of conduct, grievance, and health and safety policies as a priority.

Handbooks: Informative Guides

Employee handbooks are a quick and easy access guide for 'the way we do things'.

They give a practical overview not only of your policies, but also detail your processes and set expectations.

They cover topics like dress code, attendance, social media usage, disciplinary procedures, timesheets, customer service, etc.

These are my 3 HR Must-Haves for businesses, to help you create an accountable, productive workforce and a positive workplace culture.

If you need assistance with this or anything HR related, check out Sandra's website: www.hrconsultingtas.com.au

Your business may be eligible for \$1,500 worth of services at no cost.

Dining out

Palate & Pen

THE RED Feather Inn is a collection of sandstone buildings, built by convict labour in 1842, that served as the first Coaching Inn for changing horses on the journey between Launceston and Deloraine.

They are now open to the public for dinner, by advance booking, during 2023.

We like to take every opportunity to dine in Tasmanian colonial buildings,

regardless of their grandeur or modesty.

And so we arrived early in light rain

arrived early to explore the property and its outbuildings before dinner at 6.00pm.

The tables were set with crisp linen and welcoming baskets of crusty bread, dipping oil and dukkah.

We were prepared for the set menu which accommodated our various tastes and dietary needs.

The entrees included crisply seared Freycinet scallops in a rich caramelised

shallot puree, fragrant creamy sweet potato and coconut soup and a colourful eggplant and red pepper terrine.

The mains included fall apart, melt in your mouth braised beef cheeks with roast veggies surrounded by red wine sauce; Tasmanian fish with lightly truffled pea puree and chat potatoes, and a roast cauliflower steak with salsa verde and toasted almonds.

Perhaps not surprisingly we considered the best meals to be the vegetarian options.

I'm pretty sure most of us

chose the rich, syrupy apricot and almond crumble with crème anglaise and double cream. It had the perfect combination of gooey, creamy, crunchy and cold.

A few were tempted by the reasonably generous Tasmanian cheeseboard.

We were all making different menu choices and so chose to order local wines by the glass.

A few non-drivers mulled over the selection of Tasmanian spirits and ventured to have a few sips of the Tasmanian McHenry gin selection although they could

have chosen a whisky or two.

Service was fair, though a little inconsistent. There were a few issues with temperature of some elements of the dishes, and it would have been good to know which cheeses were on the platter.

Overall, it was a fairly boisterous evening and good dining experience. We'll be back again.

The Red Feather Inn, 42 Main Street, Hadspen, Tasmania 7290.

Bookings by reservation. Phone 6393 6506 or go to www.redfeatherinn.com.au

Tasty and toasty

THIS MONTH'S recipe is free of refined sugar and packed with all the good stuff – fibre gut health and to keep you feeling full longer, healthy fats and a generous serving of vitamins and mineral.

Muesli was developed around 1900 by a Swiss physician Dr Bircher Brenner.

It was not originally intended as a breakfast cereal, but rather as an appetizer and was not toasted.

You can vary the quantity of ingredients depending on your taste, budget and what you have in the pantry.

The extra crunch created by toasting the dry ingredients adds texture and palatability.

For a balanced breakfast serve a little with yoghurt and stewed or fresh fruits.

Toasted Muesli

Ingredients

- 2 C rolled oats
- ½ C sunflower seeds
- ½ C pumpkin seeds
- 2 Tb. flax or linseeds
- ½ C shredded or flaked coconut
- ¾ C of All bran or bran flakes
- ½ C nuts – a mixture of your choice coarsely chopped
- 1 ts. cinnamon
- ¾ C boiling water
- 3 Tb. honey, maple syrup or raw or brown sugar
- ¾ C dried fruit of your choice – coarsely chopped

Method

- 1 Line 2 or 3 trays with baking paper. Turn on oven to 180C.
- 2 Dissolve the honey or sugar in the boiling water.
- 3 Mix all of the ingredients except the dried fruit in a bowl.
- 4 Spread mixture onto the lined oven trays and bake for about 30 – 45 minutes or until toasted.
- 5 Leave to cool then stir in the dried fruit.
- 6 Store in an airtight container.



Elders opens in Deloraine



ELDERS OPENED their doors to a new branch location in East Moriarty Street, Deloraine.

The opening was attended by a 200-strong local crowd.

The ceremonial ribbon was cut by Premier of Tasmania, Jeremy Rockliff, along with Elders Managing Director and CEO Mark Allison who was also in attendance.

The Deloraine branch will now offer a full range of services and the new space means the team can stock a wider variety of rural products.

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At the movies with the Western Tiers Film Society

Clare Andersen

Our July sporting saga tells the story of Otto Rehhagel, who, as a boy in WWII in Essen, witnessed the Allied bombing of that city. His parents lost everything, but he found an escape from this traumatic environment via football.

Known as a tough defender, Otto was enthusiastic and ambitious.

He played in the newly formed Bundesliga and became a highly lauded coach in the same competition.

At the age of 63 years, in 2001 having won every major domestic tournament as a club manager in Germany, Otto was appointed as manager of the Greek team. Despite their reputation for lack of motivation and success, Rehhagel built in the Greeks a sense of self-belief.

The documentary has English subtitles with Greek, English and German spoken.

'King Otto' combines file

footage of the time (including David Beckham in his prime), and key interviews of central players.

It presents a picture of how the team transitioned under his tutelage.

From winning Euro 2004, Greece went on to host the Olympics, where they won more medals than at any other time.

The events left Athens with significantly improved infrastructure and made 2004 for many Greeks - 'a magical summer'.



KING OTTO

JULY 8

2021 PG, Documentary Greek, 80m Director: Christopher Andre Marks

King Otto is the extraordinary tale of how arch-strategist German coach Otto

Rehhagel, secured success for a side of rank underdogs that wasn't even considered worthy by its fellow countrymen: pretournament odds for the Euro 2004 championships standing at 150:1.

Taking the Greek National Football team to European glory guaranteed Otto a place among the Gods of Greek sport forever.

Coaching mainly from Germany but engaging a Greek-born assistant, Otto's brusque direct style of communication was initially dismissed as too cold and calculating by the emotional Greeks, but was ably tempered by his assistant, with his philosophy finally being embraced, creating a most unlikely course to success.

'If you love football, you'll love this fairy tale. It's even more enjoyable when you see Ronaldo bawling his eyes out.' 3/2022 Audience reviewer

Rotten Tomatoes Critics 80%/Audience 100%

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

upcoming workshops at art as mania

Dreamscaping	July 14th	10:30 - 12:30
Cat Mats	August 1st	10:00 - 3:00
Ukrainian Egg Dyeing	September 22nd	9:30 - 3:30
Botanical Drawing Revisited	September 23rd	9:30 - 2:30
Botanical Drawing - Give it a Go	September 24th	9:30 - 2:30
Paint & Sip	October 26th	10:00 - 2:00
Lampshade Making	November 4th	11:00 - 3:00
Paint & Sip	November 12th	10:00 - 2:00

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Art movements - examining Railton topiary

ART Forum with Dr Richard Dunlop

HOW DOES a major art or even an interior design movement start? Just as Covid-19 had to have an origin at "Covid-zero", art movements must have their origins in a specific place, usually traceable to one person.

An innocent Meander Valley child travelling to Cradle Mountain might believe that the world's 'Topiary-zero' is Railton, but as scientists might say "No, Railton's topiary has actually jumped the lab, and by a couple of thousand years."

In trout-fishing country, people know the importance of colourful lures.

To lure tourists, Sheffield is known for murals, Westbury for its Village Green, and Deloraine has musical talents aplenty - Alien- X, Eddie Tuleja and others.

And pulses have

quicken with the imminent announcement of a new tour by Deloraine band The Legless Lizards 'The Greatest Show on Earth' (dates TBA).

Clearly, the astute tourist towns in the Valley and nearby have been paying attention to the importance of a distinct identity.

For Railton that is topiary, a continuation of an art movement.

Well-regarded Australian art historian, Jennifer Isaacs, published a book in the mid-1990's titled Quirky Gardens.

The author saw artistic merit in the most confounding yet pupil-dilating gardens made out of anything from beer bottles, boulder, seashells, or broken kitchen plates.

And topiary.

As a proud Meander Valley man, I'm pleased to report that unorthodox Tasmanian gardeners more than held their own against their Mainland eccentric

counterparts.

While Isaac's book did not specifically feature the topiary which currently lines the streets of Railton, it could easily have.

Art trends and movements survive, just like verbal languages, if people keep using them or find them a viable means to communicate something to an audience.

Railton represents not an individual, but a collective artistic enterprise and piece of communication.

There are clearly some residents of Railton who did not want to participate in this vision, but those that did exhibit sound artistic decisions.

For example, the positioning of the soldiers by the epitaph is poignant, scaled, and positioned to anticipate the car of a tourist travelling at a likely speed to get the sight jokes along the main stretch of Railton.

Along the way, a topiary jockey and horse clear a fence, and a topiary bull lives out a life of quiet desperation by a barbed-wire fence.

I would have personally liked to see the topiary act like various stills of a movie that a car traveller could "watch" while driving through, but hey, it's not my town.

The topiary that is already underway is worth the short trip out of the Valley.

The topiary at Railton also raises saucy issues of art history.

Art movements are not necessarily linear, indeed they are more typically cyclical.

'Topos' were the miniature landscapes created within ancient Roman houses from the first century AD, involving the trimming, disciplining and bondage of certain species of trees to create an anthropomorphic resemblance, or as a turn-on.

The trend caught on

quickly with the more on-the-pulse Romans, as well as the brothel owners of Pompeii.

If you were dexterous with a pair of shears, you could earn a decent living as a topiarist a couple of thousand years ago in the tourist towns of Italy.

Italian painters, not wanting to miss an opportunity, began painting frescoes which included topiaries with the vines of climbing plants now intertwining the genitals of nude men and women in Pompeii where Roman soldiers visited for rest and recreation.

This month's Artforum challenge: After visiting Railton, "The Town of Topiary", research topiary creation online and either grow a topiary artwork, or paint a topiary.

www.richarddunlop.com.au

Patsy Crawford scribbling away

AS IF to confirm my suspicions a lot of the nouveau riche are basically bonkers, two of the best a short while ago decided they'd step into the ring and have a cage fight.

Cage fighting has become the new adventure pastime of the rich, famous and self-obsessed.

It used to be Mt Everest.

Men who could barely make it to the top of Cradle Mountain on a good day took themselves off to the Himalayas, forked out squillions of quids, hired a

pack of porters and trudged off into the snow, new-fangled camera at the ready to capture the moment they joined the conga line to the top of the mountain along with the rest of the filthy rich folks.

This diminished their cohort considerably.

The bodies of men whose optimism, money and self-delusion was far outweighed by the sheer difficulty of the climb now scatter the mountainside as permanent reminders of foolhardiness and hubris.

Cashed-up gents toyed with big game hunting and booking a spot on either the next flight to the moon or the bottom of the ocean.

You will note these experiences come at eye-

watering cost, to say nothing of the fact they sound about as much fun as sticking dried spaghetti up your nostrils and that blasting away at native animals is about as cool as listening to a Jim Nabors album.

Rich women on the other hand eschew animal slaughter except for those rare old coots who still insist on wearing small stitched-together mink and toting handbags made out of endangered snow leopards.

Imagining them indulging in anything so rash and dangerous it will snag their fingernails is a bit of an ask.

Would Kim Kardashian hop into a cage fighting ring? Oh, get a grip, please.

But Elon Musk and Mark "Zuckerbird" said they'd be up for it. In the land of extreme wealth and giant egos nothing can be too far-fetched.

Not for them the goodly deeds and generous handouts of Bill Gates, Angela Jolie and others of their ilk who add a little kindness to the world.

Nup, it's put on the tights, climb into the ring and kick, punch, belt, crush and gouge the hell out of one another.

This venture into the world of mixed martial arts seems to be a natural progression from the on-line waspishness that's been going on since the equally nonsensical venture into space.

With twittering fanboys in their wake two of the richest men on the planet will head for an unnamed destination (which will probably be Las Vegas, where else) to bash away their boredom.

This refreshing reminder that all news doesn't have to be dreadful, dark and dispiriting has been generated by Elon Musk, a billionaire who reportedly named his dog Floki as CEO of his vast company, and Mark Zuckerberg, a billionaire who reportedly has his hair cut to resemble Augustus Caesar.

Make of that trivia what you will.

It's probably made up but in the twittersphere they inhabit you just never know.

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Donna and Daryl have worked as a team in the real estate industry for almost 20 years , and have a deep understanding of the Meander Valley real estate market

Team SMITH



Donna Smith
0419 622 552



Daryl Smith
0407 623 620

They are tough negotiators and repeatedly achieved the best prices for their sellers week in and week out. If you have a property that needs to be SOLD you can look to Daryl and Donna to get the job done.

Harcourts
Meander Valley
58-60 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine