

Meander Valley Gazette

Your independent community newspaper

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 10 OCTOBER 2023

FREE EVERY MONTH



BRACKNELL CELEBRATES... FINALLY!

► Ian Mackenie, Hon Brian Mitchell, Mayor Wayne Johnston, Mandy Parker, Hon Guy Barnett and Merrilyn Shelton attended the long-awaited official opening of the Bracknell Community Hall.

THE BRACKNELL Community Hall was officially opened on 30 September after a decade in planning.

Nearly 100 residents and friends gathered for the

opening, ably catered by the Hall Committee.

The community first started agitating for a new Town Hall about 10 years ago.

The lean, leaking roof,

damp issues, dodgy floor and drafty windows needed a continuous investment for maintenance.

In 2016 the Hall committee, after much

consultation and community debate, proposed to the Meander Valley Council that the hall be demolished and a new facility constructed. The motion for reconstruction

was passed in 2016.

The Hall received tripartite funding from the Commonwealth, State and local government.

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► **BIG BAND PARTNERS WITH UTAS FOR CONCERT - PAGE 4**



► **NEW COUNCILLORS REFLECT ON THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS - PAGE 5**



► **NORTHERN FOOTY SEASON COMES TO AN END - PAGE 13**



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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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**REPLY TO DR DUNLOP'S
 RANDOM THOUGHTS ON
 CULTURAL APPROPRIATION**

Dear Editor,

I write in response to Dr Richard Dunlop's article, *Random thoughts on cultural appropriation*, which presents an argument against the concept of cultural appropriation.

While Dr Dunlop's perspective on cultural exchange and artistic inspiration are worth considering, it is essential to address some misconceptions and provide a balanced viewpoint.

Dr Dunlop argues that the term "cultural appropriation" is largely meaningless and that culture is a fluid phenomenon where ideas are constantly exchanged.

He suggests that artists throughout history have

borrowed from various cultures without regard to political borders or cultural practices.

While cultural exchange is undoubtedly a part of artistic evolution, it is crucial to distinguish between respectful cultural exchange and harmful appropriation.

Cultural appropriation becomes problematic when it involves the commodification or misuse of elements from a marginalised culture by individuals or entities with more power and privilege.

Such actions can perpetuate stereotypes, erase the significance of cultural symbols, and reinforce power imbalances.

It is not about prohibiting the sharing of ideas but rather promoting sensitivity and respect for the origins and meanings behind those ideas.

Dr Dunlop mentions the controversy surrounding the National Gallery of Australia, where sacred Aboriginal art works/stories were tampered with by non-Indigenous artists.

While he alludes to the argument that artists have always had assistants, it is essential to acknowledge that in this case, the Indigenous artists did not request assistance, and this raises issues of free, prior and informed consent, cultural power imbalances, and misrepresentation.

Furthermore, Dr Dunlop discusses Damien Hirst's use of 'dot' painting, which resembles Aboriginal art.

Hirst's argument that no one has a patent on using dots fails to consider the deeper cultural and spiritual significance attached to the dot painting in Indigenous Australian cultures.

Ignoring this cultural

context while profiting from a similar visual style is a form of appropriation that cannot be dismissed lightly.

In summary, while Dr Dunlop's perspective emphasises artistic freedom and cultural exchange, it is essential to recognise that the concept of cultural appropriation has arisen from a genuine concern for the respectful treatment of diverse cultures, especially those historically marginalised or oppressed.

Cultural exchange and inspiration should be celebrated, but they should also be approached with sensitivity and an understanding of the cultural contexts from which they originate.

Sincerely,
**Louise Middleton,
 Chudleigh**

**SCREEN SCROLLING CAN BE
 HARMFUL**

Dear Editor,

The next time you swipe or scroll your phone, or use Skype or Zoom, spare a thought for those who suffer from Meniere's Disease.

Meniere's Disease affects the inner ear and can cause dizziness and

vertigo, tinnitus (a ringing sound) and may lead to deafness over time.

The visual effect of scrolling text on a screen can cause these symptoms in someone who suffers Meniere's Disease.

I had a laugh at technology recently while looking at a CCTV screen showing myself standing at the counter of a shop.

I waved to myself and slowly saw myself wave back on screen.

The experience caused me to steady myself on the counter and gave me a headache.

When I'm Skype videoconferencing I start to see the other person's lips moving out of synch with the audio.

Slow moving

environments like scrolling computer/smart phone screens, escalators, looking at clouds and even complex patterns can provide too much visual information that overloads the 'balance system' of someone who suffers Meniere's Disease.

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Big Band partners with UTas for concert



► **Fiona Mowat and the Symphonic Band members take their final bow.**



► **The Deloraine Big Band opened with a gutsy rendition of Lady Marmalade.**

THE DELORAINE Big Band and Utas Community Music Program's Symphonic Band teamed up for a community concert at the Meander Valley Performing Arts Centre on 30 September.

The Symphonic Band opened to a near full house.

Led by Fiona Mowat the band played a contemporary program culminating in a rendition of Bohemian Rhapsody.

After intermission the Deloraine Big Band under the direction of Cameron Scott played a

contemporary selection accompanied by vocalists Leanne Wickham, Shannon McMonagle and Kat Dent.

The band opened with a gutsy performance of Lady Marmalade, followed by Faith and Natural Woman, ultimately finishing with a

reflective interpretation of Time after time.

The University of Tasmania Community Music Programme began in 1985.

Today it comprises four ensembles – Beginners band, Concert band,

Symphonic band and Wind Orchestra - led by a team of five conductors.

More than 130 musicians of different ages and abilities are organised into four ensembles that include woodwind, brass and percussion instrumentalists.

Deloraine Medical Centre joins innovative recruitment program

A NEW and innovative employment model for General Practitioners (GP) in training aimed at boosting the number of doctors in rural and regional parts of Tasmania is underway with one of the first GP Registrars commencing at Deloraine.

The new Single Employer Model pilot is a partnership between the Tasmanian and Australian Governments supported by a co-

investment of \$12.97 million.

GPs on the training pathway will have greater sense of job security, with a single contract and employer throughout their training program instead of multiple contracts with different employers over several years.

This aims to reduce key barriers to recruiting and retaining the next generation of GPs in rural

areas, and allowing a seamless transition between hospital and GP placements.

General Practice Registrar Dr Sooriya Wijewardena joined the Deloraine Medical Centre this month.

Australian Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler said:

"For too long we've seen communities across Tasmania like Deloraine not

be able to retain doctors.

"This innovative program is making training and working in rural general practice a more attractive option for young doctors and importantly it will make it easier for Tasmanians to see a doctor close to home.

"The Albanese Government is committed to making it easier for Australians to see a doctor by strengthening general practice, especially in rural areas."

Tasmanian Minister for Health, Guy Barnett said:

"The Australia first pilot is a significant win for Tasmania as it makes it more financially attractive for doctors specialising in general practice to undertake their training in rural and regional areas.

"The innovative model is about encouraging more medical practitioners to become GPs by providing job security throughout their training while also strengthening Tasmania's rural and regional workforce in the long-term.

"Importantly, boosting the numbers of rural and regional doctors will strengthen our communities and help more Tasmanians get the healthcare they need, when and where they need it.

"The Rockliff Liberal Government has long been advocating to trial a Single Employer Model for GP registrars, including rural generalists, to make rural practice more attractive for doctors and it is great to see it being delivered."



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Bracknell community bands together



► After nearly a decade of planning, Bracknell community members turned out in force for the official opening of the new Bracknell Community Hall.



► Bracknell Hall Committee members Merrilyn Shelton, Linda Butler, Project Manager Ian Mackenzie and Mandy Parker in front of the old Town Hall image in the new foyer.



► Backnell Primary Student Representatives imagining what might be possible in the new stadium.



► Linda Spencer, Therese Page, Shebaun Mackenzie.

► **FROM PAGE 1**

THE NEW Hall is a credit to the Bracknell community who have provided additional funding, skills and volunteer hours and to the members of the Bracknell Hall Committee.

The Hall comprises a stadium/hall with a stage, fitness gym, club room and entrance vestibule built around a central kitchen and storage area.

The Hall will eventually be completed with a

memorial wall and cenotaph area where ANZAC services will resume.

The Hall links to the football club and playing field and will also host school activities, sporting functions and

community events.

The entry foyer off Amelia Street opens into a space that features the Honour Rolls, a wall paper image of the original Town Hall, and original dado and capping that will be joined

by other historical artifacts.

This nod to the past affords a flow of treasured memories relating to celebrations, weddings, dances and funerals to join with new memories of events to come.

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New councillors reflect on the last twelve months

Councillors Lochie Dornauf, Ben Dudman, Kevin House, and Anne-Marie Loader

TWELVE MONTHS into our first term, your 'new' councillors are well settled into our roles, working for you and supporting the community.

Whilst it has been an enjoyable experience so far, on reflection of our past twelve months in the job, it has been far from easy.

It was a baptism of fire as our election to council coincided with a significant flooding event that affected much of the Meander Valley.

Flooded and destroyed buildings, bridges and road networks affected many in our community and led to millions of dollars in damages.

Twelve months on, we are still dealing with the resulting damage that was caused at this time but, thanks to the hard work of many in our

community, including local organisations, businesses, and council staff, much of the clean up has been successful and we have bounced back stronger than ever.

The first half of 2023 was largely consumed by Council's annual budget, including the Capital Works Program. Councillors and staff worked hard to ensure a strong range of infrastructure projects were planned across the municipality.

The April Council meeting made sure this plan will come to fruition with new pathways for Prospect Vale, Carrick and Deloraine, an upgrade to the Panorama Road intersection being developed in Blackstone Heights and an RV dump point coming to Westbury, which will greatly help the visitor economy throughout the Valley.

These are just some of the 81 projects that have been planned for the

2023/24 financial year.

Outside the Council chambers, we have been kept busy meeting with local businesses, community groups and individuals; working with them to identify their priorities for our region and to ensure that our shared vision for a bright future in the Meander Valley is achieved.

We each ran for council because we were passionate about our home in the Valley, fully believing that it is not just the best place in Tasmania, but the best place in the world.

Twelve months on, this belief is still true for each of us, and we believe it even more now, having received the opportunity to work with so many people in our community.

It is always a steep learning curve to come into any elected position. Our experience has been just that.

There has been much to learn, from the operation

of council processes to the application of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme, as we oversee new developments proposed for our Valley.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for their support of us, first in electing us to the Meander Valley Council, and then their ongoing support as we work hard for you, all while learning the ropes and picking up the tools of the trade.

We would also like to thank the other five councillors with whom we are privileged to sit around the table. They have welcomed us, providing guidance and supported throughout our journey.

A large thank you also goes to the hard-working and dedicated council staff who work hard every day to support us in our roles and make our community even greater.

The last twelve months

have been massive, and we have enjoyed every second of it.

There is no doubt that the remaining three years of this term will be just as significant, with challenges, highs and lows sure to be in abundance.

We will continue to work with the community to face these challenges and share in the good times and the bad.

We are always here for you, so if you see us out and about make sure you stop us and say 'hi', or if you need our assistance, please get in contact. Our doors are always open.

It is fair to say that our views are not always in perfect alignment, but that of course is democracy in action and reflective of the diversity of the community that we serve, represent and that we all love.

Good discussion and debate is shown to lead to sound, well considered outcomes.

Deloraine High opens new specialised automotive and manufacturing space



THE DESIGN Engineering and Creative space was officially opened at Deloraine High School on 18 September.

This new trade training facility with a two-bay automotive trades

area and advanced manufacturing lab extends the capacity of the existing Trade Training Centre.

Students will be able to complete industry focused education subjects and accredited VET certificates.

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LIFT LOCAL launches with spring in its step

Wendy Lynn Newton

LIFT LOCAL Meander Valley launched on 1 September with mundane magic, zumba and tai chi demonstrations, cheese tastings, and a vibrant community spirit that invites everyone to try something new and participate in a variety of free activities from 7 September.

The LIFT LOCAL program is designed to promote community wellbeing through a range of free come-and-try activities for individuals and groups of all ages from 7 September through to 28 November.

With activities that range from pickleball to welding, fly fishing to movie making, line dancing to writer's workshops, bird watching to pottery, and everything in between, there is something to persuade even the most idle to get out and about and enjoy something new.

Activities run anywhere from one hour to all day, including a Meander Valley Tasting Tour that takes in Ashgrove Cheese, Christmas

Hills Raspberries, 41 Degrees South Salmon, Truffles of Tasmania and Melita Honey.

Meander Valley Council General Manager Jon Harmey hopes the LIFT LOCAL program will help the community connect with local community organisations and businesses, and to appreciate the breadth of activities on offer across Meander Valley, helping to build health and wellbeing and capacity in the region.

The LIFT LOCAL program was designed by Council in partnership with Healthy Tasmania, and funded by the Tasmanian Government.

With over twenty activities on offer, Harmey said, "Our aim is to encourage participation in the full range of free activities and events that are being offered by local business, community groups and individuals over the next three months, and inspire people to try something different."

The launch was attended by fifteen program presenters, the community, Meander Valley Council organiser, Tracey Cane,

who officially launched the program, and Meander Valley Councillors Rodney Synfield and Anne-Marie Loader, the latter who jumped on stage and helped demonstrate a low-impact Zumba workout, much to the delight of the crowd.

Councillor Loader also participated in a group drumming session, led by Deloraine 3D Drums Ensemble.

"If you always wanted to try something different, but haven't felt confident to commit to a long program or course, this is your opportunity to have a go, try it, and see if you like it.

And who knows, you might find you really enjoy the activity, leading to a new ongoing hobby and participation long after the program finishes."

The full calendar of events can be viewed or downloaded at www.meander.tas.gov.au. Bookings for these free events are strictly limited and can be made by phoning Meander Valley Council's Community Wellbeing Department on 6393 5379 or online at www.eventbrite.com.au



► Fly fishing with John Stubbings, Quamby Fly Fishers Club.
Photo Wendy Newton.



agedcare
DELORAINÉ

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 24th October commencing at 6pm

Deloraine Bowls Club

Light refreshments provided

Please RSVP by Wednesday 18th October by calling 6362 8300 or emailing info@agedcaredeloraine.org.au

We invite Life Members, current Members and anyone else interested in learning more about Aged Care Deloraine Inc to come along.

After the AGM the Board of Management together with the Executive will be hosting a staff celebration, focusing on recognising staff who have reached key milestones in Years of Service. Due to Covid-19 we haven't been able to host a gathering over the last couple of years, so we are excited to finally be able to come together and celebrate all the milestones reached during this time.

During the evening we will also be screening a series of new promotional videos (made possible through an Australian Government grant via the Business Improvement Fund).

www.agedcaredeloraine.org.au

Phone: 6362 83000

Convicts of Westbury

IT WAS not that long ago that having a convict in the family tree was not to be discussed.

Now however, it is something to be celebrated.

Everyone wants to be a part of 'Australian Royalty'.

One only has to consider the growing number of websites, social media pages and books to see how popular the topic is becoming.

The growing number of books on my bedside table certainly attests to this!

One of the most recently published books is *Robert Lyall: The King of Westbury*, written by John Watts.

John is an author from Low Head, whose previous books include stories of other convicts.

He is a third great grandson of Robert Lyall and definitely proud of his convict heritage.

Copies of the Robert Lyall book are currently available for purchase at the Westbury History Rooms, coincidentally

located on Lyall Street, next to the Council Offices.

They will also be for sale at the Westbury Bicentenary celebrations in November, where there will be an opportunity to meet the author.

The story of Robert Lyall is a textbook 'rags to riches' story.

He was convicted for receiving stolen goods and transported for 14 years, arriving in Van Diemen's Land in 1831.

With the sponsorship of Richard Dry, Lyall's wife and daughters were able to join him here.

The family had the lease of the Westbury Inn for a number of years and grew considerable wealth through their business activities and horse racing.

They were prominent figures in the development of Westbury.

However, not all the convicts who spent time in

Westbury had such a success story.

Robert Courtman was convicted of stealing one sheep and was transported for 10 years, arriving in Van Diemen's Land in 1844.

His wife and four children remained in England and Courtman did not see his family again.

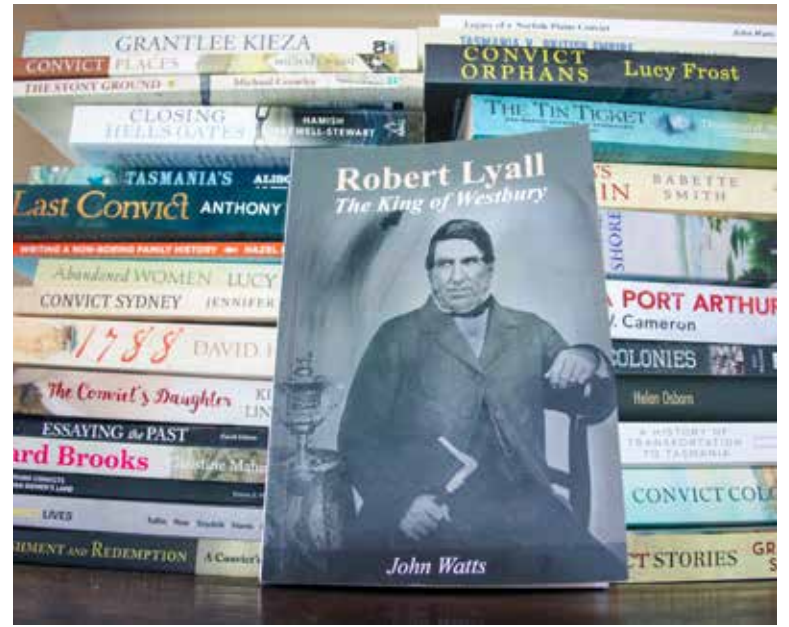
He died just two years later and is buried in the unmarked convict graves at the Westbury Anglican Cemetery.

It is a long term objective of the Westbury & Districts Historical Society to uncover the stories of all the convicts that spent time in Westbury.

We currently have over 300 names in our database, but we know there are many yet to be added.

Do you have a Westbury convict connection? If so, we would love to hear from you.

If you are interested in hearing more stories, make sure you come along to the



Bicentenary celebrations in November.

There will be a number of history tours, telling the stories of the people and places that have helped to establish 200 years of history here.

We all have a family history to tell. The Bicentenary Committee would love to hear from anyone that would like to share their ancestor's story; they don't have to be a convict.

Or perhaps you have

a photo or a piece of memorabilia that could be displayed in the exhibition.

The Committee is also 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 or to Amanda on 0467 097 791.

Blokes bake off at show

Wendy Hays

CALLING ALL blokes who bake! This year the Westbury Show will be hosting the Meander Valley Blokes Bake Off.

Use the recipe below or the recipe in the Westbury Show Arts and Crafts Schedule to make a Chocolate Cake.

Cakes will be judged by Westbury identity and foodie Peter Wright at 10am in front of the Homecrafts Pavilion.

Peter has 30 years' experience in the hospitality industry.

Entries close on October 23rd.

Obtain a schedule with more details about the competition from businesses around Westbury.

Entry forms can be dropped in the box at the Westbury Pharmacy.

You need to have your cake at the Homecraft Pavilion by either Friday 10th of November no later than 10.30am or Saturday 11th of November no later than 9.30am.

So, get practicing blokes



and win the honour of being the Meander Valley's best Chocolate Cake maker.

Simplicity chocolate cake

Ingredients for cake

- 3 Tb. butter or margarine
- ½ C milk
- 1 small C of castor sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1C self-raising flour
- 2 Tb cocoa
- Pinch of salt

Method for cake

- 1 Melt the butter or margarine.
- 2 Sift dry the dry ingredients together.
- 3 Place all ingredients into the small bowl of a mix master.
- 4 Beat on high speed for 3 minutes.
- 5 Pour and scrape mixture into a lined and greased cake tin.

- 6 Bake in a preheated oven at 180C for about 30 - 40 minutes.

- 7 Allow to sit in the tin for 5 minutes then carefully turn out onto a cake cooler.

- 8 Ice with chocolate icing when cold.

Ingredients for icing

- 1 C icing sugar
- 1 tsp. softened butter or margarine
- 1 Tb. cocoa
- A few drops of vanilla essence

Method for icing

- 1 Sift the icing sugar and cocoa together.
- 2 Add the softened butter or margarine and vanilla.
- 3 Use a little boiling water to make a smooth, spreadable icing.
- 4 Spread evenly and smoothly over the top of the cake.

Councillor
Ben Dudman

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Meander Valley Council wrap – September 2023

TOPICS DISCUSSED at the Council Workshop on 22 August included presentations from Mineral Resources Australia regarding an application for an exploration licence, from Reconciliation Tasmania regarding the Voice referendum and the Wildwood Landcare Group.

There were updates related to the Deloraine Caravan Park area and the recent Deer Control Project.

COUNCIL MEETING
12 September 2023

In response to questions from the public, Council advised that the installation of the Westbury dump point will progress as soon as workload allows, and that sealing of Jones Street South and South Street, Westbury were not in the current works program.

Council also advised that it has discussed the future of the Deloraine Caravan Park, but not yet made a decision on progressing the issue.

In response to a question related to the Integrity Commission Tasmania report

on recruitment processes in local government, Mayor Johnson advised that Councillors fully considered all options when appointing the new General Manager, including seeking advice from the office of the Director of Local Government.

Council approved names for 13 new roads to be constructed in the Country Club Estate, Prospect Vale.

Names were reviewed by Placenames Tasmania.

The majority of the names have some connection with

Farrell family history.

Council further reviewed the 2023-24 Capital Works budget after changes at the August meeting.

These amendments were related to receipt of \$1,411,500 in additional government grant funding through the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program for three existing and two additional Council projects funded from cash reserves.

The new projects include work on Quamby Brook, Western Creek and Fellows

Rd bridges.

In the Closed session, Council decided to accept and approve tenders for extension of Mt Leslie Rd and bitumen sealing of roads.

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 October 2023 meeting.

Show goes on at Westbury

A BOOK on the history of the Westbury Show, entitled *The Show Goes On at Westbury 1863-2023*, is being launched at the Show on 11th November as part of Westbury's bi-centennial celebration

Life Member Mrs Judy Kilby OAM and historian Portia Andrew of Wesley Vale have been tirelessly working on the publication.

Filled with local stories

and insightful photos from a bygone era the book will be available for purchase at the show.

This year showgoers are in for a treat with competitions.

Tasmania's top shearers will contest their skills against mainland competitors and woodchopping, a crowd favourite will again return to the Show after making a

comeback last year.

Given that the show is on Remembrance Day, there will be a minute's silence at 11am and local talent Alex Wadley will play the bugle.

Show favourites like the Pet lamb competition, Hagley Rural Youth Dog Jump, horse, kennel and cattle competitions, Matthew Johnston's Yard Dog Trials, vintage machinery, the animal

nursery and home industries displays will be back, along with popular kids activities in the free Kids' Corner area.

This year gentlemen need to don an apron and get cracking in the kitchen for Home Industries Bloke Bake Off chocolate cake competition.

Not any chocolate cake can be made, there's a special recipe that needs to be followed.

Entry forms and competition details can be found at www.westburyshow.com.au/competitions-results/home-industries/.

www.westburyshow.com.au/competitions-results/home-industries/.

A horse extravaganza, Westbury Show will host three days of competitions on the 10th to the 12th of November with show jumping taking centre stage in front of the grandstand.

Tickets can be purchased at the gates opening at 9am.

Gate fees are adults \$10, families \$25, children (6-16) \$5, children under 6 are free.

See more at www.westburyshow.com.au



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Strange sounds from local radio

The voices of MVFM

"HOW WOULD we describe our music? Well, it's steampunk, alternative, noisy at times, strange, goth, burchese, psychedelia, strange - no, we've already said that - interesting, diverse," said Julia Gosling and Gordon Stoker.

They were talking, of course, about the program they host on Meander Valley Community Radio.

It's called "Cogwebs and Strange" and its introductory music is based on a piece by The Who with a similar name.

The ebullient couple's program may be heard on MVFM 96.9 at 9 am on Thursdays and Mondays.

Julia and Gordon left London, England, about seven years ago to make their home in Tasmania and they love living in Deloraine because, among other reasons, it's quiet, the air is (usually) clean and people are friendly.

The pair have been aficionados of Goth music for four decades or more so it's not surprising that they enjoy and take part in alternative music played by Tasmanian bands which really make an effort. And achieve national success!



Julia and Gordon say they receive lots of positive community feedback about their program, especially when listeners call into their shop.

Of course, just entering their shop in Deloraine is quite an experience in itself, with plenty of strange, Gothic items on display.

There is even an opportunity to learn all you would want to know about

the "Whitechapel Murders." Everything but the identity of Jack the Ripper himself.

And, while there, you might ask them what 'Burchese' music is.

How would Julia and Gordon describe the contents of their shop? "Well, it's steampunk, alternative, strange, interesting, diverse..."

Please! Don't start all that again.

Giant Steps on film

Tess Knowles

THE STUDENTS at Giant Steps Tasmania have been busy working on creating short films for not only the Focus on Ability Short Film Festival but also their very own red-carpet event!

The Focus on Ability Short Film Festival is a festival that asks film makers to “focus on the ability” of people with a disability and tell a story on film for the whole world to view.

To be a part of the festival entrants must make a short film or documentary that is less than 5 minutes long, has a disability theme or has people with a disability as the main actors.

The Focus on Ability Short Film Festival has been running for 15 years.

The students at Giant Steps Tasmania entered three films into the festival this year. They can be viewed on the Focus on Ability website (www.focusonability.com.au)

along with all the other entries.

Giant Steps students went along to the first ever Tasmanian public screening of some of the many entries on the 19th of September, where they were surprised by a cheque for \$1000! This money will go towards the movie group for more film making equipment.

Along with entering the films into the Focus on Ability Short Film Festival, Giant Steps Tasmania have put on their own Movie day.

This is the 6th year that Giant Steps has put on a Movie day and it just keeps on getting bigger and better every year! Fifteen students made films this year and the whole school made their way down to the Little Theatre in Deloraine to watch all the movies being played on the big screen.

The students were awarded trophies and Certificates (even some staff got certificates!) for all their hard work.



► The Giant Steps Film Team.



At the movies with the Western Tiers Film Society

Clare Andersen

Our October offering, 'Living', tells the story of Mr Williams, an impotent cog within the city of London's bureaucracy.

It illustrates that films are not just a source of entertainment.

They can make us examine social awareness, consciousness, and our values.

Scientists have found that monotonous work can negatively impact mental health, cause us major stress, and lead to burnout.

While looking for new ways to improve workplace well-being and reducing stress and burnout, a new concept has emerged: job crafting: a strategy that gives employees the chance to design their roles for a more meaningful experience of work - essentially changing tasks and relationships to better align skills, values and goals, thereby boosting confidence and engagement at work.

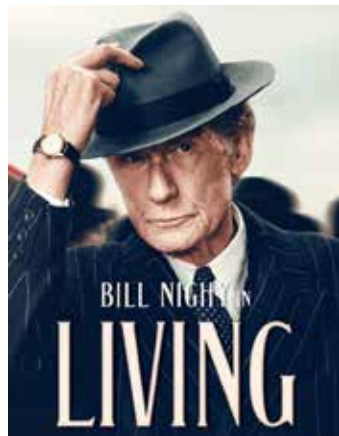
Proactive Job Crafting thrives with a bottom-up style of management.

Employees are empowered to take action, think outside

the box, and have greater autonomy at work.

It's the opposite of a top-down approach, where management makes decisions and exercises control over employees' day-to-day tasks.

How different life would have been in 1950's London had this approach existed then! But Bill Nighy's Williams shows us, albeit by a different path, that it is never too late to change the direction of your life and to influence those around you.



LIVING

OCTOBER 14 7.30PM
2022 PG13, Drama UK, 102m
Director: Oliver Hermanus
1953, a London shattered by WWII is still recovering. Williams, a veteran civil servant, is buried under paperwork at the office. Lonely at home, his life has long felt empty and meaningless.

Then a shattering medical diagnosis forces him to take stock - and to try and grasp fulfilment before it goes. Mr Williams realises that he no longer knows how to enjoy life. He attaches himself to others to observe life, and makes changes in his friendship with his subordinate, Ms. Harris. Enjoying her appetite to life, he remembers what it is to be alive. This realisation motivates him to make important changes.

His Public Work Department colleagues notice his dramatic change and he sets an example for his team to follow. Galvanized to make a difference to his life and in those around him, he remembers not to push things under the rug and not to shy away from responsibility. "Live life to the fullest" is the compelling message of this film that inspires us to live life the best way we can.

"Living transitions from a devastating look at wasted life into a rebirth of inspiration to make the most of the days." - Critic 07/2023

Rotten Tomatoes Critics 96%/ Audience 91%

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

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Labor Member for Lyons

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Lampshade Making	November 4th	11:00 - 3:00
Cat Mat	November 8th	10:00 - 3:00
Paint & Sip	November 12th	10:00 - 2:00
Dreamscaping	January 20th	10:30 - 12:30
Botanical Drawing - Give it a Go	September 24th	9:30 - 2:30

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The making of an icon

Mark Flanigan
President, Great Western
Tiers Tourism Association

IT IS a very Australian cultural trait to largely ignore what is in your own backyard.

We even have a name for those who, nevertheless, succeed – ‘The Quiet Achievers’.

Well, we have a candidate for that accolade here in the Meander Valley – Trowunna Wildlife Sanctuary and its owner/operator Androo Kelly.

Although to be fair, Androo isn't always ‘quiet’ but he has been known to hide his light under a bushel.

I first met Androo in another life.

Amongst other things, I was then running the Australian Government's Threatened Species Program and we were in the early days of establishing the Save the Devil program.

The key element of the strategy was to establish an ‘insurance population’ of Tasmanian Devils free from the deadly facial tumour disease that was decimating the wild population.

Androo and Trowunna were a key element of this strategy.

Trowunna runs the longest conservation breeding program for any native species in Australia.

They have bred 23 generations of Tassie Devils – that's a lot of expertise.

Needless to say, I learnt a lot from my ‘encounter’ with Androo!

For those who aren't aware, Trowunna is a privately owned wildlife sanctuary.

Trowunna started caring for Tasmania's native animals in 1979 under the guiding hands of then owners Peter and Judy Wright.

Unlike other wildlife sanctuaries and parks in Tasmania, Trowunna is unique in that it specialises in only Tasmanian wildlife.

By the way, you may be wondering what Trowunna actually means.

It is a local aboriginal word meaning heart-shaped island home or wildlife sanctuary.

Quite apt really when you consider that the sanctuary is currently involved in five separate conservation breeding programs.

The highest profile of these is the Devil breeding program, and the Spotted and Eastern Quoll programs.

Quolls from Trowunna are the founding animals for reintroductions to the mainland where quolls are critically endangered.

Not many locals are aware but Trowunna is also a world renowned training facility – training wildlife keepers from around Australia and the world on how to care for our unique Tassie Devils. Truly quiet achievers.

If you want to see and learn about Tassie Devils and Quolls up close then there is nowhere better than Trowunna.

The Sanctuary also has 70 acres of natural habitat to wander around with free ranging Kangaroos and waterfowl to hand feed along the way.

Definitely a great spot to take your visitors or the kids.

Another great cultural ‘tradition’ in Australia is the celebration of localities with ‘BIG’ things.

There are evidently 150 ‘BIG’ things dotted around the country.

And we have a very special one located at the entrance to Trowunna Wildlife Sanctuary in Mole Creek.

A tribute to Mickey, the world's first tame



Tasmanian Devil.

Mickey was hand raised by the Wrights in 1979.

In 1980, the Wrights commissioned sculptor Jason Monet to build a big Tasmanian Devil as a landmark for the park.

Recently the Royal Australian Mint chose 10 ‘Big Things’ to be celebrated on the new \$1 coins.

In a coup for Mole Creek and Trowunna, Mickey made the short list.

Not only that, our big Devil was also selected to be one of five new stamps to be released by Australia Post.

Now that says ‘icon’.

The coin sold out within the first week of release here in Tasmania so keep an eye out

in your loose change for that iconic Big Devil.

If you want to have a crack at creating an iconic image that represents the Great Western Tiers/kooparooka niara and the Meander Valley, its places and people then why not get involved in the competition being run by the Great Western Tiers Tourism Association.

We are seeking images and digital media that capture the essence of The Valley.

There is a prize pool of \$1500 up for grabs.

There are 3 categories: landscape, people, and multi-media.

For details go to www.greatwestertiers.org.au.

The competition is open until 1 November.

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.

New code of conduct for local councils

THE STATE Government has further progressed its Local Government reform agenda, passing the Local Government Amendment (Code of Conduct) Bill 2022 that sets a minimum standard for councillor Codes of conduct across all councils in the state and a better dispute resolution process.

A single, standard Code of Conduct issued by the Minister for Local Government and Planning will automatically apply to all Tasmanian councillors.

Councils will be required

to implement a local dispute resolution policy, with the aim of resolving most issues via a mediation process before a complaint is heard by a full Code of Conduct Panel.

There is a new requirement for a Code of Conduct Panel to dismiss a complaint if the person making it does not adequately try and resolve the issue through the dispute resolution process.

A second bill (yet to be approved) tightens rules around appointment processes that were featured

in reports from the Integrity Commission Tasmania and Auditor General.

Under the proposed legislation, councils will no longer be able to directly appoint or promote employees.

Councils will be required to follow merit-based policies for hiring and promoting all employees, including advertising vacancies in local, daily newspapers, clear record keeping and short listing processes, and transparent management of conflicts of interest.

First Wildwood plantings and insect survey

Chel Bardell,
Promotions Officer,
Wildwood Committee

THE FIRST Wildwood working bee, to plant out 150 tube-stock native trees, will be held soon.

Volunteers will be involved in various jobs such as brush-cutting, weeding, planting, watering and the placement of tree guards.

It is hoped that the gradual addition of native species will attract and provide habitat for local native birds, insects and animals.

Well-known QVMAG Senior Collections Officer, and entomologist Simon Fearn, and spider expert John Douglas, will be conducting several surveys of the Wildwood over the coming months to assess the numbers and current habitats of resident frogs, reptiles, insects and spiders.

Samples will be taken in the interests of building up a reference collection of invertebrates found at the site, to be permanently housed at QVMAG.

The information will also be uploaded to the Online Zoological Collections



of Australian Museums (OZCAM), and the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA).

This will not only provide a permanent record of the current biodiversity of the Wildwood, but will form an important reference for future studies into the rise and fall of species numbers.

Simon described the Wildwood as a unique and important "island in a sea of agriculture."

The Wildwood committee will be overseeing the use and dispersal of the woodpiles currently sited beside the walking track.

Deloraine Mens Shed have expressed interest in using some of the wood for creative purposes.

Suitable logs will also be used to create habitat within the Wildwood, while wood from invasive species will be either wood-chipped for use on site as mulching material, or removed to green waste.

Your interest and involvement are always welcome.

If you would like to volunteer for Wildwood working bees, please contact wildwood@landcare.org.au.

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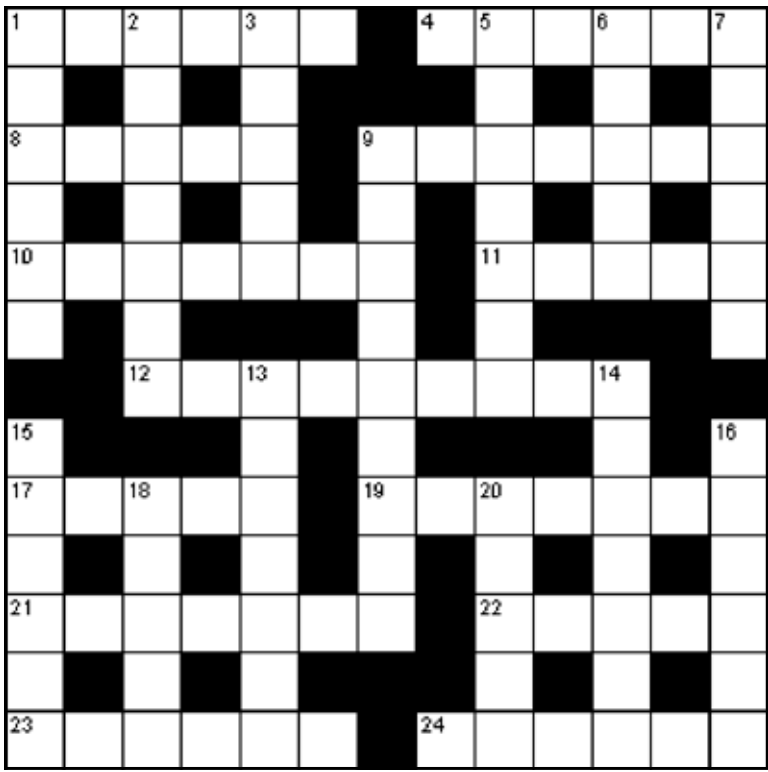
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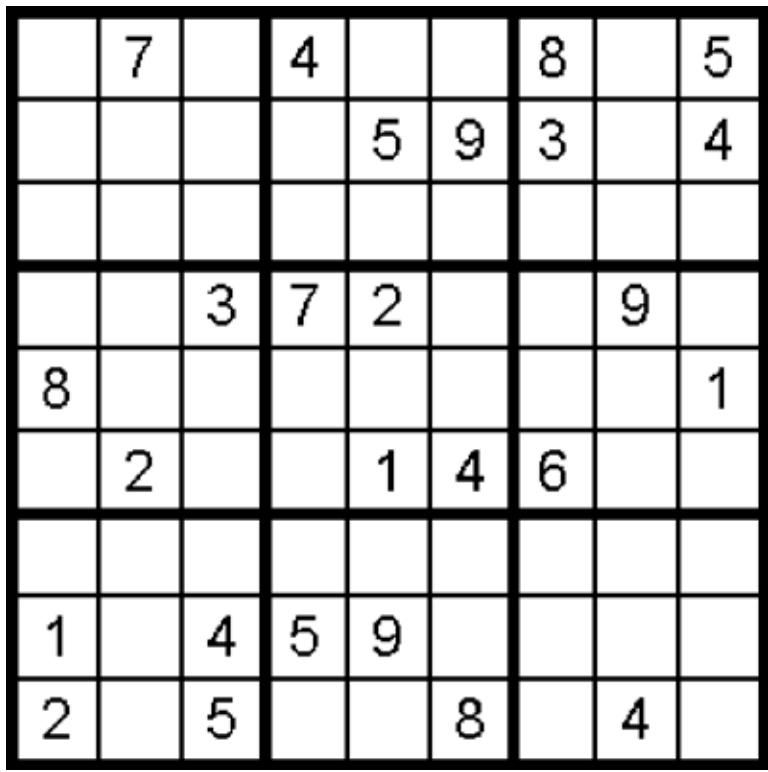
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CROSSWORD



- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Across | Down |
| 1 Flood (6) | 1 Flaw (6) |
| 4 Grown-ups (6) | 2 Wyoming city (7) |
| 8 Coercion (5) | 3 Web-footed birds (5) |
| 9 Army or navy rank (7) | 5 Down payment (7) |
| 10 Remark (7) | 6 Depart (5) |
| 11 Take an oath (5) | 7 Soldier on watch (6) |
| 12 Puzzling, mysterious (9) | 9 Boat with two hulls (9) |
| 17 Intense sorrow (5) | 13 Conflagration (7) |
| 19 Slices of bacon (7) | 14 Pharmacist (7) |
| 21 Common pain-killer (7) | 15 Appalled (6) |
| 22 Salt solution (5) | 16 In addition (2,4) |
| 23 Animal fat (6) | 18 Urge forward (5) |
| 24 Concerning teeth (6) | 20 Dark fur (5) |

SUDOKU



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

Crossword October 2023 solution



Sudoku October 2023 solution

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

EVENTS DIARY		Meander Valley CONNECT Digital & Press - Training & Access	
Tuesdays	Hidden Talents Craft Group 10am-12 noon. Deloraine Gospel Chapel, 46 Parsonage St, Deloraine. All welcome.	Sunday 8, 2.30 to 8	Spring Foodies Carnival Love Lucy Boots, Westbury
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-12	Westbury Men's Shed Corner of King St. and Franklin St. Westbury.	Thurs 12 to Sat 14, 9 to 5	Royal Launceston Show Quercus Park, Carrick
Wednesdays, 7-9pm	Trivia Night Bolters, Prospect	Friday 13, 6.30 to 8.30	Trivia Night / Westbury RSL
Wednesdays, 1-4pm	Indoor Carpet Bowls Western Tiers Community Club	Saturday 14, 9 to 1	Liffey Valley Market Old Liffey School
Thursdays, 7.30-9.30pm	Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting Westbury Uniting Church Hall	Saturday 14, 10 to 4	Great Lake Tie-In Great Lake Community Centre
Fridays, 1-3pm	Cards (Crib, Canasta etc) Western Tiers Community Club	Saturday 14, 21, 28 - 2 to 4	Gin High Tea Bush Inn Brewhouse, Deloraine
Fridays, 3-4pm	Tai Chi Western Tiers Community Club	Saturday 14, Times TBA	Spring Foodies Carnival Love Lucy Boots, Westbury
Fridays, from 8	Live Music British Hotel, Deloraine	Saturday 14, 4.30 to 9	Feed the Animal! Wandering Trout Taphouse, Mole Creek
Fridays, 7 to 9	Boogie Nights Wandering Trout, Mole Creek	Saturday 14, 8 to 11	Kitty & The Heartbeats Australian Italian Club, Prospect
Saturdays, 6.30 to 8.30	Winter Festival Love Lucy Boots	Saturday 14, 7.30pm	Western Tiers Film Society - <i>Living</i> Little Theatre, (2022 PG13, Drama UK, 102m)
Saturdays, 9 to 11	Parkrun Town Common, Westbury	Sunday 15, 2 to 4	Nadira & Friends (Jazz) Little Theatre, Deloraine
Sundays, 1 to 5	Sunday at The Garrison Westbury RSL	Monday 16, 1-4	Bingo Western Tiers Community Club
Weekends, 1 to 3	Live in the Vines 3 Willows Vineyard, Montana	Monday 16, 4 to 9	Fire Spin Jam Deloraine Riverbank
Sunday 1, 2 to 5	Raw Jam Empire Hotel, Deloraine	Friday 20, 11-12	Singing - with Roy Western Tiers Community Club
Monday 2, 1-4	Bingo Western Tiers Community Club	Fri 20 & Sat 21, 5 to 8	Festival of One Act Plays Little Theatre, Deloraine
Sunday 1, 3 to 5	Daniel Townsend & Rose Turtle Ertler Auntie Joy's Creative Studio	Friday 20, 6.30 to 9.30	The Scotsman & Stovies British hotel, Deloraine
Wednesday 4, 7 to 9	Trivia Night British Hotel, Deloraine	Saturday 21, 9 to 1	Westbury Market St Andrews Church, Westbury
Thursday 5, 10-12	Golden Oldies men's group Western Tiers Community Club	Saturday 21, 9 to 1	Mole Creek Market Mole Creek Memorial Hall
Friday 6, 11-12	Singing - with Roy Western Tiers Community Club	Saturday 21, Times TBA	Spring Foodies Carnival Love Lucy Boots, Westbury
Friday 6, 7 to 9	Celtic Players Empire Hotel, Deloraine	Saturday 21, 4 to Midnight	Rural Rumble 2023 Quercus Park, Carrick
Saturday 7, 9 to 1	Deloraine Market Deloraine Showground	Sunday 22, 4 to 6	TSO Live & On Screen Little Theatre, Deloraine
Saturday 7, 8 to 11	Live Music "Why July?" Bracknell Hotel	Friday 27, Times TBA	Spring Foodies Carnival Love Lucy Boots, Westbury
Saturday 7, 8pm-12	Old Time Dance Western Tiers Community Club	Saturday 28, 9 to 1	Makers Market Community Hall, Parkham
Sunday 8, 11.30 to 3	Oktoberfest Bush Inn Brewhouse, Deloraine	Saturday 28, 4 to 7	Rachel's Farm Film Screening Mole Creek Memorial Hall

Northern footy season comes to an end

THE FOOTY season has come to an end for 2023, with local teams celebrating performance, teamwork and camaraderie at their annual dinners.

Congratulations to all award winners and thanks to all of the people who work so hard to put teams on the field every week.

The major award winners for local teams are reported here.

Bracknell Red Legs Football Club

Ralph Chilcott Senior Best & Fairest – Josh Woolley; Vejay Jordan Memorial Reserves Best and Fairest – William Mackenzie; and Colin & Poppy Strickland Memorial U18 Best and Fairest – Ryder Whitchurch.

Life Memberships for 2023 were awarded to Marie Pearn, Conan Duhig and Jenny-Anne Fryett.

Deloraine Kangaroos Football Club

Best & Fairest Senior Women – Hannah Mitchell-Grima (who also won the NTFA Div 1 Women's Best & Fairest

Award); Senior Men – Lochie Dornauf; Reserves Men – James Tyson; and U18 Best and Fairest – Darcy Huett.

Terry Roles Memorial Award, for the player who gives 100% effort and persistence through adversity, was presented to Rori Williams.

The Steve Earley Award, for the player who supports and uplifts friends and team-mates, was presented to Matty Allen.

Recipient of the John Loone Memorial Award for commitment and leadership was Kye Chilcott.

Club Persons of the Year 2023 Awards for service above and beyond the call of duty were presented to volunteer and IT legend Jack Gardner and always reliable Stan Tyson.

Meander Valley Suns Football Club

The Meander Valley Football Club held their annual dinner at the Hotel Grand Chancellor on 17 September celebrating performance and contributions throughout the season.



▶ Bracknell Red Legs Football Club life memberships were awarded to Marie Pearn, Conan Duhig and Jenny-Anne Fryett.

Jarman Family Senior Best & Fairest Award- Kane Brugeaud; Les Howard Reserves Best and Fairest Award - Liam Saunders; Les Howard Senior Women Best & Fairest Award - Charlotte How.

Club People of the Year 2023; Kim & Mick Dadd.

Life Member 2023 Sharon

Brown.

NTFA Teams of the Year

Meander Valley players were well represented in the NTFA Division 1 Women's 2023 Team of the Year which selected Deloraine Coach Brad Powe and Roos players Alex Whitehead, Kiarna Lehman, Hannah

Mithcell-Grima, Danille Saltmarsh and Phoebe Barnett and Suns players Kia Rogers, Charlotte How, Cleo Cresswell and Shannon Crawford.

In the Premier Division, Senior Men's Team, Bracknell's Josh Woolley and Corry Goodluck and Deloraine's Lochie Dornauf were selected.

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Pretty but deadly

The Exton Gardener

THERE'S AN old farmhouse garden nearby which has been neglected for many years.

Periwinkle festoons fences and shrubs, Italian arum thrusts patterned leaves between clumps of onion twitch and self sown valerian paints the whole scene with dabs of red.

Through all this confusion some attractive ferny foliage emerges to later display white umbellifer flowers.

There are a number of varieties of white umbellifer, those plants with flat white flowers so beloved of pollinators.

Think of Queen Anne's lace, cow parsley, yarrow and flowering carrot.

This one however is different.

The sturdy stems are marked with dark red blotches.

I first met this plant in my own garden some years ago where it suddenly appeared.

I had to turn to google to identify it.

I was very surprised to discover I had hemlock growing in my garden!

Hemlock is famous as being the constituent poison in the beverage that Socrates drank in 399 BC

after being convicted of corrupting the youth of Athens with his philosophy.

It is a highly toxic plant in all its parts.

Should you find hemlock has made its appearance in your garden, please dig it out as soon as possible.

If you have a fire, it is best burnt. Otherwise bag and bin it or bury it deep - very deep. Please do not let it set seed.

The world does not need to execute any more philosophers!



Meandering through Georgian Deloraine

DELORAINEHASasignificant legacy of Georgian era buildings, as well as Colonial Georgian and Victorian Georgian style buildings that were constructed as late as the 1880s.

The majority of these buildings are located at the southern entrance to town along the old Meander Valley Highway, on Emu Bay Rd, West Goderich St and along the original main thoroughfare West Barrack Street.

As you walk around Deloraine you will see the common features of Georgian style in many buildings.

Local Georgian houses were mostly built of brick on bluestone foundations, with a timber-framed hipped roof sheeted with timber shingles (later replaced with short-sheet corrugated iron), and a fireplace in several rooms, either against the outer side walls of the house or back to back on a dividing interior wall.

Houses were typically symmetrical in design, with a central six-panelled front door with fanlight above, flanked by windows with six, eight, nine or 12 panes of glass in sliding sashes.

Basic shop houses usually had one entrance for the shop and the residence, whereas merchant shop/houses were larger and had separate

entrances for each.

If you start your walk at the Train Park, you will see Bonney's Inn (1830) and the Deloraine Hotel (1853) which were the first major buildings constructed on the western side of the river.

Walking along West Parade towards the Rotary suspension bridge you will pass an early garage with Georgian features (#7, 1870), worker's cottage (#11, 1860s) and St Ives, built of brick and stone on the hill, overlooking the remnants of Harvey's Flour Mill built in the 1850s.

Across the suspension bridge is Alveston, the original settlement on the eastern side of the Meander River.

The simple Georgian workers cottages and shops at #10-20 Meander Valley Road were probably built by John Bonney.

Built up to the footpath, the front door and sash windows open directly into the shop or living rooms.

Opposite those buildings are the Plough Inn (#21, 1841) and the Bush Inn (#7, 1848).

On the right of the Bush Inn you can see the "blunt corner" which used to allow thirsty workers direct street access to the bar, which is still serving drinks after 170 years.

As you turn back to cross the river you will see, on the hill, St Mark's Anglican

Church (1856) behind which many pioneer settlers were buried.

Crossing the river and continuing straight ahead past the Deloraine Hotel will take you up West Barrack St, the original main road of Deloraine.

At #17 is a single storey brick Georgian residence (#17, 1870) with a Victorian gabled extension.

Opposite, the imposing two storey Cluden (#22, 1862) built by businessman and politician John Hart sits on the corner, with its formerly associated grain store visible behind in Parsonage Street.

As you walk down West Barrack Street you will pass a row of classic Georgian styled buildings on both sides of the street including: Oddfellows Hotel (#23, 1850s) which was once two storeys high; the Baptist Manse (#26, 1862) and the first Baptist Chapel in the area (#28, 1860); Drum House (#27, 1880) where Admiral John Collins (of Collins Class Submarines) was born; and the old military barracks (#31).

At the end of the row is the two-storey triple-brick Cordwainer House (#33, 1863) a merchant shop/house in which the symmetry has been disrupted by the presence of the shop.

Opposite (#36, 1850s?) is an unusual, early horizontal

board timber hut with gabled roof, twelve paned double hung sash windows and external chimney.

Once you reach the corner of West Barrack St, cross the road and turn up Tower Hill St.

If you look further up West Barrack Street you will see several Georgian cottages (#53, 1852) and a pink coloured single storey brick merchant shop/house (#47, 1860) with a blunt corner entrance opening directly onto intersection.

Walking up Tower Hill St. brings you to a collection of three Georgian houses: Eldersyde (#22, 1862) and two classic single storey Georgian cottages (#19 and #21).

Turn left at West Church Street and before you make your way back through Emu Bay Road to the Train Park, at the roundabout [on the left side, next to Mitre 10] you will find Found in Earth, formerly a two storey, brick grain store (1873), where the internal structures are clearly visible.

You can go inside and peruse not only the structure but the many fun items for purchase and to enjoy a coffee or hot chocolate.

Opposite Found in Earth there is a two-story brick building with decorative corner quoins, formerly a bank (1870) now trading as the Deloraine Deli.

The Deli serves amazing coffees, hot and iced chocolate and delicious morsels.

Across the roundabout and a little walk to the right, is the Family and Commercial Inn (1863) which houses the Folk Museum where you can explore a range of Georgian buildings in the Pioneer Village.

As you walk back down Emu Bay Road many of the Georgian era buildings are now well disguised by additions or renovations.

At the British Hotel corner take a peak down Parsonage Street and you will see a row of 1850s buildings with Blake's Manor (1838) at the bottom of the street.

Progressing down Emu Bay Road, you will pass London House, the Great Western Hotel/Railway Hotel (1850) with its six bays of windows (now without sashes); and the Deloraine Town Café (1870), a two-storey Georgian bakery shop/house still with its original ovens.

This tour has highlighted the historical buildings which remain largely intact and form the "Georgian core" of Deloraine, however there are other buildings in original and modified forms that you can discover around town in East Barrack and West Church Streets and beyond.

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