

# Meander Valley Gazette

Your independent community newspaper

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 08 AUGUST 2023

FREE EVERY MONTH



## GOLDEN AGE FOOTY PLAYERS REUNITE

► From L-R: Peter Jago, Anthony Loone, Laurence Bird, Bernie Lee, Rodney Loone, Kevin House and Gilbert Viney. Kneeling down Des Bakes and Peter Ashdown. Photo: Craig Zimitat.

MEMBERS OF the Deloraine Football Club's 1973 Seniors Premiership team reunited last week 50 years after their drought-breaking win 13.9 (87) against Evandale 8.12 (60).

The ground was a sea of black and white as the then

Deloraine Magpies took to the Longford ground at the Esk Association Grand Final.

Captain Bob Hickman was all over the ground with his high marking and Tony West finished the game 6.1.

Members of the 1973 team

were at the centre of the run of Premierships for the Deloraine Football Club over the next 7 years.

The team reminisced about the days when footy was the centre of life in Deloraine and Meander Valley.

More than 400 men played football every weekend during the season, although in different associations.

There were typically two threes teams fielded by Bracknell, Chudleigh, Deloraine, Elizabeth Town,

Hagley, Meander, Mole Creek, Red Hills, and Westbury.

Despite the presence of the 1973ers at the Seniors game, the Bracknell Redlegs 13.11 (89) felled the Deloraine Roos 7.6 (49).



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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, Hadsphen, Hagley, Jackeys Marsh, Meander, Mole Creek, Parkham, Prospect Vale, Reedy Marsh and Westbury.

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# Calling artists

THE MEANDER Valley Art Award returns for 2023 with the theme of Presence.

Artists are invited to submit works that explore what it means to be present (or not) in the world, in all its physical, emotional, and spiritual dimensions.

In addition to the main award, there are awards for each of the three main categories of Painting, Digital art and Upcycled art.

The Call for Entries, with details, will be announced in early August and close on the 13 October.

The exhibition will open at the Westbury Town Hall on 27 October, and show until 12 November, 2023.

The Meander Valley Art Award is managed by the Meander Valley Council, the Launceston Art Society and ARTS Deloraine has been running since 2007.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**DELORAINÉ POLICING**

Dear Editor,

I'd like to provide the Deloraine community reassurance following the publication of a recent Letter to the Editor which claimed that policing services had decreased in recent months.

There has been no reduction in the operational strength of the Deloraine/Westbury sub-division – in fact since 2019 it has increased with two additional officers.

Deloraine, is actively policed through day and afternoon shifts and is supported by an on-call roster where local police are available to be called upon to respond to incidents.

Deloraine Police patrol as far as the Lake Country, including communities like Mole Creek, Whitemore and Westbury to name a few.

We remain committed to regional and rural policing, including Deloraine and its surrounds.

As previously, 24 hour response is also provided from Launceston Police Station, as well as other police units such as road policing, criminal investigation, and neighbouring uniform

divisions.

It is possible to visit the Deloraine (or Westbury) police station by appointment. However, if there is a police vehicle present outside, you can drop in.

The intercom used to connect the Deloraine Police station to Longford will soon be installed at the front of the station.

The new station at Longford encompasses a range of specialised police amenities with dedicated conference and incident response spaces and offices, and plenty of room to expand further if required.

Overall, it has increased our policing capacity and capability in the broader Central North Division.

This benefits our officers, and more importantly, the community more broadly and has resulted in an increase in specialist police resources moving through, and within, the Central North Division.

The region is serviced by an Inspector, three Sergeants and a team of officers in stations at Deloraine, Longford, Westbury and Campbell Town and police are continuing to conduct active patrols throughout the district, including Deloraine.

Police officers, particularly in rural and remote communities like ours, spend most of their working day 'on the road' - attending to unfolding incidents as they occur or are reported, undertaking roadsafety activities to help make our roads safer, patrolling the large number of roads and highways, and engaging with communities within the region.

Our work also includes attending local police stations when members of the community need to attend the station in person, such as handing in firearms under our permanent amnesty.

This ensures that the exposure of the community to those firearms is kept to a minimum.

Because we're out on the road actively engaging with our community, many of these instances are done by appointment, but emerging issues can still be reported to 131444 and a police officer will attend the local police station to meet with a member of the community who needs us.

Claims that minor crashes can't be reported online are simply not true.

The Tasmania Police Crash

Reporting System is an online system for reporting minor crashes, and we actively encourage members of the community to utilise that system to report minor crashes.

The system is available at: [www.reportacrash.police.tas.gov.au/TCR/crashReport/welcome](http://www.reportacrash.police.tas.gov.au/TCR/crashReport/welcome)

More serious crashes should still be reported by calling Tasmania Police on 131444 or Triple Zero (000) in an emergency.

The community plays a vital role in helping keep our community safe by reporting matters when you see them occurring – 131444 or Triple Zero (000) in an emergency.

Reporting anonymously through Crime Stoppers is another great way of passing on information so police can investigate.

You can reach Crime Stoppers by calling 1800 333 000 or online at [crimestopperstas.com.au](http://crimestopperstas.com.au)

The Deloraine community can rest assured that we remain committed to continuing to provide a strong local policing service into the future.

**Inspector Michael Johnston,**  
 Central North Division



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# Meander Valley Council says no

TASMANIAN LOCAL councils have been consulting residents regarding their views on council amalgamations raised as part of the Future of Local Government Review by the Local Government Board.

The Meander Valley Council held two community consultation meetings, in addition to conducting phone and online surveys to seek residents' views on the proposed new council boundaries.

The demographics of residents providing input is unknown, though most attending the consultations were over 50 years.

Council reported that community feedback in the online survey showed 70% of 303 respondents did not support forced council amalgamations, and that 47% did not support voluntary amalgamations.

On 15 July, towards the end of consultations over council amalgamations, the Premier said "that there will be no forced amalgamations" and that the Local Government Review Board will continue their important work to strengthen the local government sector.

Council met on 25 July to finalise their position and submission in response to the Future of Local Government Review.

Meander Valley Council resolved not to support any of the Local Government Board's proposed boundary changes affecting the Meander Valley municipality i.e. amalgamations with councils in the Tamar Valley or the central midlands.

Like George Town and Central Midlands Council, the council preferred to stand alone.



► Amalgamation consultation at Deloraine Community Complex.

The Council did not express any views on potential voluntary amalgamation scenarios, but did support those councils who wish to pursue voluntary amalgamation options with their community's support

and, further investigations around opportunities for Tasmanian councils to share services.

Meander Valley Council's formal submission to the Future of Local Government Review board will be available

on Council's website.

Community members are also encouraged to provide their own submission to the State Government on their proposed reforms at: [www.engage.futurelocal.tas.gov.au/make-submission](http://www.engage.futurelocal.tas.gov.au/make-submission)

# Northern Correctional Facility updates

THE DEPARTMENT of Justice released several due diligence assessment reports in late July, namely the Bushfire Assessment and the Economic Impact Assessment (EIA) conducted by Deloitte Access Economics.

## Bushfire Assessment

The proposed Northern Correctional Facility (NCF) site is located within a 'bushfire-prone area' under the Bushfire Prone Areas Overlay of the Meander Valley Local Provisions Schedule.

Consequently further assessment is required of the bushfire risk affecting the site and nearby area, including mitigation strategies to address risks of any identified hazards.

The report included an Emergency Management

Strategy, endorsed by the Tasmania Fire Service, which indicates that the primary response to a bushfire event will be to shelter-in-place within the NCF buildings on the site as evacuation would be an unlikely option.

On this basis, local meteorological data were used to calculate and report relevant measures to ensure that the location and construction of buildings are fit for purpose.

All habitable NCF buildings must be surrounded by a hazard management buffer zone that is separated from natural vegetation to achieve the desired bushfire protection rating for the buildings.

## Economic Impact Assessment

In Australia, regional correctional facilities are seen as major drivers of regional development.

The headline results of the EIA are that additional investment and activity associated with the NCF is expected to boost the Tasmanian economy overall by \$200m.

The report estimates an increase in gross regional product in Meander Valley by \$289 million.

There would be an additional 273 full time jobs by 2040 in Meander Valley, of which 229 are drawn from other areas of the state (eg. prison staff from Hobart and Launceston) – so a net gain of 44 full time jobs.

By 2040, it is expected that every sector in Meander Valley will have increased in value through construction of the NCF.

Specifically, it is expected that \$64m of economic benefits would accrue to the local building sector, \$55m for local heavy manufacturing sectors and \$32m for public administration/business services.

## Concept design

More information is becoming available regarding the design of the proposed correctional facility as each of the assessments are released.

It appears that the facility, when it opens in 2028-29, will extend from the current Ashley site towards Deloraine.

It also appears that the

site will be surrounded by a 6m high concrete perimeter fence with a 5m high vegetation screen, and internal landscaping using low bushfire threat vegetation.

## Planning approval

On 20 July, the Premier and Acting Minister for Planning Jeremy Rockliff said "the government would introduce new legislation to allow for some planning decisions to be made by independent expert Development Assessment Panels.

It is not yet clear how the Major Projects process for large scale infrastructure projects and this proposed legislation would affect the approval processes for the proposed NCF.



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# Wild Wood conservation starts

CONSERVATION OF Deloraine's unique Wild Wood has received support from many interested locals, keen to see the area maintained as a walking trail of significant natural beauty.

Since the initial public meeting in early June, a Wild Wood committee has been formed, to oversee the many restoration tasks needed to preserve this area for use by community members, as well as our many visitors.

The Committee's first meeting on Thursday 22nd June 2023, resolved, as a first step, to commence an audit of existing flora and fauna, with the aim of creating a masterplan to identify key issues and opportunities.

An aerial map of the entire area is being used, (pictured, showing the Wild Wood boundary and current walking trail), over which overlays of both existing and envisaged data can be placed for consideration.

Well-known naturalist,



writer, photographer and conservationist Sarah Lloyd OAM, has carried out an initial survey of the Wild Wood's birds, finding fifteen species, including the uniquely Tasmanian Green Rosella, Scrubwren and Yellow-throated Honeyeater.

Sarah expects that further species will be identified

when migratory birds return in the Spring.

A notice was placed at the Wild Woods entrance, inviting any interested person to contribute their views to the committee, or to become part of the Wild Wood volunteer group.

This can be done by phoning committee member,

Peter Hansen on 0419 025 792.

The committee has applied for membership of Landcare Tasmania, and two committee members are looking at the possibility of attending the Landcare Tasmania Conference at Triabunna in October.

Membership of

Landcare Tasmania offers opportunities for future grants, insurance protection for our volunteers, and other immediate benefits for the important work of restoring our unique Wild Wood.

Formal incorporation of the committee, including the appointment of a safety officer, will follow.

Early goals include the control of weed species, stabilisation of the riparian zone (river bank) and frog pond areas, and upgrading the walking track.

Future goals being put forward for consideration include the establishment of Indigenous food plants, encouraging significant trees, maintaining habitat for native animals, re-instating picnic areas, and initiating an art trail.

Further input is welcome. The Wild Wood committee can be contacted on 0419 025 792, or by email to [cj.bardell@bigpond.com](mailto:cj.bardell@bigpond.com).



Tuesday 29th August

## 2023 Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour

Aged Care Deloraine Inc staff and residents are proud to again be hosting the VRC Ambassadors and the three handled Cup, as part of the 2023 tour visit to Deloraine

For more details please see [www.melbournecuptour.com.au](http://www.melbournecuptour.com.au)

036362 8300



[www.agedcaredeloraine.org.au](http://www.agedcaredeloraine.org.au)



# Meander Valley Council wrap July 2023

MATTERS DISCUSSED at the prior Council Workshop (27 June) included a presentation of the Digital transformation project and from Dr McQueen regarding Cat management and the Village Green petition.

Council also discussed Waste disposal vouchers and the submission to the Local Government Review and noted an update on the Deloraine Recreation Project.

Question time focused primarily on updates regarding the Bracknell Town Hall (due for handover 4 August), Deloraine Squash courts (work commencing 24 July) and Westbury Bicentenary.

There were no Planning Authority decisions.

Council approved \$20,534 of Community Grants and Sponsorships.

Community grants were awarded to: Carrick Community Committee for gas water supply, \$1,700; Deloraine Show Society for bench seating, \$3,000; Deloraine Creative Studios for pottery wheels, \$3,000; Deloraine Dramatic Society for Wizard of Oz musical, \$3,000; Deloraine Primary School for the School Community Fair, \$1,000; Westbury Agricultural Society for their History book project, \$2,548; and the

Westbury Primary School P&F Association for their School fair, \$1,000.

Seven individuals received sponsorship of \$150 to attend various interstate National sporting events - Touch Football (QLD), AFL (Vic), and Lawn Bowls, Basketball and Netball (WA).

Council also provided \$1,200 to support townscape improvements around Archers Folly, Carrick.

Council noted the Audit Panel Annual Report 2022-23 and approved the 2023-24 Work plan.

The panel recommended continuation of partial outsourcing of audit functions to provide greater assurance of compliance and timely completion of work.

Council received the financial report for the year ending 30 June 2023.

It also approved a new capital works project budget allocation of \$33,000 for an Emergency Response Trailer, and accepted a \$16,500 grant from the Disaster Ready Fund.

Council also received the performance report for the final quarter of the Annual Plan 2022-23 with many actions achieved and progressing.

The following have been achieved: Culture

action plan and Year 2 report on employee culture survey; Implementation of software to support Council meetings; Review of ICT and strengthening of cybersecurity.

The following actions continue into 2023-24: Council Communication Strategy; Structure plans for Carrick and Blackstone Height/Prospect Vale; and Deloraine Recreation Precinct survey and heritage consultants engaged, flood modelling and precinct concept design in progress.

The following actions were deferred to 2023-2024: Workforce Strategy and Resourcing Plan; Community Strategic Plan; Waste Management Strategy; Review Municipal Emergency Management Plan; Update of Council's Sport and Recreation Venue Action Plan; Eastern Play Spaces strategy, and Community Hall policy.

*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.*



## CHANGE GEAR, VOLUNTEER

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## There's still time to protect yourself against winter illness

### ✓ Prepare

Common winter viruses are circulating. But it's not too late to get your **annual flu vaccine** or **2023 COVID-19 booster** to protect yourself from severe illness.

An **annual flu vaccine** is free for young children, pregnant women, people with chronic conditions, those over 65 years, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

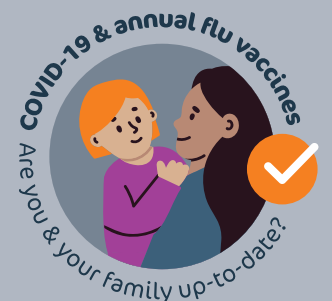
**COVID-19 vaccines** are free for everyone. All adults should get their **2023 COVID-19 booster** if it's been 6 months since their last vaccine or infection.

### ✓ Plan

If you are at risk of becoming seriously unwell, make a plan with your GP for access to testing and antiviral medication.

### ✓ Protect

Remember to keep doing simple things to protect yourself and others - stay home if you're unwell, regularly wash your hands and cover coughs and sneezes.



Find out more at  
[health.tas.gov.au/winter-wellness](http://health.tas.gov.au/winter-wellness)



**Winter wellness**



Remote support in the home for people who have COVID-19 and vulnerable people, including children, with other respiratory illnesses. Find out more or enrol today: [www.health.tas.gov.au/covidathomeplus](http://www.health.tas.gov.au/covidathomeplus) or call 1800 973 363.

COVID@home+plus

# Celebrating Westbury's Bicentenary

THIS YEAR is an exciting one for Westbury, as the community celebrates 200 years since the boundaries of the township were surveyed in December 1823.

The following five years saw the beginnings of significant land ownership in the surrounding area, before the arrival of the convicts and the military to watch over them.

On 5 July 1828, Westbury was officially named.

It is generally agreed that Westbury in Tasmania is named after Westbury in Wiltshire, England, a town that is famous for its White Horse.

Fast forward to 1973, the year Westbury celebrated their Sesquicentenary to mark 150 years of the town being surveyed.

As part of the celebrations, a maypole was gifted to the town by Westbury in Wiltshire.

Children from Westbury and Hagley schools performed the maypole dancing, a tradition which has continued to be an important feature of

community events.

Many locals have fond memories of dancing the Barber's Pole and Spider's Web around the maypole.

Fifty years later, 2023 marks the Bicentenary of Westbury, a significant milestone and one that the Westbury Bicentenary Committee is excited to celebrate.

There have been a number of successful fundraising events already held, with more planned in the coming months.

Don't miss out on the themed trivia nights to be held in August and October, as these are guaranteed to be a lot of fun.

Watch out for details in the Meander Valley Gazette or like the Westbury Bicentenary Facebook page to stay up to date with what is happening.

The money raised will go towards funding the main event to be held in November.

An exhibition in the Town Hall will display photos and memorabilia to tell the stories of the people of Westbury.



► Little Marney's Gifts for Town and Country, winners for the Best Costume at the British Themed Trivia Night.

The Bicentenary Committee would love to hear from anyone that has a family history story to tell, a photo to share or a piece of memorabilia that could be displayed in the exhibition.

On the weekend of 18/19 November, there will be a

community celebration on the Westbury Village Green, the perfect location for such an event.

This will include food vans, market stalls and entertainment for all ages.

The Bicentenary Committee is currently on the

lookout for anyone who would like to be a part of this event, either as an exhibitor, sponsor or volunteer.

Any enquiries can be forwarded to [westburybicentenary@outlook.com](mailto:westburybicentenary@outlook.com) or to Amanda on 0467 097 791.

## Goodbye 3G. Hello to a better network experience.

To help provide you with an improved experience, we're evolving our mobile network. This means that on 30 June 2024 we're switching off our 3G network. Our 4G and 5G networks will be available instead and offer an improved experience, representing the next leap forward in mobile network technology.

Some of your devices - including handsets, medical devices, and EFTPOS machines - may need to be updated or replaced ahead of next year's closure to ensure ongoing service. We're here to help you with the change and answer any questions you may have.





# A look behind the scenes

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

IF YOU are going to flourish in the tourism game then you need to have a top class product and provide impeccable service.

Catching the attention of visitors is also a big part of survival.

Anyone operating in the visitor economy will know this is often harder said than done.

These days a lot of emphasis is put on social media.

Channels like Facebook, Instagram and Google Maps are undoubtedly an important part of any visitor economy business.

A large number of people put a lot of time and effort into planning their holidays – sometimes months in advance.

This planning involves late night surfing of social media sites looking for inspiration.

It is a very crowded universe out there.

Every business and tourism body is in search of beautiful images.

In the coming months the Great Western Tiers Tourism Association (GWTTA) in conjunction with the Great Western Tiers Visitor Information Centre will be holding a photography competition to help capture some of this content.

Keep an eye on our web page for details.

Before going on I feel the need to explain the difference between these two groups.

Stay with me – it's not clear to everyone.

The Tourism Association is the representative body for visitor economy businesses in Meander Valley.

The Visitor Information Centre (VC) is owned and operated by the Meander Valley Council as part of their support for tourism.

If you are not familiar with the centre it is the building at the top of Deloraine with the statue of a horse out front.

As an aside, the horse is Malua – one of two Melbourne Cup winners from the Meander Valley. Malua took out the Cup in 1884.

A bit more contemporaneously, the Melbourne Cup itself will be at the centre on August 29 from 2pm as part of the Past the Post exhibition.

Back to the visitor centre, the current building opened in 2002.

It comprises the Visitor Centre, Yarns Artwork in Silk and the Deloraine & Districts Folk Museum.

The last two are attractions in their own right.

If you want to check them out the VC is offering free entry to Meander Valley residents during August.

I know this will come as a surprise to anyone under the age of 30 but not everyone relies solely on social media to find stuff out like where to stay and what to do.

Some folk – ok they are mostly over 50 - like the personal touch of talking to a real person.

This is where the VC really shines.

In the year ending December 2022 approximately 137,000 people visited Deloraine. Of these 100,000 were aged 45 + and about 40,000 dropped in to the VC to get some help with their visit.

One last statistic – a recent survey showed that 95% of visitors to Tasmania believe

that a VC is an important part of their overall visitor experience.

Our centre has one full time and 3 part time staff - Vicki Pryer is the manager with assistance from Jade Austen, Jennifer Collier and Julie Self.

But the centre could not run without the support of nearly 30 volunteers.

Together these guys do an award winning job.

Amongst their awards they won Gold in the Tasmanian Tourism Awards in 2014 and the Travellers Choice award in 2019 and 2020.

Services offered include ticketing; accommodation and tour bookings; RV camping permits; TT Line bookings; the sale of Redline bus ticket, Parks passes and fishing licences; and an electric vehicle charging point.

The centre is also a major part of the 'Short Walks Capital of Tasmania' strategy.

The 'Walking Wall' in the foyer contains maps, walk descriptions and information.

The staff can also give up to date advice on road closures.

The Centre hosts a website and Facebook page that contains electronic maps and plenty of eye candy for social media.

Meander Valley tourism businesses can advertise for free in the centre via a card rack.

There are also opportunities for inclusion in the Great Western Tiers 'Great Guide' and the website - [www.greatwesterntiers.net.au](http://www.greatwesterntiers.net.au)

Visitors want to hear Tasmanian stories, interact with our heritage, our history, our natural environment, our people.

Vicki Pryer put it this way "Face to face interaction and



► Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre staff members Vicki Pryer, Jade Austen, Jennifer Collier and Julie Self.

local knowledge are the most important things we can offer in a digital world.

We primarily exist to support the economy of the Meander Valley through tourism services by providing a friendly welcoming door to Meander Valley."

The VC might be a bit old school for some but it remains an integral part of the visitor experience for many of our customers.

Do yourself a favour and check out what it can offer you.

**Councillor**  
**Ben Dudman**

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# Classical time soothes the soul

## The voices of MVFM

JOHN PHELPS has been a force for good music in the Meander Valley for some years now.

He has been a member of Don Choral for about thirty years and has contributed to the choir's concerts of stage musical and classical genres.

This has included about twenty performances of Handel's "Messiah."

Then, from 2009 he presented seven 3 Divas annual concerts in Deloraine and elsewhere.

Thanks to the enormous talents of the performers

and Kent Fumage, the accompanist, these concerts included classical, jazz, stage shows and popular music and always played to full houses.

And now, Dr Phelps is a presenter with Meander Valley Community Radio (a.k.a. MVFM 96.9), specialising in classical music.

So, if you wish to hear the music of Mozart, Gershwin, Strauss, Sibelius and all the other great composers and the amazing performers who interpret their works, John's program is the one to listen to.

It is an hour-long show, first playing on Tuesday evenings from 7 pm. and repeated on

Sunday afternoons from 3 o'clock.

Not surprisingly, the show is called "Classical Time" and always begins with a few bars from Tchaikovsky's "First Piano Concerto," a composition John has long regarded as one of the greatest pieces of music ever composed.

But, the program is not just about great achievements from the past.

The performers include current top artists such as David Hobson, Isabel Cooper, the Van Diemen's Land Band, Yvonne Kenny and the Meander Valley's own Joanne Mitchelson.



So, if you wish to spend time on Tuesday evenings or Sunday afternoons listening to great music which is sometimes restful, sometimes

thoughtful, sometimes exhilarating and always brilliant, tune in to MVFM's "Classical Time." It will lift your soul.

# DOAC: twenty-five years of training and support



THE DELORAINE Online Access Centre turned twenty-five this year and we are celebrating by offering you even more opportunities to increase your digital skills and participate in the online activities you need in your everyday life.

Whether you have just bought a new mobile phone or tablet and need some help setting it up, want to open an email or social media account, need access to a free public computer, the internet, printer, scanner or free WiFi, or have more complex tech needs, our skilled volunteers are here Monday to Friday between 10.00am and 4.00pm to support your digital journey.

You can drop in for a free 15 minute consultation and if you have more specific IT needs, why not book into one of our training opportunities below, starting in August?

### One-on-one tech help with Henry

- Mondays from 2.00pm. Cost \$5 per half hour. For beginners up to more advanced needs.

### Mobile Phone Essentials with

### Garry (½ hour to 1 hour)

- Tuesdays at 2.00pm. Cost \$5 per half hour. For beginners up to more advanced needs (max 8 participants).

### How to Protect Yourself Online with Asuka (1 hour)

- Wednesdays at 2.00pm. Cost \$10 per participant. For beginners (max 8 participants).

### One-on-one tech help hour

### with Asuka

- Thursdays from 2.00pm. Cost \$5 per half hour. For beginners up to more advanced needs.

### IPad and Tablet Essentials with Garry (½ hour to 1 hour)

- Fridays at 2.00pm. Cost \$5 per half hour. For beginners up to more advanced needs (max 8 participants).

Bookings required for all sessions. Phone 6362 3537.



Photo: Richard Bennett

## Help us shape Mac Point

We want to make Mac Point a place to gather, reflect and celebrate. A place for all Tasmanians, a destination for visitors.

### What is planned for the site?

- Multipurpose stadium as a hub for arts, entertainment and sport offerings.
- Truth and Reconciliation Park with its development to be guided by Tasmanian Aboriginal people.
- Antarctic hub as part of Tasmania's unique role as Australia's Gateway to Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.
- A well designed residential development that includes affordable housing.

### Help us shape this special Tasmanian space

What would you like to do there? What else would you like to see? How should the site look and feel? What opportunities could it unlock?

Share your ideas on what Mac Point could be.

[macpoint.com](http://macpoint.com)



Photo: Dale Baldwin

**MAC  
POINT  
PRECINCT**



# Dining Out @ Carrick Inn Hotel

## Palate & Pen

FIRST ESTABLISHED in 1833 as a "House of Entertainment for Travellers," the historic Carrick Inn Hotel, celebrating its 190th year, still provides country meals and hospitality in the picturesque village of Carrick.

The Inn was definitely full on the rainy night we visited.

And it has usually been pretty busy on past Friday and Saturday night visits.

There was a line up at the front counter where you order meals and drinks., which was interrupted by people (like us) arriving and sorting out what they were doing – joining the line, ordering drinks or finding their table.

There was a choice of menus when we visited.

We selected from the regular menu and the Specials Board, but some options from the recent Christmas in July menu were also available.

There was a fair selection of Tasmanian and Australian wine at a fair price, and special on the Hardy's Tintara Shiraz that was too good to pass up.

Pen and some of our group started dinner with Soup of the Day which was either Potato and Leek or Cream of Cauliflower.

There was some confusion in the hostess's advice to those of us dining.

We loved the chunky croutons and it tasted pretty good, though no-one was any wiser as to its vegetable origins.

Palate had the Salt and Pepper Calamari which was hot, tender and beautifully seasoned, though it would have been better if the crumb was brown and crispy.

The Chicken parmy was an absolute feast (as it should be) and disappeared quickly.

It could have easily fed a few of us! And the same

could have been said for the Cape Grim Porterhouse steak and the Venison and Duck sausages, both served with mash, veggies and gravy.

The balance between "dry" venison and "fatty" duck was pretty good.

We also had Tassie Pink Ling with vegetables and another with salad.

Overall, the fish and veggies were a bit too dry and I should have ordered some Creamy garlic sauce when it was suggested! Sadly our vegetarian friends were out of luck on the night of our visit, with their options pretty much limited to a plate of vegies or salad, and chips.

There was a whisper that the vegetarian option wasn't available that night - well it wasn't on the menu.

We both chose our favourite - the Sticky date pudding with Butterscotch sauce and ice-cream for



dessert, although perhaps one of us should have had the chocolate cheesecake or chocolate pudding which were on offer too.

I would have like some more "datey" texture in the pudding, but the critical balance between pudding and sauce was just right - so we didn't end up with pudding and no sauce.

Service was attentive and an ordering mishap was

quickly resolved without questions.

Overall the country-style meals were the clear winners on the menu. On our next visit we will be sure to announce any vegetarian friends in advance when we book.

**The Carrick Inn Hotel**  
46 Meander Valley Rd, Carrick, Tasmania 7290.

Bookings by reservation.  
Tel: 03 6393 6143

# Platypus Diary

AUGUST SEES the opening of the fishing season in most waterways.

When dropping a line in freshwater rivers and lakes, keep an eye out for platypuses which can easily become snagged on fishing hooks and artificial lures.

In most cases the hook becomes lodged in the bill and sometimes in a webbed front foot.

Or a line wraps around part/s of their body injuring them or trapping them underwater.

If a platypus starts feeding near where you are fishing, move a short distance upstream or downstream

to avoid the animal, or stop fishing until the platypus moves on.

If you do hook a platypus, try to reel the animal in and get the hook out.

Cutting the line just sentences the platypus to a slow and painful death by drowning or exhaustion when the trailing line becomes entangled.

When handling a platypus, take great care to avoid the poisonous spurs of adult males.

The spurs are found on the inner ankle of each hind leg and while the venom is not life-threatening, it can cause intense pain and

severe swelling.

To lift a platypus safely, grip it firmly around the end half of the tail.

Hold the animal firmly down against the ground while you get the hook out.

Consider confining the animal in a rolled-up jacket or towel if you have one handy.

Do not hold the animal by the base of the tail and never use an arm or leg to support its body because it will be able to reach you with its spurs.

Another way to look after platypus is to pick up broken or tangled lengths of fishing line and take all rubbish home.

Remember, unsupervised fishing lines with the rod planted in the ground are illegal because of the drowning risk they pose to platypus and other air-breathing creatures.

**COUNCIL AREA**

Shared services

**COUNCIL AREA**

The future of local government review

## Future of Local Government Review

### Community feedback hearings are on soon.

Community hearings for the **Future of Local Government Review** are fast approaching. Nine public hearings are scheduled to be held this August, where both councils and community members will be presenting the Local Government Board with their ideas for the future of local government in Tasmania.

Community sessions will be held between 5:30pm - 7:35pm at the following locations:

- **Central and Midlands** • The Grange Estate, 4a Commonwealth Ln, Campbell Town • Thursday 10 August 2023
- **Tamar Valley** • Windsor Community Centre, 1 Windsor Dr, Riverside • Friday 11 August 2023

Council sessions will also be held on these days from 9:30am - 4:40pm, which community members can also register to attend.

Hearings will be livestreamed where possible. If you wish to attend a hearing, you must register your interest prior.

To find out more about the hearings and to register, visit [engage.futurelocal.tas.gov.au/community-hearing-registration](https://engage.futurelocal.tas.gov.au/community-hearing-registration)



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# Help drive your community

FOR OVER 30 years Community Transport Services Tasmania (CTST) has been delivering door-to-door transport for eligible consumers around the state to help them remain connected and living in the community for longer. CTST is looking for

volunteer drivers to join their team of drivers in the North and North West.

Volunteers need a valid driver licence.

A CTST vehicle is provided to transport consumers in, and CTST also takes care of training, support and insurance

and reimbursement for drivers.

Lexie Nichols, who has been volunteering with CTST for more than nine years, was recently recognised for her service. Lexie received a CTST volunteer recognition award for the care and consideration she shows to consumers.



# Winter blossoms in full bloom

## The Exton Gardener

JULY IS the month when hellebores come into their own. Older generations knew it as the Winter Rose, but it hardly resembles a rose and is not even a member of the same genus belonging to the family *Ranunculaceae*.

When I started growing Hellebores some years ago, it seemed that the only colours you could get were pure white, a white with freckles and a few shades of pink.

There was some excitement when a very dark, almost black one became available.

I had to have one and planted it with black pansies.

It was lovely with its creamy stamens contesting beautifully with that rich darkness.

Then a white double flowered hellebore was discovered in Betty Ranicar's Garden at Red Hills and suddenly there was the opportunity for new hybridisation.

And now we have such a richness of styles and colours to choose from, to enrich our winter gardens.

Most hellebores we buy are hybrids of *Helleborus orientalis*, often crossed with other closely related *Helleborus* species.

The petal of a hellebore's flower are actually sepals; the true petals are modified nectaries surrounding the stamens.

There are other species of hellebore that are worth growing. *Helleborus argutifolius*

is a rather striking, almost architectural plant.

The flowers are a lime green, closely matching the holly like leaves. *Helleborus foetidus* is another taller, branching plant.

The deeply divided leaves are a darker green, contrasting with the cluster of lighter green flowers, some edged with maroon.

The scientific name refers to the pungent smell of the crushed leaves! It's a good coloniser and tolerates dry shade and some neglect.

In Britain they call *Helleborus niger* the Lenten rose. It flowers a little earlier, its pure white flowers quite shy amongst low growing foliage.

I grow it but it doesn't flourish like the other species

and hybrids.

Hellebore flowers do have a tendency to get lost among the foliage, especially in our richer soils.

Ideally you should cut away the old leaves in winter to enjoy the full beauty of the emerging flowers.

I also prefer to cut off the ripe flower stems before those fat seed pods burst open and distribute hundreds of seeds around the parent plant.

If you don't, there will be a carpet of seedlings.

Very few of these are garden-worthy.

BBC Gardener's World presenter Monty Don noted that they usually end up a drab pink.

They can also choke out the parent plant, not desirable



► *Helleborus x hybridus* with picotee edging.

if you've spent money on a beautiful hybrid!

Hellebores are so beautiful. I wish they didn't droop in a vase, but on a frosty winter's morning, a patch of gleaming hellebore flowers are just the thing to gladden the soul.

Community Bank  
Deloraine & Districts

## 2023 Community Bank Deloraine & Districts Grants Program

A Community Grant may be just what your organisation needs to make a great idea happen.

It's support for your organisation when it needs it most.

Applications open Monday 7 August and close Friday 1 September 2023.

[bendigobank.com.au/foundation](http://bendigobank.com.au/foundation)

**APPLY NOW**

**Bendigo Bank** Community Enterprise Foundation™

The Deloraine Community Grants Program is a management account of the Community Enterprise Charitable Fund ABN 12 102 649 968 (the Fund). The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo VIC 3550. Sandhurst Trustees Limited ABN 16 004 030 737 AFSL 237906, a subsidiary of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL 237879, is the trustee of the Fund. OUT\_30479915, 19/07/2023

PUBLIC INFORMATION

## Three-Year Wood Production Plan

Sustainable Timber Tasmania's annual update of its Three Year Wood Production Plan is now available. The plan informs stakeholders of potential planned operations on Permanent Timber Production Zone land from 2023/24 to 2025/26.

Specifically, the Plan identifies coupes on Permanent Timber Production Zone land from which a schedule of harvesting, roading, and regeneration operations will be developed across the next three years.

The Three Year Wood Production Plan is a key part of our commitment to engaging with stakeholders to gather feedback and to manage Tasmania's public production forests responsibly for future generations.

**Access Map**  
To make it easy for stakeholders to identify the locations of coupes of interest to them, an Access Map is available on Sustainable Timber Tasmania's website at [sttas.com.au](http://sttas.com.au)

**Stakeholder input**  
We welcome stakeholder input to inform our detailed operational planning and decision making. We would like to:

- Identify if stakeholders have specific interest or concerns in relation to potential operations at any particular coupes and want to be informed about future operations; and
- Identify any issues we may need to consider during our operational planning.

**Talk to us**  
Stakeholders seeking more information or who would like to register their interest in any particular coupes are encouraged to contact our Engagement Team at the earliest opportunity:

**Phone** (03) 6169 2800 during business hours

**Email** [stakeholder@sttas.com.au](mailto:stakeholder@sttas.com.au)

**Mail** Engagement Team, Sustainable Timber Tasmania, GPO Box 207, Hobart, Tasmania, 7000

Please visit [sttas.com.au](http://sttas.com.au) for more information.

**Sustainable Timber Tasmania**

BC-ST18/77

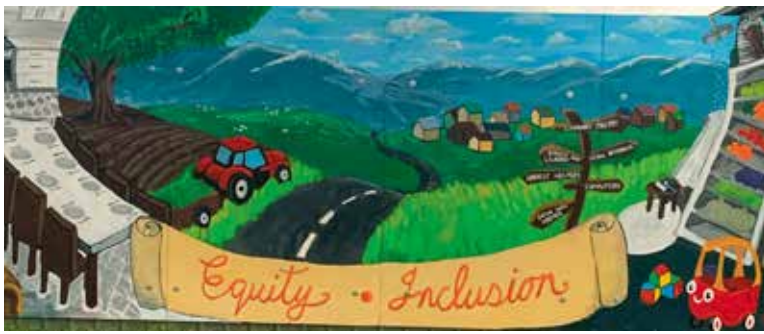


# New livery at Deloraine House

Deloraine House is sporting a new mural that livens up Emu Bay Road.

The artwork highlights the contributions made by members, volunteers and staff at Deloraine House and Meander House.

The mural represents the culmination of planning by students from Deloraine High school, Arts teacher Maria Lietzau and Principal David



► Photo by Craig Zimitat.

Lietzau and Tim Whitely from Deloraine Community Shed. The project was funded by the Tasmanian Community Fund and Arts for Hearts project.

# Melbourne Cup visits the valley

THE LEXUS Melbourne Cup is visiting Deloraine on August 29th. It will be open to the public for viewing and chatting with VRC Ambassadors from 2pm at the Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre.

The Ambassadors will be visiting the Past the Post horse racing exhibition at the Deloraine & Districts Folk

Museum.

There will be a Cup Hat competition taking place at 3pm with the winner taking home a \$50 gift shop voucher.

After the Museum the cup will go to the Deloraine Racecourse for a Pony Club event.

This visit is part of an Australian tour and will be

included in an event 'barrier draw'. If the Tasmanian tour wins it will see \$50,000 donated to MND.

Something blue in your hat to recognise MND would be a great way to show support.

We hope to see you all out and about on the 29th supporting this tour.

# Aussie twist on British classic

ON A recent trip to England I enjoyed some wonderful hospitality and some delicious food.

Although eating out at night was prohibitively expensive, lunch and morning tea fare was reasonably affordable.

I enjoyed many Cornish Pasties and some crispy, battered, fresh fish and chips in Cornwall but it is the Cream Teas in Devon (pictured) that I recall most fondly.

They consisted of one or two freshly made scones (often dusted with icing sugar) served with rich, clotted cream and a tiny jar of strawberry jam.

Interestingly, in Cornwall they put the jam on the broken scone before the cream but in Devon it is customary to do it the other way around.

They were much heavier in texture than our good Aussie scones but nevertheless reviving for a leg weary tourist.

## Aussie Cream Scones

### Ingredients

- 4 C self-raising flour
- ¼ ts. salt



- 1 ts. baking powder
- 2 Tb. cornflour
- 1 and ¼C cream
- About 1 and ¼ C of cold lemonade (or soda water or water)
- ½ C of dried fruit of your choice (optional)

### Method

- 1 Preheat oven to 220 degrees and grease an oven tray or line with baking paper.
- 2 Sift the dry ingredients together and make a well in the center. Add dried fruit if using.
- 3 Mix the cream with the other liquid.
- 4 Using a knife, quickly stir most of the combined

liquids into the dry ingredients until the dough forms a ball around the knife. Add the rest of the liquid if necessary.

- 5 Turn onto a lightly floured bench and quickly knead a little.
- 6 Press out the dough to about 1.5 cm thickness and cut into rounds or squares.
- 7 Place close together onto the oven tray and brush with milk or beaten egg.
- 8 Bake for about 15 minutes or until the center scone is not doughy when broken in half.
- 9 Serve warm, with jam and whipped cream.

# TANIA RATTRAY MLC

## INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR MCINTYRE

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- ✓ 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

## Ordinary Council Meeting Snapshot • 11 July 2023



### Community Wellbeing

Council approved Round 1 of Council's Community Grants and Sponsorship program supporting \$20,534 of funding for the community.

### Corporate Services

Council received the Financial Management Report 2022-23, the Audit Panel's Annual Report 2022-23 and the Annual Workplan for 2023-24.

### Infrastructure Services

Council approved a budget variation to the 2023-24 Capital Works Program to include funding for an emergency response trailer.

### Governance

Council received the Quarter 4 performance report against the Annual Plan targets 2022-23.

Ordinary Council Meeting agendas, minutes and audio recordings are available at [www.meander.tas.gov.au](http://www.meander.tas.gov.au)

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**Rebecca White MP**  
Labor Member for Lyons

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rebecca.white@parliament.tas.gov.au

Authorised by REBECCA WHITE,  
33 COLE ST, SORELL



**upcoming workshops at art as mania**

Pottery Cottage	September 8th	11:00 - 2:30
Learn to Crochet	September 14th	1:00 - 4:00
Pottery Mushrooms	September 15th	11:00 - 1:00
Dreamscaping	September 16th	10:30 - 12:30
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
Learn to Knit	October 4th	10:30 - 12:30

20-22 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine 0488 137 315  
artasmania.com contact@artasmania.com

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**WANTED**  
*Editor for the monthly newsletter of Meander Valley Community Radio.* A voluntary position. Contact: 0477 195 026, webmaster@mvfm.com.au or call at the station at 59-61 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine.

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
*Meander Valley Community Radio*  
At Deloraine House, Emu Bay Road, Deloraine  
On Thursday, 14th September 2023 from 1 pm. Business: reports and election of committee. Nomination forms available, contact the station.

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**RED HOT NEWS**

- Welcome to **Dr Kayode Osibogun** and **Dr Osman Mohamed**, working 4 days per week at Deloraine.
- Extended opening hours in Deloraine Mon, Wed and Fri: 7.30am- 7.30pm
- The Bone Bus is visiting Westbury from September 4th-8th and Deloraine September 14th-15th.
- Specialty imaging, a Chinese medicine practitioner and a ReDerma skin specialist are available at our Allied Health Centre.

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# QVMAG – our public collection

## ArtForum Dr Richard Dunlop

THROUGHOUT THE Valley, individuals collect rusting car carcasses in their back yards, and garden gnomes (often in AFL colours) out front.

Inside private homes in the Valley, you might encounter assiduously collected arrays of spoons, tea towels, doomsday prepping paraphernalia, antique tools, hand-blown glass bongos, vinyl records, political protest posters, stuffed marsupials, or even leftover merch from the Legless Lizards' "Make sure it looks like an accident" cancelled tour.

Our cultures relentlessly generate objects that we seem hard-wired to organize and evaluate for ongoing uses.

What an individual might collect and the stories they reveal are one thing, but how does a publicly-funded art institution like Launceston's QVMAG (Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery) know in advance what should be preserved from Northern

Tasmania for the benefit of future generations of residents of the region to view with wonder, awe, indifference or disgust?

Part of the unchanging charter of such institutions has been to build collections to explain who we are, or once were.

Determining what best to gather and store, of course, involves a large degree of crystal-ball gazing, and possibly exceptional empathetic intelligence.

Employees of museums have played an amazing role so far in our shared cultural history by acquiring and cataloguing material now held for our shared heritage and benefit.

But understandably, curators can also read the future terribly wrong, or view it through a narrow lens, and that is where donations from astute private collectors often fill gaps in the record with amazing intact collections.

Institutions tend to have modest funds to collect, so donors play a complementary role.

There is no apparent call for donations of AFL garden gnomes at this stage, but kitsch, or fashion shows, are what you may likely encounter these days at an 'art' venue, along with (say) nineteenth century Aboriginal war shields never intended for such venues or audiences.

Because the significance or interpretation of objects seems more susceptible than ever to shifting moral overlays or perceptions of injustice or imbalance, there is pressure to respond to conversations in broader circulation.

Certain colonial images or sculptures are currently "on the nose," and often accompanied by didactic charts sometimes with all-too-narrow guidance as to how we should regard a certain object, or even a whole historical period.

To understate it, the challenges for institutions are complex in trying to satisfy diverse communities.

Decisions about what should be exhibited, how best to exhibit or give access to the public, how to fund collecting urges, and what items should

remain indefinitely in the basement or be de-accessioned are lively and ongoing.

I had a conversation along related lines of thought recently with Shane Fitzgerald, Director of QVMAG, first aired on Meander Valley Community Radio station 96.9 FM.

Fitzgerald is a highly regarded arts administrator and an artist, a pioneer of large-scale digital photography in Australia (privately collected by Sir Elton John and others).

The full content of that conversation is beyond the scope of a brief article, but it seems evident that innovative uses of QVMAG's collections may soon be very noticeable, balancing the benefits of physical and virtual exhibition programs, as well as digitized collections.

Fitzgerald stated, "I have to admit that when I arrived the sheer scope of QVMAG's collection astounded me, with slightly more than 1.5 million objects spanning a visual arts and design collection, natural sciences, historical libraries and plenty more.

There is no collection in regional Australia like it, with the sheer volume and scope of it well exceeding by three times

even the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney.

There are lots of new initiatives in our 'Future Directions Plan', unanimously endorsed by Launceston Council.

I will be paying constant attention at 12-18 months out to ensure that we have an exhibition program which not only draws the best from our collections, but also ensures that we do not lose sight and celebrate the works of living artists in the region.

Any institution grapples with the issue of what percentage of their collection they can display at any given time.

Japan has led the way in truly digital and immersive exhibitions, but the jury is out for me regarding the extent to which people still get more out of engaging with the tangible, the actual objects, and that can be profoundly moving for some people."

*This month's challenge for Artforum followers – visit and explore the QVMAG website for current exhibitions, download and read Fitzgerald's 'Future Directions Plan', or schedule a 'real' visit.*

## At the movies with the Western Tiers Film Society

### Clare Andersen

Our inspiring August documentary, 'The Velvet Queen' (Snow Panther), was filmed over two three-week stays in Eastern Tibet in the highlands of the Himalayas. Mount Namche Barwa (7000m) is the eastern anchor and easternmost mountain of the mighty Himalayas. This beautiful Snow Mountain is part of a vast region of interconnecting mountains in the heart of Asia, stretching from China to Central Asia. The Tibetan Plateau region of China forms roughly 60% of the snow leopard's known range.

Since 2006 in the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) greater accessibility due to major transportation infrastructure projects - new highways, railways and airports - has led to an increase of tourists visiting Tibet.

Compounded by government allocation of pasturelands to individual families fencing off livestock pastures; there is growing conflict involving brown bears killing livestock and raiding homes in search of food.

These developments have a large potential to cause disturbance to snow leopards and their prey species, including by hindering their movements and directly degrading their habitat. Currently, conservationists are looking at alternatives to safeguard native wildlife.

With music arrangements by Warren Ellis and Nick Cave, and Tibet, the highest region on Earth, an ethereal quality film is assured.



### THE VELVET QUEEN

**AUGUST 12**

2021 M, Documentary French, 92m Director: Marie Amiguet, Vincent Munier

Selected for inclusion at the 74th Cannes awards under

new category - Cinema for the Climate and winning Best Documentary Film at the 47th Cesar and 27th Lumieres Awards, The Velvet Queen follows the quest of novelist, Sylvain Tesson and Vincent Munier, photographer/documentary film-maker, as they attempt to find the elusive snow leopard in the highlands of Tibet.

Tesson, with Munier as guide, is introduced to the subtle art of waiting from a blind spot, tracking animals, and finding the patience to catch beast sightings.

It is through their journey in the Tibetan peaks, inhabited by invisible presences, the two ponder humankind's place amongst the magnificent creatures and the conflicted nature of a one-way relationship between watcher and watched.


Enjoy the trek and connect with glorious landscapes our guides encounter along the way.

*"An outstanding immersive, visceral experience. Tibetan Brown Bears, Pallas's Cat, Pika's, Snow Leopards, Tibetan Red Deer, Yaks, Tibetan Antelope and Bharal (Blue Sheep) to name a few. The filming is superb and the editing and sound score perfect. A must-watch film for lovers of nature and those that seek the solitude of endless landscapes."*

-12/2022 Audience review  
Rotten Tomatoes Critics 100%/Audience 81%

**For information about the WTFs, email them at [westerntiersfilmsociety@gmail.com](mailto:westerntiersfilmsociety@gmail.com) or call 0418 389 868 for a membership application and program**

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