Meander Valley Gazette

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July 2014

COMMUNITY BANK AWARDS

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Bonsmara Haven

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A mighty goal!

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BRINGING THE GIFT OF SIGHT TO THE POOR

By Sheila Ferguson

THROUGHOUT THE world Rotary clubs work to help people on both a local and international basis.

Clubs around Tasmania, including Deloraine, have banded together to support a project in Nepal helping to bring sight to the rural poor.

Earlier this year a group of 20 Rotarians visited the country, at their own expense, to see for themselves how the money is spent.

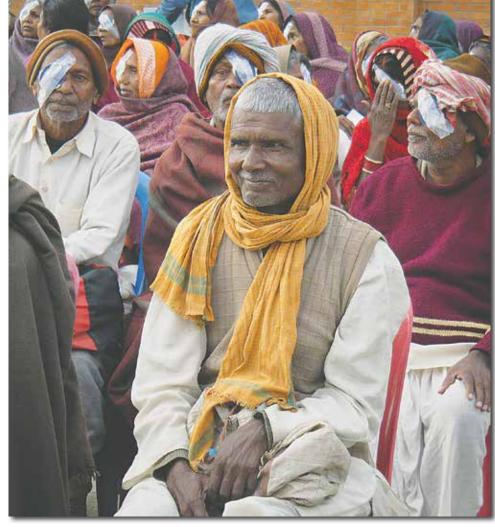
The group included four members of Deloraine Rotary: Isabelle Vescovo, (President) and her daughter, Carol plus John and Lesley Dare.

Nepal is a small, land-locked country squeezed between India and China, slightly over twice the size of Tasmania.

The mountainous north contains eight of the World's ten highest mountains, including Mount Everest, but the southern part is warm and humid.

Its capital, Katmandu, has a population of approximately 30 million, most of whom depend on subsistence farming.

Nepal is among the poorest and least developed countries in the world, with about a quarter of its population living below the poverty line.



People waiting patiently at one of the Gift of Sight' eye camps.

Most rural areas have little or no access to primary health care, education, safe drinking water or sanitation and this, together with constant exposure to sunlight at high altitudes, means that cataracts are common.

Eye problems also result from water borne diseases, mineral deficiencies and smoke from wood fires.

The group visited Hetauda, a city of about 85,000, approximately 130 kms from Katmandu, to meet up with members of the local Rotary Club.

In 2001 a Community Eye Centre was established at Hetauda. A hospital was built and, in 2008, the Centre was formally upgraded to an eye hospital.

The aim of the Community Eye Hospital is to provide comprehensive quality eye care services to rural people through extensive outreach work.

There is a wellequipped outpatients department, surgical facilities and an optical/medical dispensary. The hospital also has 2 ophthalmologists,8ophthalmic assistants, three eye health helpers and 15 administrative and support staff.

Hetauda Rotary Club coordinates two eye camps each year – November and February – and this one was the seventh that Rotary in Tasmania has funded.

Funds are used to advertise screening sites, provide transport for patients and carers, accommodation for 2 or 3 nights, food, plus lenses and treatment for eye infections.

The cost of each camp is approximately

AUD\$9,000 depending on patient numbers.

Up to 5 screening sites were established in outlying rural areas and some people walked for 5 hours to reach these sites.

A past District Governor, Kevin Shadbolt of Latrobe, said "Since we've been running these programs we've had six eye camps that we've funded.

We've had just over 5,000 people in outlying places of Nepal come in and have their eyes checked and 900 have had cataract surgery and have had their sight restored."

After leaving Hetauda, the group headed off to the village of Dhore. The drive was along narrow mostly dirt roads and the building used for the screening camp was a school in poor condition with floor and walls breaking apart.

The line of people waiting to be screened looked endless but the Rotarians and other volunteers were well practised in taking people to the right places for assessment by the ophthalmic staff from the Hetauda Community Eye Hospital.



They then returned to Hetauda and were taken to the Community Eye Hospital where the initial group of patients had arrived and were going through further eye sight assessment, having their

blood pressure taken, eye lashes trimmed etc. They were then taken, with their helpers, to a large marquee where they would spend the next two nights.

At present, patients who require surgery more complex than cataract operations are required to travel to the Tilganga Institure of Ophthalmology in Katmandu. That will very soon change with the addition of a laser system for repairing damaged and detached retinas at Hetauda. The provision of the laser system has been funded through a Rotary Foundation Global Grant application submitted by Rotary Tasmania.

Retina damage is a large problem caused mostly by trauma to the eye that results from the kind of agricultural work performed by most Nepalese. People suffer injury from flying wood or stones (no protective goggles here) but don't seek qualified help until it is often very late. The laser system will be of tremendous benefit in this regard.

Diabetes has become the second biggest issue relating to eye problems as people develop a craving for carbohydrates.

Later, members of the group were asked to remove bandages from some of the patients which they found a novel experience.

Interestingly, the initial response from many of the patients was not one of joy, but shock - as the first sight they had was of a strange-looking foreigner with a camera.



Nepalese version of a visit to the optometrist

July 2014 **NEWS** Meander Valley Gazette

Council adopts 2014/2015 budget

MEANDER VALLEY Council adopted its budget for the 2014/15 financial year at the June Council meeting.

Council has approved a general rate increase of 3 per cent to keep pace with inflation and to ensure the sustainability of Council's longer term financial plan.

The decision was aided by the introduction of a fairer \$15 flat-rate waste management service charge for all properties. This will see this service cost-funded entirely on this basis within 3 years. The \$15 charge for 2014-15 is forecast to increase over the following two years to eliminate the current general rate funding subsidy based on a property's value.

In determining this year's budget, Council had to consider a number of external influences, including increased regulatory compliance costs and the Federal budget freeze on the annual indexation of Financial Assistance Grants (FAG) and concession rebates.

The impact of the threeyear freeze on the FAGs has been softened by a projected increased return on Council's equity in TasWater and a small increase in fees and charges income.

"Council understands that families and individuals face many financial pressures. Over the past seven years, Council has kept average rate increases to between 2 and 3 per cent", said Mayor Craig Perkins.

"This year we have been very conscious to deliver a reasonable budget despite external factors."

Other external factors impacting the budget include the increases to the State Government Fire Levy Contribution, and the increasing costs of regulatory compliance in particular Work Health Safety, Audit panel and stormwater drainage modelling.

The table below shows the average residential rates in the various suburbs and towns.

In summary, the total rates income in 2014/15 equates to \$10.262 million, part of the total revenue of \$19.351 million. With an operating

expenditure of \$18.341 million, a budget surplus of \$1.010 million is recorded. However, after adjustment for capital income items the expected Underlying Operating surplus is \$39,400.

"I would like to thank my fellow Councillors and staff in developing a responsible budget in this time of financial uncertainty. With this in mind, Council will remain very cognisant of expenditure now and over the coming years", said Mayor Perkins.

The budget provides for a number of specific projects, studies, surveys and programs including the waste management strategy, roads survey (4 yearly), stormwater modelling, the completion of Hadspen re-zoning, Prospect Vale/Blackstone Heights structural plan and the Meander River flood survey.

Funding for a capital works program amounting to \$7.871 million was also approved.

Detailed copies of the 2014/2015 budget can be found at www.meander.tas. gov.au

Residential Rates based on Average AAV (notional rental value) for each suburb or town

Residential Average	AAV	General	F/Levy	Waste	TOTAL
Prospect Vale	\$13,162	781.80	175.45	143.00	\$1,100
Blackstone Heights	\$15,760	936.11	210.08	143.00	\$1,289
Hadspen	\$11,210	665.85	42.43	143.00	\$851
Carrick	\$11,960	710.40	45.27	143.00	\$899
Bracknell	\$9,400	558.34	37.00	143.00	\$738
Westbury	\$11,058	656.82	41.85	143.00	\$842
Deloraine	\$10,648	632.47	40.30	143.00	\$816.00
Mole Creek	\$7,922	470.55	37.00	15.00	\$523

All spruced up and ready to play



Deborah WhiteDeputy Mayor, Meander Valley Council



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TWENTY TWO members of the Deloraine Community Band were pleased to participate once again in this years' Anzac Day march and service.

The band were proud to be wearing for the first time stage 2 of their new uniforms.

The Band would like to thank the Deloraine Rotary Club for their monetary donation towards the new blazers and logo. This help and assistance was very much appreciated.

The band committee are currently sourcing funding to complete stage 3 and 4 of the new uniforms.

The Deloraine Community Band are now conducting a FREE beginner band program for both adults and children on Tuesdays at 5.30 - 6.00pm at the Old Community Complex for brass, woodwind and percussion instruments. Anyone interested in learning please contact: 0498 473 947.

Meander Valley Gazette

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Carrick Roadhouse Chudleigh General Store **Deloraine Newspower** Woolworths, Deloraine **ETC Elizabeth Town** Hadspen IGA Hadspen Newsagent Hagley Four Square Supermarket and Newsagent Meander Store Mole Creek Supermarket Allans Garden Centre, Prospect Vale Prospect Marketplace News, Prospect Vale Wayside Newsagency & Takeaways, Prospect Vale Andy's Bakery, Westbury McCullochs News n Food Westbury Meander Valley Council Offices, Westbury Westbury IGA **Westbury Rural Services**

We welcome contributions from all over the Meander Valley. Those living in Prospect Vale, Blackstone Heights, Travellers Rest and Hadspen are welcome to contact Sara via meandervalleysouth@gmail.com for assistance with story writing. For other areas, please contact our editor, Sheila, via editor@meandervalleygazette.com

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Meander Valley Gazette Schedule for 2014/2015

Please find outlined below our advertising, editorial and distribution dates for 2014 and into 2015. If you are not receiving a copy of Meander Valley Gazette in the post, please email general@meandervalleygazette.com and we will check with our distribution team.

Month	Advertising Deadline	Editorial Deadline	Distribution
August	21st July	28th July	8th – 15th Aug
September	18th August	25th August	5th – 12th Sept
October	22nd Sept	29th Sept	10th – 17th Oct
November	20th Oct	27th Oct	7th – 14th Nov
December	17th Nov	24th Nov	5th – 12th Dec
January '15	22nd Dec	29th Dec	9th - 16th Jan
February	19th Jan	26th Jan	6th - 13th Feb
March	16th Feb	23rd Feb	6th - 13th Mar
April	23rd March	30th March	10th - 17th Apr
May	20th April	27th April	8th - 15th May
June	18th May	25th May	5th - 12th June

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A big return on investment

PRESENTATION annual awards the Deloraine and District Community Bank took place at the Rotary Pavilion in Deloraine on Monday, 23rd June.

Community Banks are an innovative franchise program in which the local community owns and operates a Bendigo Bank branch and Bendigo Bank provides all the banking infrastructure and support.

The program was a response to the massive closure of bank branches in rural areas.

Deloraine Community Bank (Meander Valley Financial Services Ltd) is part of Bendigo Bank's Community Bank Network, which not only offers banking services, including those of Rural Bank, but also employs local people, keeps local capital in the district and returns a share of the profits to local community projects.



Branch Manager, Darren Rumble with Andrew Sherriff and Karin Ketelaar from SES

The Bank, after paying its branch running costs, shares any remaining profit with the Bendigo Bank. With its share of the profit it pays shareholders. What remains is then fed back into the community, mostly via their **Grants Programme**

This year the Bank

has distributed \$56,604, bringing the amount that it has returned to the community in the form of grants, sponsorships, donations and scholarships to \$700,000 since the Bank opened in 2005.

A summary of this year's grants is shown below.

Organisation	Project	Amount
Bracknell Boys and Girls Club	Community Gym	\$7,000
Bracknell Football Club	Club Upgrade	\$4,000 (partial)
Great Western Tiers Volunteers	Cellar restoration	\$3,000
Meander Valley Football Club Inc.	Lighting the way	\$3,950
Meander Valley Gazette Online	Website and Social Media Campaign	\$2,000 (partial)
Meander Valley University of the Third Age	Croquet equipment, Red Cross First Aid kit; Personal locator beacon	\$1,924
Mole Creek Caving Club	PetzINEST rescue stretcher	\$2,500 (partial/Challenge grant)
Rotary Club of Deloraine	Rotary Pavilion Kitchen upgrade	\$12,5000 (partial)
SES Meander Valley Unit	Automated External Defibrillation unit	\$2,500
Westbury Agricultural Society	Tractor	\$12,500 (partial)
Western Tiers Film Society	Seating; screen; cinema projector	\$4,730

Meander Valley Choir sings to the tune of a busy schedule

MEANDER Valley Choir have had a busy June. The Good Neighbour Council in Launceston invited the choir to perform each week at a lunch for migrants and isolated members of the community.

They then sang for the local people who attend the Westbury Day Centre.

Both visits went well and the audience sang along when invited to.

The choir are now busy rehearsing for the Annual Concert on Sunday 10th August at 2.00pm at The Westbury Uniting Church Hall in William Street. This will be followed by afternoon tea.

New members are welcome on Wednesday evenings 7.30-9.00pm at the hall, Cnr William & Dexter Streets, Westbury.

Anyone interested in finding out more can ring Robert Clarke [Conductor] on 6392 2279, Helen Walker [President] on 6393 1567 or Maureen Hart on 6362 2055.

Westbury and **Districts Historical** Society

By Katrina Treloggen

THE NEXT meeting of the Westbury and Districts Historical Society will be the Annual Meeting held at the Town Hall Supper Room, Lyall Street Westbury, at 7.00pm on 28th July.

Recently the Society visited the Norfolk Plains Heritage Centre at Lake Masonic Lodge Longford.

Fifteen members enjoyed this visit and were



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3rd August 10th August 17th August Signs That Show Christ's Return is Near Baptism – The Death That Leads to Life **How Christ will settle the Middle East**

Crisis

Westbury Town Hall Supper Room 2:00 pm Sunday

* We also offer a free Bible Correspondence Course to enrol - contact us by : email - thebiblecourse@gmail.com or write to - 17 Taylor Street, Westbury Tas. 7303

delighted to see a display of 200 years of the Norfolk Plains District's history.

The next outing for July will be to Heazlewood's Seeds - an important part of the Meander Valley's agricultural

Please contact the Westbury and Districts Historical Society for details.

There is also a newly established Facebook Group to discuss Local and Family History.

An exhibition to celebrate the Red Cross is now being planned. If you have any interesting information or memorabilia the Society would be delighted to receive it.

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Rug up and start walking

cooler temperatures, it can be hard to be motivated to go outside and get moving.

However, joining a Heart Foundation Walking group can provide the motivation you need to keep your commitment to active regularly.

"It's easy for people to use the winter weather as an excuse to be inactive, but winter really presents a perfect opportunity to be active in a milder climate," said the Heart Foundation's National CEO Mary Barry and Meander Valley Heart Foundation Walking Group Coordinator, Ros Albiston, from Deloraine House.

To beat the cold, wear layers that you can peel off instead of a heavy jacket or jumper and wear a woollen hat and gloves which are warmer than acrylic or synthetic fibres.

Walking on a regular basis also has many health benefits including lowering blood pressure and cholesterol, while also helping to maintain a healthy weight and control diabetes.

The best things about joining a Heart Foundation Walking group is that it's free and you will have a group to keep you motivated to keep going throughout winter.

Heart Foundation Walking groups are coordinated locally by Deloraine House. They have a Tuesday group that meets and walks at

WITH THE shorter days and 10.00am every week starting from Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd.

> You may have seen them walking around the town in their red Heart Foundation t-shirts and/or hats.

> If you want to join a walking group that walks at a different time or in other locations in the region, please contact Deloraine House on 6362 2678 and ask to speak to Ros Albiston.

> Three tips from the Heart Foundation to keep you heart-healthy this winter:

> 1. Rug up and go for a brisk walk with a friend or group. 2. Make winter vegetables, grains and lean meats the heart of your meals. Modify your favourite recipes - many only need small changes to make them healthier, like using lean meats and reduced fat dairy products.

> 3. Consider activities you can do inside – visit a gym or dancing.

If you have stairs walk up and down them, work out with a physical activity video or DVD, or even dance around the house.

For general more information about Heart Foundation Walking contact 1300 36 27 87 or visit www. heartfoundation.org.au/ walking.

Heart Foundation Walking is funded nationally the Medibank Community Fund and the ACT Government through ACT Health.



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Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance to you.

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Liberals

Carrick's Biggest Morning Tea ever!

CARRICK'S BIGGEST Morning Tea was held on 10th June at the Carrick Hall and was again a huge success.

This is their 3rd year and each year's event gets better.

The Tea's guest speaker was Rebecca Townsend, Fundraising Officer from Cancer Council Tasmania. Rebecca spoke about what the Cancer Council had been doing for the last 12 months and said 90% of their money is raised by volunteers.

For entertainment, Vivien



Adams played the piano as well as the piano accordion.

Eighty six people from Launceston, Longford, and all over the Meander Valley attended the event.

Sheila Stevenson Jillian Cunningham did the main organising. They were ably supported by a group of five helpers from the Carrick Community Committee along with 2 Carrick residents.

Prizes this year were once again donated by the businesses of Carrick and supportive friends.

They raised \$816.55 - a great effort in just two hours.

The organisers plan to put on the same event in 2015.

To regulate or not to regulate

A tongue in cheek request to attend an international conference on Environmental health, resulted in Meander Valley Council employee Jayne Jose not only being registered to attend the conference but also being invited to present her research project, entitled A Review of Tasmania's Public Health Legislation: Should Hair and Beauty Salons be Regulated?

The National Environmental Health Association and the International Federation of Environmental Health will bring their two annual conferences together in Las Vegas this July.

Ms lose studied Environmental Health at Flinders University in Adelaide. During the last year of the course she commenced a traineeship with Meander Valley Council.

As part of the course, Jayne was required to complete a year-long research project and that's where the topic of public health in hair and beauty salons came in.

"My supervisor suggested I look into why, in Tasmania, there is no public health legislation of hair and beauty

Salons," said Ms Jose.

In Tasmania, skin penetration premises such as tattooing, body piercing and acupuncture are regulated. Jayne argues in her research that beauty treatments such as waxing, epilation, face and body treatments are also high risk for public health and for infection control.

So why aren't they regulated in Tasmania, when they are in most other states in Australia?

According to Ms Jose's study, it mostly comes down to the existing workloads of Environmental Health Officers, financial resources, and not wanting to regulate another industry when there's a trend to deregulate.

"There are lots of ways of doing it without regulating it. Most of it involves education, which also takes money, time and effort and resources. It is an easier route than getting legislation through," said Ms Jose.

When considering career Ms Jose was clear on one thing - diversity - and Environmental Health ticked all the boxes.

Environmental As an



Health officer, Ms Jose's day may include a trip to register or inspect a food business or a place of assembly like a local golf club.

You might see her at one of Meander Valley's major events, such as Agfest or you'll find her at her desk approving a new septic tank installation or coordinating Council's Immunisation Program.

"Not everyone is happy to see us ... we always take the option of trying to talk to people and educate them about better ways of doing things rather than a heavy regulatory approach".

Ms Jose will speak to the international audience in Las Vegas on Wednesday, 9th July at 2:30pm (PDT).

Article by Meander Valley Council

Artwork Online

Participants recently attended an 'Artwork Online' workshop, tutored by Royce Gale, at Deloraine Online Access Centre.

Royce showed how to use an app called 'Sketch Club'. The app costs \$3.50, and gives access to a collection of tools to make and display detailed digital artworks. Sketch Club is only available for iPads.

Joanne Eisemann, manager of the Centre, has attended quite a few workshops on different IT topics but hasn't enjoyed any others quite as much.

"The session was spent trying out different tools. It was so much fun that it was difficult to stay with Royce's instruction. I kept



A compilation of artworks by Royce Gale, showing the vast array of art styles possible with Sketch Club.

wanting to play. I haven't been such a 'bad' student since my school days" said Joanne.

Fortunately, Royce displayed teaching acumen well beyond his years and was very patient.

Royce is planning some more Sketch Club

workshops in August.

Next time he will spend two sessions on the subject so there is time to learn more about the Sketch Club 'community' and how to sell your work online.

For more information please call Deloraine Online on 6362 3537.

Following in the steps of the Buddha

By Liz Walker, Religion Correspondent

FREYA SU, now residing in Deloraine with her son Cipher, had the privilege of having the philosophies and traditions of Buddhism handed down to her by her parents.

This is the way Buddhism is taught as there is no Buddhist book to teach from. Buddhism does not have a "Bible" in the Christian sense of the word.

The nearest approximation would be the sutras which refer mostly to scriptures, many of which are regarded as records of the oral teachings of Gautama Buddha.

These teachings have left Freya with a rich heritage of

the importance of ancestors and family honour.

This honour means that it is vitally important that your actions are good as they will reflect, not only on yourself, but also on your family.

The deep awareness of the result of actions and consequences is known as Karma.

There are two main ways to practice Buddhism.

In the western world we usually hear about Monastic Buddhism. This is the way the monks practise which involves a life of devotion with lots of meditation.

The way most Buddhists practise is secular Buddhism.
This focuses on temple

This focuses on temple attendance and practices

such as incense burning, giving offerings, and upholding family values such as treating others as you would like to be treated.

Teaching family members how to be good citizens is also emphasised.

Most historians agree that Buddhism originated in northern India in the 5th century B.C.E. The tradition traces its origin to Siddhartha Gautama (or Gotama), an Indian prince, who is typically referred to as the Buddha (literally the "Awakened" or "Enlightened One").

Siddhartha observed the suffering in the world and set out to find an antidote.

Through meditation and analysis, he attained an enlightened state of being that marked the end of attachments (and therefore suffering), and ultimately, upon his death, release from the cycle of rebirth (samsara).

For temple ceremonies it is not necessary to have monks in attendance. However temples do have a caretaker.

Chinese Buddhists have an annual celebration called Ching Ming.

This occurs once a year in spring and involves the ritual of cleaning the graves of ancestors.

The descendants clean and polish the grave and the surrounding area, all the while



Metal burnt offering pot used at Ching Ming ceremonies

burning incense and providing burnt offerings for the ancestors in a portable metal burning container.

Family members put a very high importance on this event and often travel great distances to attend.

In crisis there lies opportunity

By Sheila Ferguson

IN JANUARY 2013 Peter Darrow joined the ranks of those whose jobs have disappeared.

With no warning he was made redundant from his job as Events Manager at St Giles, being informed that this position no longer existed.

He applied for a lot of jobs but could find nothing suitable. He even considered taking a job in Melbourne but realised that it would make seeing his children on a regular basis very difficult.

One day he helped a friend move some stuff and, when they had finished, the friend paid him. This small incident set him thinking. Maybe he could do something like this to earn a living.

He set up Hercules Labouring and began doing deliver-

ies or small jobs around the house and garden, relying on flyers and word of mouth to build up the business. He charged fairly low rates and, gradually, began to build up a base of regular customers.

Over time, his work evolved into mostly gardening jobs and he changed the name of his company to Hercules Property Management. His work covers the area from Chudleigh to Launceston.

Recently, he picked up a contract to present a house; that is, to clean up a house before it is presented for inspection. This has involved cleaning, a bit of renovation, lifting carpets and he is now working on the garden.

This is something he would like to do more of and believes it to be an area that will



Peter Darrow

probably expand in the future.

Peter was fortunate enough to pick up a part-time retail position which helps to support him while he is building up his business.

His advice for anyone who finds themself in the same position, is to take a couple of weeks off to try to assess the situation calmly. In hind-sight, he wishes he had done so.

That said, Peter is very happy doing what he does now and his experience shows that today's disaster can be tomorrow's opportunity.

OBITUARY

Remembering Linda

By Joanne Eisemann

LINDA HAY passed away on 17th June 2014. A long-time resident of Deloraine, she was born in Wales, lived in England and Malta before moving to Australia with her family when she was 18. She met her lifetime partner Eric (dec.) in Sydney where they lived for many years and made many friends.

Linda loved people, dancing, music, good food and the odd drink of wine, (Restaurant Red was a favourite haunt). Linda also loved animals, was a regular giver to animal welfare and had some Deloraine bird 'fans' who came for the daily bird bistro in her back garden.

She was a regular volunteer with Deloraine Online and the Great Western Tiers



Linda Hay

Visitor Centre. Her willingness to share a laugh and attention to detail touched many hearts.

Sisters Sue and Jean commented 'the one thing Linda wanted the most was for everyone to be happy.'

Her courage & high spirits throughout her illness is an inspiration to all who knew & loved her. Linda will be missed. May she rest in peace.

Browsing in earlier times



Grandma Slater

SLATERS COUNTRY Store has been in business for 115 years owned by six successive generations of the one family, with each one making their own unique contribution.

The business has been operating in the present building at 52 Main Street, Sheffield since 1921 after moving from the site next door because of a fire.

The decision to maintain the facade on the Slaters Country Store building became the impetus for later decisions to keep the heritage streetscape of Sheffield.

Management actively maintains the building as a historic entity by displaying and using items and fittings that have been part of Slaters Country Store since the inception of the business, e.g. a flying fox cash register system, including a mock 'upstairs office' with a model of 'Grandma Slater' still working at the age of 93.

The presence of a department store in a historic setting is unique, certainly in this area, and being able to stand and search for things like ancient suitcases, spinning wheels, original chairs to sit on, original

counters to stand beside, original display tables and display windows that can be accessed from the inside are all fascinating to those who visit the store.

Working memorabilia like the original handle winding phone that people may actually use gives them a feel for times gone by.

Slaters Country Store opens 7 days a week. Since the store is situated in the very centre of the town of Sheffield, this adds to the openness and vibrancy of the town. Visitors often tell staff that they have heard that this is 'the shop that is always open.'

Staff are encouraged to engage in social interaction with visiting customers. This is a vital service in the Store and part of the charm associated with a visit to Slaters.

Along with the general historic atmosphere both inside and outside of the building, the warm friendliness of staff, the visitor experience of Slaters Country Store is one that remains especially unique because of what has been preserved. To the best of the owners' knowledge, there is no other town of comparable size with a thriving department store to equal Slaters Country Store anywhere in the area or perhaps in Tasmania.

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6 July 2014 **FEATURE** Meander Valley Gazette

Living the Dream and Sharing the Experience

By Danny Ross

NESTLED IN THE rolling foothills of the Great Western Tiers, just a few kilometres past the township of Meander, lies a rural idyll called Bonsmara Haven.

It is here where visitors and guests are presented with the opportunity to share an experience that most of us can only dream of - a peaceful place to unwind and relax in a picturesque and inspiring rural landscape.

The property is the residence, and "office", of Jan Crosswell, former National Corporate Riskmanagement Consultant for a large corporation and

Qualified Counsellor.

As a young child Jan once had a dream of receiving a cow instead of a doll for Christmas. She even had a name for the cow, "Nautical". Alas, it was not to be and the dream of owning her own cow didn't eventuate.

A few years later she was inspired by the "I have a dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King Jr. and set about planning for the day her dream would come true; the day she would own a small farm and have a cow called "Nautical". It was this dream that drove Jan for the rest of her life.



The view across to Huntsman Lake, just a leisurely stroll from Bonsmara Haven

Jan with Amy, the mini Dachshund, and the inspirational Nautical

Thirteen years ago Jan bought Bonsmara Haven and is now living her dream every day. Although partly run down when she bought the property, Jan has spent most of her time building and repairing fences, sheds and decking as well as designing and planting gardens throughout the 12 acre site. She has two work sheds for making and repairing almost anything around

her farm, and sometimes offers hints and practical learning sessions for guests.

Jan is now eager to share her dream with others and has started taking in guests on a regular basis, offering professional help and guidance to those who feel the need to get away from the stresses of a busy lifestyle, escape from the daily madness, unwind and find a good balance in a place where the views are breathtaking and find inner peace.

Coaching/Counselling is encouraged by walking with Jan on her small piece of paradise in an unspoilt corner of the world overlooking the scenic views of Huntsman Lake.

Jan often suggests visitors just sit around with the farm animals and reflect on their lives in the moment and enjoy the experience of her wonderful friendly farm animals. Kayaking, bush walking, pushbike riding and fishing are many other outdoor activities and Jan suggests finishing off the day with a wonderful massage.

The area is an artist's retreat for painting, sketching and photography with lots of wonderful options.

There are several animals on her farm including two dogs, two goats, a deaf sheep called "Chops", a donkey a calf and a cow (yes, called "Nautical").

Jan is very keen for others to share her experience and enjoy the peace and harmony of her rural lifestyle. And, of course, there is the chance to meet the inspiration behind her dream, "Nautical".

In the words of William Arthur Ward, American dedicated scholar, author, editor, pastor and teacher, "If you can imagine it, you can achieve it; if you can dream it, you can become it." This is the motto for Jan's dream of a rural sanctuary offering the opportunity for anyone to share in her experience.

If you would like further information about Bonsmara Haven you can visit the website www. bonsmarahaven.com.au or contact Jan at jan@bonsmarahaven.com.au or phone 0467 580 296.

You can also take a look at Jan's Facebook page via the website to find out more about the day-to-day happenings on the farm including updates on what the animals have been up to.

Deloraine Dental Practice Working For Your Smile

Would like to introduce and welcome DR DAVID YONGCHAN KIM



Dr David Yongchan Kim completed **Bachelor of Medical Science at** University of New South Wales (UNSW) and Bachelor of Dentistry at The University of Sydney (USYD). He is also studying Master of Science in Medicine at USYD. Dr Kim has been working in Sydney Dental Hospital, Westmead Hospital and also private clinics in North Sydney area. Dr Kim is a talented and caring dental surgeon who provides cutting edge treatments. Specialising in general and cosmetic dental treatments including crown/bridge, endodontics (root canals), periodontics (gum treatment), denture and extractions for both adult and paediatric patients. is interest also lies in implant dentistry orthodontic treatments.

- Bupa and Medibank preferred provider To welcome Dr Kim we are offering a
20% DISCOUNT
on all payments for the month of July.

Love Your Teath!

You'll find us inside the Medical Centre at: 22 Towerhill Street DELORAINE TAS 7304 Ph: (03) 6362 3600 Fax: (03) 6362 3644



lan in one of her "offices"

Meander Valley Gazette FEATURE July 2014 7

Deterring pesky possums

By Nell Carr

Tasmanian native animals obviously prefer European cultivated crops to the leaves and grasses of their natural habitat.

Apparently, the only vegetables that are not palatable to possums are broad beans.

Even rhubarb leaves, which were thought to be poisonous, do not escape attack.

The much advocated aromatic chest rub is no deterrent, so netting cages have to be constructed over most food crops.

Several lengths of poly pipe fastened over stakes on each side of the bed, and the stakes inserted firmly at intervals along both sides, with vineyard netting draped over, and firmly anchored with weights, works well.

The fine black netting lets more sunlight into the vegetables, but experience has shown that snakes can be inextricably caught in this, while they have been observed to get through the

soft white netting without too much delay.

The higher the crop to be protected, such as silver beet or cauliflowers, the bigger the pipe diameter needed, as possums have been known to jump on lower nets, and graze the vegetables through the netting.

Last month's notes dealt with the inadvisability of laying a thick straw mulch around vegetable crops in winter. However, recent observations of perennial flower beds under deciduous trees suggest that a thin layer of autumn leaves, particularly oak tree leaves, does no harm.

Oak tree leaves are also good for the dry component in the compost heap.

If they are not too thick on the lawn, the mower can be run over them so that small fragments settle round the grass roots without harm, but a heavy layer of large wet leaves on a lawn will leave an ugly bare patch.

Masked Lapwings - winged watchdogs!

By Sarah Lloyd

Love them or hate them, Masked Lapwings (previously known as spur-winged plovers), with their distinctive appearance and penetrating call, must be among our best known native birds.

At the time of European settlement Masked Lapwings were uncommon in Tasmania and restricted to relatively small areas of natural grassland. As the land was cleared for urban and agricultural development, areas of suitable habitat increased with a corresponding increase in lapwings. The birds found paddocks, playing fields, school grounds, airfields, roadside verges and backyards to their liking and these days Tasmania is considered their stronghold.

Their preference human-created habitats allows close observation of their breeding and complex social system. Their nest, often located near water, is simply a slight depression sometimes lined with grass, twigs, pebbles or dried dung. Egg-laying can begin as early as June and, after about four weeks, the young are led to the water's edge where they feed on insects, seeds and

other vegetable matter.

Both parents incubate the eggs and guard the nest and chicks. They utter their familiar strident call when an intruder is spotted but if this fails to deter, they resort to dive bombing people - and even cars! Injuries by the spur are rarely reported and the weapon is probably used to greatest effect when attacking, in spectacular aerial combats, predatory falcons and hawks.

In large mainland cities residents welcome the presence

of these adaptable birds with their entourage of delightfully camouflaged chicks as a reminder that nature can still exist, even in areas dominated by concrete and traffic.

The ability of the Masked Lapwing to expand its range in association with human habitation is unusual in the bird world. One may wonder at the corresponding decrease in the birds whose habitat was cleared to provide those conditions so favoured by these birds.

Recipe Corner

Ths recipe was submitted by 12 year old Alaqua Sauvage

Chicken with Spuds and Carrots

Serves Six

Ingredients
1 whole chicken
1 1/2 tspn chilli
2 tbsn mixed herbs
1 tbsn olive oil
3 carrots

Method

6 potatoes

Prepare baking dish or camp oven (if open fire). Place chicken in dish. Chop into large pieces potatoes and carrots. Optional: peel if preferred Mix herbs, oil and chilli into paste and rub on chicken.

Cooking Time

If chicken is frozen - 2 hours slow cook
Don't forget to turn it over.
If using a camp oven: cook
on coals until juices surface

If using a camp oven: cook on coals, until juices surface, turn chicken and finish cooking.

Recipe for summer tomatoes

Need to use up the last of your summer tomatoes? - try this recipe for a tasty Tomato Relish

Ingredients

1 tbsp olive oil 500gm onions, finely diced 2 kilos tomatoes, roughly diced



2 cloves garlic, minced 1 tbsp caraway seeds 1 cup (250ml) vinegar 1 cup sugar

Method

Fry off onions in olive oil until softened in a large stock pot. Add garlic and fry, continuing to stir for one minute till aromatic. Add caraway seeds and stir.

Add tomatoes, sugar and vinegar. Stir till combined. Reduce to a steady simmer for 1/2 an hour.

If there is too much liquid (water), skim the surface and boil that liquid down separately until gone. Re-add to the original mixture and keep at a steady simmer till reduced.

Pot into sterilised jars when at desired thickness, ensuring that no water or tomato juice is at the surface of the relish. Keeps for 9 months.

This recipe was taken from the Meander Valley Food Network Newsletter. For further information please contact them on mufoodnetwork@qmail.com





20%f

Ladieswear, Menswear Children's wear, Manchester Footwear



Winter Boots Reduced

Massive Markdowns

Garage Sale

Ladieswear, Menswear, Footwear, Children's wear, Manchester

TABLES





Lorna Jane, Jump, Adidas, Black Pepper





8 July 2014 **FEATURE** Meander Valley Gazette

Welcome heater upgrade in Ironstone Hut at Lake Nameless

By Margaret Howe

BUSHWALKERS AND fishermen who visit Ironstone Hut at Lake Nameless on the Central Plateau can now enjoy increased warmth and comfort thanks to the recent installation of a new fuel heater.

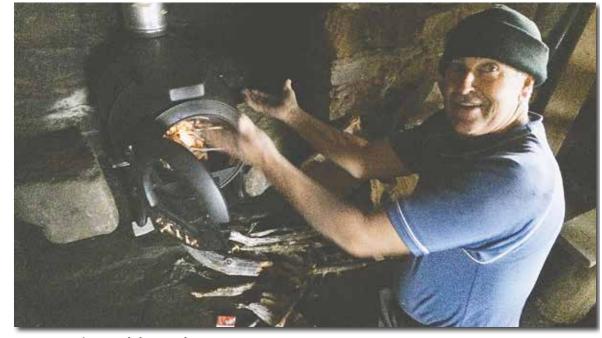
Mountain Huts Preservation Society (MHPS) recently purchased a new stainless steel barrel heater which was transported to the site by Tas. Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS). Six MHPS members spent a recent weekend at the hut modifying the chimney stonework to allow for the fitting of a new flue and the subsequent

successful installation of the heater.

It is the third heater to be installed since the present Ironstone Hut was rebuilt by MHPS during the period 1993-95. The original stone hut had fallen into disrepair having been first built in 1918 by the Deloraine and District Improvement Association to promote tourism and fishing in the area.

PWS assisted with the removal of the old firebox and also provided a supply of fuel in the form of coal brickettes.

The Lake Nameless area is popular with walkers



Tommy Quince and the new heater



Ironstone Hut at Lake Nameless

and fishermen and the new heater now guarantees the hut as a safe, warm and dry haven for all visitors.

MHPS volunteers, lan Hayes, Nathan Doyle, DavidBye, DavidvonStieglitz and Geoff Berry gave fellow Society member Tommy Quince the honour of striking the match to light the first fire.

After a warm nights sleep, the men were pleased to discover coals were still evident in the fire box the next morning – a sure sign of a successful project.

Smoke gets in your eyes (and lungs)

DURING THE colder months, it is important to remember that wood smoke, from wood heaters and backyard burning, can affect some people's health.

Wood smoke contains fine particles which, when inhaled, can affect both the lungs and the heart. Children, asthmatics and older people may be more susceptible.

Burning off is only permitted on blocks of 2000 square metres or more. If burning off, you should keep in mind the effect backyard burning (and wood heaters) has on your neighbours.

Talk to your neighbours.

Let them know when you are preparing to burn off.

Before you burn, consider reducing your waste by taking it to the tip, wood chipping or mulching. Consider wind direction, proximity to neighbours and the types of materials to be burnt to reduce wood smoke in your area. Remember that the burning off of treated materials, green waste, rubber or other toxic waste producing substances is not permitted and Council officers are obliged to enforce regulations regarding incorrect burning. Fines may apply.

Similar regulations relate

to the operation of wood heaters. Smoke from a poorly operated wood heater can be reduced by as much as 80 percent by following these few simple steps:

- Check your heater complies with the relevant Australian Standards
- Use well-seasoned, dry fire wood
- Always burn with a bright flame
- Burn the fire on high for 20 minutes after adding wood
- Keep the air vents open enough to keep some kind of flame
- · Never let the fire

smoulder

- Don't shut your fire right down when you go to bed
- Regularly monitor and clean flues/chimneys

Blackstone Heights and other areas of Meander Valley are unique as they feature geography that create 'sheds' or blankets that prevent smoke from leaving quickly. Be considerate of this, what you are burning and your neighbours if choosing to burn.

Please feel free to contact Council's Environmental Health department on 6393 5300 with any questions.

Submitted by Meander Valley Council



Beware! Slippery roads - drive carefully!

AS WINTER is now upon us we all need to take extra care when driving in Meander Valley and on other roads throughout the State.

Winter means wet and slippery roads, often with frost and ice.

There are some sections of roads and highways, such as Travellers Rest, that the sun does not reach until well into the day, and this can prove especially treacherous when there is ice on the road.

Visibility can also be severely reduced due to fog.

In bad weather, slow down and allow extra time for your journey.

Driving in adverse weather conditions:

• Be alert at all times and reduce your speed to



match the conditions

- Drive with headlights or park lights on at times of poor visibility
- Increase the gap between you and the vehicle in front so that you have more time to stop if needed (at least a 4 second gap in the wet)

Remember, pedestrians and cyclists can be hard to see and they are *the* most

vulnerable road users.

Cyclists should wear reflective clothing and ensure that they have both front and rear lights operating.

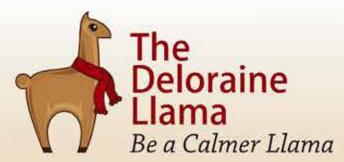
A Meander Valley Community Road Safety Partnership message.

Article submitted by Meander Valley Council.



Meander Valley Gazette

July 2014





Like to organise a Pamper Party for your friends

Maybe someone's birthday?

Bring 5 friends and the 6th person is FREE!

2 hours of pampering with feet treats, head and shoulder massages, back and legs, free tea, coffee and nibbles, great music and atmosphere and a lucky dip for \$69 each.

AMAZING VALUE!

Saturday afternoons and Sundays by appointment.

It's your local pamper parlour - the Deloraine Llama.

44 Emu Bay Road Deloraine Phone: 63624813





COUNSELLING & COMMUNITY WORK will account for 48% of all employment in the next 10 years.

Got a gift in caring for others?

BECOME A COUNSELLOR, CASE MANAGER, YOUTH WORKER

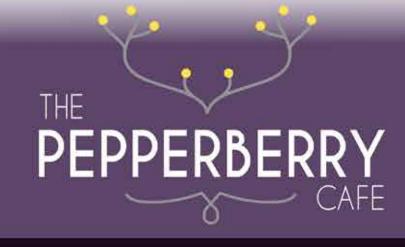
OR DRUG & ALCOHOL WORKER and study locally.

Be treated to a great Rural Residential training experience at the Mole Creek Guest House. Course fees covered by VET FEE HELP

Study now pay later once you are earning.

NEW CHILD CARE DIPLOMA Courses STARTING SOON!

Call Kerrie May on 63632074 for more information or email kerrie@cta.com.au



Mole Creek Guest House

100 Pioneer Drive Mole Creek Phone: 6363 1399

High Tea



from 1.30-3.30 pm
Bookings essential.
Come and hear the amazing voice
of international soloist
Tamsyn Stock Stafford
and be served beautiful
dainty treats with bottomless
tea and coffee by the
Alice in Wonderland Girls!

Sunday Lunch

at the Pepperberry Café - SET MENU
It's warm and toasty round the fire!
ITALIAN Pizza & Pasta. - 5 courses!
Soup, pizza, pasta, salad,
dessert and a glass of wine,
beer or soft drink.
\$39 pp.- \$19 for kids.
Bookings advised
63631399.

Film Review - Blue Jasmine **Western Tiers Film Society Screening: 9th August**

THIS MONTH'S offering is Blue Jasmine, here described by David Stratton (At the Movies). "There's something of Blanche Dubois in the story of Jasmine, a selfcentred woman whose privileged lifestyle has come to an abrupt end and who now relies too much on booze and pills - and the

comfort of strangers."

Written and directed by Woody Allen, Blue Jasmine stars Cate Blanchett, Sally Hawkins, Alec Baldwin and Bobby Cannavale.

Cate Blanchett won several acting awards for her role as Jeanette "Jasmine" Francis, including an "Oscar" (2014).

Here is the synopsis

taken from the Internet Movie Database:

New York socialdeeply troubled and in denial, arrives in San Francisco to impose upon her sister. She looks a million, but isn't bringing money, peace, or love...

Here are a few of the reviews that the film received:

David Denby of The New Yorker stated that "in all, this is the strongest, most resonant movie Woody Allen has made in years"

writing Mick LaSalle, the San Francisco

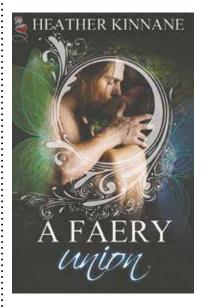
wrote Chronicle, "Blanchett in Blue Jasmine is beyond brilliant, beyond analysis. This is jaw-dropping work, what we go to the movies hoping to see, and we do. Every few years."

Bruce Handy, in Vanity Fair, wrote "Blue Jasmine might be Allen's cruelest film ever, which is saying something, since this is a director who's never been particularly toward generous characters. In significant ways, though, it's also one of Allen's most human movies."

that: A Faery Romance in Tasmania's Wilderness

A Faery Union by Heather Kinnane

Published by Steam eReads May 2014



HEATHER KINNANE celebrating with the release. last month, of her first fulllength novel, A Faery Union.

Published in e-book format by Australian publisher Steam eReads, 'A Faery Union' is the seguel to the short story 'A Faery Dream', set in the fantasy realm of Faery, somewhere in the wilderness of Tasmania.

"One of the hardest things in this life is listening to the single voice of truth in the noise of opposition. It's even harder when that voice is your own."

Human-born Nyssa is destined to be Queen of the Fae, alongside her consort Kellen, the man who literally stepped from her dreams. But not everyone in Faery is happy about Nyssa's arrival, least of all Elfric, self-appointed Chief of the Southern Clans. Elfric wants to be King, and has allies in unexpected quarters.

Kellen has struggles of his own as his sister, Nerida, refuses to continue the charade of friendship with Nyssa. Nerida has a deep-seated hatred of humans, and there's little anyone can do to change her feelings.

A Faery Union continues the tale of Nyssa and Kellen begun in A Faery Dream, as they fight the outside forces set to tear them apart. Can their love hold strong through the lies and deceit of those around them? Or will Nyssa discover that destiny isn't always destined to be?

'A Faery Dream' and 'A Faery Union' are both available from Steam eReads (www.steamereads.com.au/ authors/heather-kinnane/). Amazon and All Romance eBooks. To find out more. visit Heather's website: www.heatherkinnane.com.

From hitting the keys to plucking the strings

By Sara Fawcett

MANY OF US would not be aware that recently a memorial service was held at Quamby Estate in Hagley.

Those who attended were both those who had donated organs at their death and those who had received organs to improve their quality of life.

This ceremony was made particularly touching by Joanne Mitchelson's performances on the harp.

"It was a beautiful and moving event to be asked to participate in," she said.

For festivals, concerts and other functions around the state Joanne performs on the harp or the pan flute, which she has just recently gotten back into.

continuseek enhance ally to my harp skills . . ."

Joanne's musical endeavours began right back in primary school. She originally began playing her at friends' weddings and has gone on to do many other gigs.

As Joanne herself explained, "I have learned music since a young age, at first piano during primary school and I also began flute during this time.



Jo with her harp

After primary school I gave up piano in favour of flute."

Now she has been playing

the harp for ten years.

"I continually seek to enhance my harp skills and presently take lessons with Michael Jeffries," she said.

"I have also been teaching the harp for three years now. I believe that continuing lessons myself makes me a better teacher."

And Joanne isn't just a musician, but a painter, too.

As Sue Cimino, who has met Joanne, said, "her watercolours are extroadinary."

So not only does Joanne perform on harp and flute but she exhibits her paintings as well.

"In October I have been asked to play for a garden festival at Highfield Estate, Stanley. They have also offered me a room in the house for an exhibition of my

work," she said.

Joanne has a website which people can go to for directions on where her paintings can be purchased.

They can also use this site to hire her to play the harp at: weddings and other events.

This website is part of the : usiness Joanne has created from her music and artwork.

On top of the many invitation she receives to perform or exhibit, Joanne has been accepted into the government funded NEIS New Enterprise Incentive Scheme - to help support her in setting up this business.

It was through this scheme: that Sue and Joanne met.

For further information on Joanne and what she: does, visit her website at: www.joannemitchelson.: com.au



Valleyviews

Mayor's Message

Council adopted its budget for the 2014-15 financial year at the June Council meeting. This year Council has been very conscious to deliver a reasonable budget despite the pressure of external factors. A general rate increase of 3 percent was approved to keep pace with inflation and ensure the sustainability of Council's longer term financial plan. Council understands that families and individuals face many financial pressures. Over the past seven years, Council has kept average rate increases to between 2 and 3 percent. A detailed copy of the budget can be found on Council's website.

Council released a number of development concepts for Prospect Vale and Blackstone Heights for public comment in June. I would like to thank the community for their continued support of this project – the feedback has been fantastic. Council and planning specialists Geographia are now reviewing all the comments with the aim of incorporating them into a draft Structure Plan for the area.

I would also like to take the opportunity to acknowledge Bob Loone who was posthumously recognised in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours with the Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division for service to local government, and to the community of Meander Valley.

> Until next month, stay warm and drive safely, **Craig Perkins** Mayor



July 2014

Council Updates

Friendly reminder: Dog registrations for 2014-15 are now due!

Please register your dog before 31 July to receive a discounted rate. If you have a new dog that needs to be registered please contact Council on 6393 5300 to obtain a new dog registration form, or visit Council's website. Fees for 2014-15 are as follows:

	1	r
	Regular Fee	Payment on or before 31 July 2014
Domestic Dog Not Desexed	\$58.00	\$42.00
Domestic Dog Desexed	\$27.00	\$14.00
Working Dog	\$18.50	\$8.00
Greyhound	\$18.50	\$8.00
Purebreed for breeding	\$24.00	\$12.00
Pensioners Dog (one per pension card)	\$24.00	\$12.00
Guide/Hearing Dog (on production of suitable evidence by applicant)	Nil	Nil
Dangerous Dog	\$500	\$500
Guard Dog	\$58.00	\$42.00



Townscape, Reserves and Parks Special Committee (TRAP)

Council's TRAP committee currently meets on the third Thursday of every second month at Council Offices, Lyall Street, Westbury at 5.30pm. It consists of 3 Councillors, 3 Council officers and a number of community representatives. The role of the TRAP is to:

- Advise Council on the strategic development of townscapes, reserves and parks;
- Monitor the maintenance and facilitate the improvement of townscapes, reserves and parks; and
- Consult with the community regarding the development of townscapes, reserves and parks.

Due to a recent resignation, Council is seeking a representative from the community to be part of this special committee. Committee members are appointed by invitation from the Mayor.

Please direct expressions of interest to The Mayor at PO Box 102, Westbury no later than Friday 25 July 14. Enquiries please contact David Pyke on 6393 5316.

Council Website

You can now be kept up-to-date with Council's latest news. Visit the Latest News & Alerts page on Council's website. Click on the RSS feed button and follow the prompts to add to your browser favourites or feed reader.

Community Updates

26TEN Grants Program



Get the tools for life

The Program supports community organisations to run projects to improve the literacy, numeracy and communication skills of Tasmanians, and improve access to and participation in further education, training and employment. There are two levels of funding: \$5K -\$20K and \$20K - \$50K. Generally projects will run for 12 months or less. Applications close 25 July 2014. Visit the Skills Tasmania website for more information.

www.skills.tas.gov.au/skillstas/adultliteracyprograms

Westbury Week 1-8 November 2014 a new focus

Westbury Week is an annual celebration that has run over seven days in October since 2011. It involved workshops, concerts and activities for all ages based at the Town Hall and Supper Room.

2014 will see a new format that invites all Westbury businesses and community groups to provide an experience or event in any location within the Town. It will open the program up to more varied activities and showcase Westbury's many attractions to visitors and residents alike. The dates have been shifted too to include Pearns Steam Up Week-end and the Westbury Show.

If you would like to offer something in Westbury Week 2014 (large or small!) please contact patrick.gambles@ mvc.tas.gov.au or call 6393 5300. All events will be listed and promoted through a central program.



Westbury Week 2013

MV University of the Third Age (U3A)

Meander Valley U3A is a self-help learning community for people in retirement or semi-retirement. Its programs usually run in 6-8 week blocks and are often free, visit www.mvu3a.org for more information.

Diary Dates

Men & Women's Friendship Group

For a cuppa, a chat and some laughter Mondays 1–3 pm at the Day Care Centre beside Deloraine Hospital. All Welcome.

Markets

Little Red Tractor Farmers Market, Deloraine

Every two weeks, Sat 12 & 26 July ongoing

Westbury Market

Third Saturday of every month, Sat 19 July **Deloraine Market**

First Saturday of every month, Sat 2 August

Valley Views can be read at any time by visiting the website, click

on Community, Culture and Recreation and then Community News.

Council Offices

PO Box 102

26 Lyall Street, Westbury

General Enquiries

Phone Fax

6393 5300 6393 1474

8:30am-5:00pm

Email mail@mvc.tas.gov.au www.meander.tas.gov.au Web



12 July 2014 RURAL Meander Valley Gazette

Another kind of stock market

FARMERS CAN choose to sell their animals in one of three ways - in the stock yards, directly to the butcher or through a stock agent.

Michael Grant, the Chief Executive of Greaves Marketing Services, is one such stock agent. He deals with both cattle and sheep.

He was a farmer for 30 years, then spent 5 years with Roberts as an agronomist followed by another 2 years working with a private client base. His current business was started by a close friend and business partner. When he died Michael bought the business from his friend's widow and has been doing this now for about 5 years.

He can go out to a farm, look at a thousand sheep, separate them out and weigh them and is then able to tell the farmer how much he will get for each group of sheep.

Because a major part of his job is to continually keep on top of available prices, he knows how much they'll yield, how much their skins will be worth and how much the trucking is going to cost.

He is constantly in touch with what is happening in markets round the country and can pick up trends. No farmer would have the time to do this.

Michael can advise his clients on the best courses of action. For example, it may be worthwhile to hold on to certain groups of lambs if the feed is available because prices are trending up or get rid of them now as they are heading down. He can then sell them to whomever will pay the best price.

His long experience also allows Michael to be able to assess the condition of the sheep. If he knows what they've been fed he will have a fair idea of the amount of internal fat they'll be carrying and their general state of health which may not be visible at first glance. There is quite a significant penalty imposed by the abattoirs if animals fall under certain weights - it can be up to \$1 a kilo.

Requests for forward contracts from abattoirs who are asking for animals in some future months are becoming more common.

One of the other advantages of using a stock agent is that it cuts down on the movement of stock and thus reduces stress to the animals.

Michael organises all the trucking for his clients. His aim is to try and keep trucks full so that farmers aren't paying extra for empty space. Because he's dealing in bulk he can fill the trucks. Whenever possible, he uses local trucks in order to support businesses in the area.

His company has an agreement to supply Woolworths with about 25,000 lambs a year but he also sends lambs to JBS at Longford, MC Herd in Geelong and Australian Lamb Company in Colac.

He markets mainly to Tasmania and Victoria and a little in NSW but the transport costs kill anything much further afield.

For abattoirs wishing to export meat there are two types of licence. A level 1 licence permits the meat to be exported to prime markets such as the US and UK. A level 2 licence is necessary to ship meat or livestock to places like the Middle East.

In Tasmania there is one abattoir with a level 1 export licence for sheep and cattle (JBS Group) and one for



Michael with one of his dogs

just cattle (H. W. Greenham and Sons).

Tasmanian Quality Meats (TQM) has a level 2 licence, as has Devonport City Abattoirs, and exports merino sheep to the Middle East markets.

These licences are a guarantee of quality; Australia can ill afford to turn its back on any market but the welfare of livestock is paramount.

Tasmania ships quite a number of live sheep and a a few cattle to the Mainland. Michael would prefer to keep more animals here as it would benefit the local economy but, unfortunately, it is important to have interstate competition.

All livestock and carcasses go out of Devonport or Burnie. 1,000 lamb carcasses go to Brisbane each week from the Devonport abattoir.

consumers Increasingly want to know more about the livestock they're eating. So those involved with animals at all stages of their lives have to be a lot more careful on animal welfare issues. In the past, if a sheep looked a bit dicy they would let them go; but no longer.

Tasmania's reputation as a place where animals are hormone free and its image as a place of rich, green paddocks where sheep and cattle graze peacefully is of great value to the island. There's a Brisbane butcher who runs videos, on his counter, of Tasmanian lambs

feeding contentedly on lush pastures and customers respond very strongly to this.

He sees the eventual demise of the sale yard. Traditionally all stock went to the sale yard and was bid for at auction and was then sent to an abattoir.

There is much more uncertainty selling animals this way as there may be extraneous factors outside the farmer's control that may affect the price on the day the sheep are offered.

In addition, it means one more journey for the stock to take and it is better that they are subjected to as little travel as possible and they'll be in far better condition if they're sent direct from the farm.

There are about half a dozen private operators like him in the state and, between them, now do a significant amount of the state's business. This form of marketing has become widely accepted in Tasmania and New Zealand but the Mainland has proved much more reluctant to change from using sale yards

Michael and his wife also breed and train sheepdogs as a hobby. He was a shepherd in New Zealand in an area where, if you didn't have a decent pack of dogs, you didn't come home with any sheep. What started from necessity, became a hobby which has turned into a passion. He is the president of the Tasmanian Working Sheepdog Association.

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Farm Finance Concessional Loans

THE TASMANIAN Farm- ongoing financial resilience ers and Graziers Association (IFGA) have appointed 2 field officers to promote the Australian Government Farm Finance Concessional Loan Scheme. TFGA's role in the program is to provide a point of reference for farmers considering applying for financial assistance and to assist potential applicants to understand the loan application forms/process, eligibility/assessment criteria and other documentation.

Farm Finance is an Australian Government initiative that aims to build the of Farm Businesses, including through the provision of Concessional Loans. In Tasmania, the Concessional Loans Scheme will assist Farm businesses experiencing debt servicing difficulties or needing assistance with productivity enhancements to assist them to remain viable in the longer term.

Further details about the program can be found at www.tfga.com.au/in-thenews/farm-finance-package/ or contact David Dunn or Mark Gaetani at the TFGA on 6332 1800.

BUSINESS July 2014 13 Meander Valley Gazette

Keeping the Taxman happy

By Sam Horsman **Business Principal PJS Financial**

MOST PEOPLE are terrified with the thought of dealing with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), there are a few simple things to do that can keep the taxman happy and make life easier if you do need to deal with him.

Record keeping

Keeping good records of your income and deductions not only makes it easier for you when it comes time to lodge your tax return and ensures you do not miss out on any deductions, it also makes things smoother when you receive a letter from the ATO to provide additional information.

Only claim what you are entitled to

The Australian taxation system works on a self assessment basis, which that individuals complete their own tax return (or use a registered tax agent) and advise the ATO of their income for the year and the deductions they are entitled to without having to provide any evidence or documentation up front.

This means that it can often be tempting to claim things that you aren't entitled to, like motor vehicle expenses, donations or uniform costs. If you have over claimed for some reason the ATO will normally still issue your refund entitlement, but they have a two-year window of opportunity for individuals (four years for those involved with businesses) that they can go back and amend your tax return.

It is not usually until 12 to 18 months after your tax return has been lodge that they will review it in detail and send out a please explain letter if anything looks out of order.

When this happens the onus of proof will always remain on the taxpayer to prove what they have included.

If you are unable to provide the right documentation the ATO will amend the return and charge you interest and possibly penalties for any tax shortfall.

Respond within the time frames

If the ATO does send you a letter that requires a response from you, don't ignore it. Ignoring a letter simply gives

them a green flag to make the changes they want.

If you require more time to respond to them, contact them and ask.

Usually they are happy to accommodate such a request. Make sure you keep records and notes of all your interactions with the ATO, including notes and details of phone calls.

Lodge on time, every time

Another way to stay friendly with the taxman is by lodging your income tax return time on every time; **Business** this includes Activity Statements and Instalment Activity Statements.

Late returns and unpaid balances are essentially a major red flag and call unwanted attention from the ATO, potentially triggering a request to audit.

Following these principles does not guarantee you won't be audited or contacted by the ATO, but if you are, things will be such smoother and straight forward in dealing with them.

Disclaimer: This article is general in nature and should not be consider financial or tax advice.

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Business Principal



Sibelco - producing something for everyone

By Sheila Ferguson

SIBELCO WAS founded in 1872 in Belgium and has grown to be one of the largest industrial minerals companies in the world.

It began operations in Australia and New Zealand in 2000 and now employs over 1,300 people.

Australia Sibelco Ltd operates the Mole Creek Limeworks, which acquired in 2002 as part of its acquisition of David Mitchell Ltd who founded the original operation in 1972.

There are currently 30 full time employees from the local community plus additional contractors split between the quarry, processing plant, maintenance, administration & sales.

Limestone is quarried for further processing on site into various size aggregates and crushed stones as well as downstream processing to produce Lime products (Quicklime and Hydrated Lime).

The limestone is extracted through conventional drill and blast quarrying methods in an open cut pit.

Once it is extracted from the quarry the limestone is processed through a crushing plant which breaks the stone down and it is then screened to produce various

sized products for direct sale or further processing on site.

Among the products that the works at Mole Creek produce are: limestone aggregates, crushed limestone, agricultural lime (sold in Tasmania as Mole Creek Aglime), quicklime hydrated lime (Limil).

Lime, one of man's oldest and most vital chemicals, is often confused with Limestone, from which it is derived. Farmers often refer to "liming" soils, but chances are they are using pulverised Limestone, not Lime (Quicklime or Hydrated Lime).

Quicklime is manufactured by calcining (reducing, oxidizing, or drying by exposure to strong heat) high quality Limestone at elevated temperature, when nearly half of the stone's weight is lost as carbon dioxide.

Hydrated Lime, in turn, is produced by reacting Quicklime with sufficient water to form a dry, white powder.

There are a multitude of uses for Sibelco's products. Industries which use them include: potable and waste water treatment plants, metals extraction, chemical extraction, building and road construction, agriculture, domestic landscaping, environmental rehabilitation among several others.

According Sales



Leon Porter, Operations Manager, Mole Creek

Manager, Tim Jones, the greatest proportion of Lime & Limestone products sold from Mole Creek are used for environmental improvement such as the pH adjustment of soil & water across: Tasmania.

Sibelco strives to oper-: ate in a safe, healthy and: tips and tactics for success. sustainable manner whilst minimising environmental: impacts. They have strong and robust international standards of risk management, including maintaining the visual amenity of the area and the potential impact to the community of their operations.

The Operations Manager of the operation is Leon Porter, who was born and bred in Exton and still lives on the farm where he grew up, which has been in his family since 1850.

Learning to sell your product

MACTAVISH WEST is a Hobart based, independent, scientific, engineering and marketing consultancy providing near market expertise and a common sense, can-do approach.

Dr Hazel MacTavish-West has worked with many businesses in Tasmania including Houston's Farm, Ranicar Pacific and Premium Fresh Tasmania to name a few.

The company has developed a workshop all about new food product development, to be held at the Deloraine Community Complex on Saturday, 4th August starting at 9.30am.

The event will inform people who are interested in developing and launching new food products about

There will be international, national and local speakers, experienced in the process of successful food product development and launches.

Speakers include Scott Davidson, (Head of Produce, Woolworths), Stuart Todd (Colmar Brunton, consumer analysis, particularly of the Asian market place), Garth Midgely (developer of Chocorn and winner of Recipe to Riches) plus local faces including Ashgrove Cheese, Houston's Farm, Spreyton Fresh, Davies Collison Cave



Garth Midgely, Chocorn

and Bioflex Nutrition.

There will also be exhibitors with a range of new products at the event, including Diemen Pepper, RhuBru and Nutrafruit, plus service providers.

It's going to be a great day and should help all the Tasmanian foodies (and farmers!) who want to take their innovative products to the world, without investing in unnecessary processes or without making costly mistakes.

Costs to attend are \$110 and there will be an optional factory tour of John Ranicar's Forager Foods facility and Ashgrove Cheese factory too.

For more information, please contact hazel@mactavishwest.com.au

14 July 2014 Meander Valley Gazette

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EVENTS

M.V. DINING EXPERIENCE

THEATRE Restaurant 25th July 3 course meal + 2 act play. Bookings are essential. Please contact 0437 075 266 or laurawindow@live.com.au Our August event will be a Gala Dinner Dance featuring Deloraine Big Band. register now for advance bookings.

M.V. DINING EXPERIENCE

FOOD & Wine Market 30th - 31st August. Stall holders can apply to laurawindow@live.com.au

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LOST & FOUND

MISSING - LILAC & BLUE BURMESE

"MOET" (Lilac/Cream) and "Luna" (Blue/Grey) missing from Bonney St. Deloraine. Both de-sexed (non-breeding and micro-chipped. pair) Please call 0409 811 956 with any information. Very loved and greatly missed. Large **reward** for the safe return - no questions asked.

THANK YOU

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DELORAINE & DISTRICT FIGHTBACK CAMPAIGN

Let's Do It.

Deloraine Adult Riding Club

By Jane Becker

DELORAINE ADULT Riding Club was founded in response to the popularity of "Pony Club" for "grownups"! Many adults have never had the opportunity to attend Pony Club or are coming back to riding after a long absence due to career or family commitments and need a safe, fun and stress free environment to help regain skills and confidence.

The Northern Adult Riding Club was reaching capacity in terms of membership so with their blessing we sought support from Deloraine Pony Club to set up DARC. The club has a modest but expanding membership and meets on the last Saturday of every month - weather permitting.

The focus is on fun and skill development whilst sharing adventures (and misadventures) with friends. There is a fair bit of hyperventilating - especially XC and we often joke that it is hard to know which is louder - teeth chattering or knees knocking but at the end of the day everyone has achieved a great deal in terms of confidence and horsemanship.

We have two regular instructors and two others who give up their time when available.

The cost of rallies is \$15.00 per head and we share a lunch for an average of \$3 - \$4 pp. Membership includes insurance through PCAT and is currently set at \$110 per annum. Our focus is on

dressage or other flat riding skills, including showcraft and medieval games. There are plenty of opportunities to improve showjumping and XC skills and the timid can take advantage of basic pole work to build enjoyment and confidence.

The club aims to raise funds for guest instructors and equipment by holding some sponsored trail rides including one to the Sheffield Pub for lunch (watch this space!) We also hope to run a short course ODE for grades 3 - 5 and all the "old buffers" who would like to join us.

For more information please contact Jess Williams 6497 2029 or Jane Becker 6497 2154.

Meander Valley District Calendar of Equestrian Events

14th to 21st July, International Quiz Competition,26th July, Deloraine Adult

26th July, Deloraine Adult Riding Club 27th July, Showjumping

Tasmania Talent Identification Event Kingbrough Equestrian Ground

27th July, Trail ride, Patersonia, Tasmanian Mountain Cattlemens Association, TMCA members invited to attend, contact Craig Von Stieglitz 0419 539 497

30th July, Dressage Day, Dressage Tasmania, Gravelly Beach, contact clearviewgardens2@bigpond.com Judy Atkinson, 0424 022 558 2nd & 3rd August, Pony Club Association of Tasmania, David Quik Equitation Seminar for Coaches, Judges and Pencillers, Westbury Showground contact A Graves agraves@activ8.net.au 10th August, Rally, Birralee and Districts Pony Club

noth August, Rally, Deloraine and Districts Pony Club

17th August, Dressage Tasmania, Northern Zone event Gravelly Beach, contact Judy Atkinson, 0424 022 558 or clearviewgardens2@bigpond.com

23rd August, Endurance Ride, NEEC – Jolly Lette Memorial – Santarena Park Scottsdale, 5km, 20km, 40km and 80km please contact Megan a'Campo on 0437 505 070.

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Meander Valley Gazette 16 July 2014

SPORT

Deloraine Football Club Celebrates 120 Years of History

age and was drafted to Bris-

bane; he eventually played 94

Senior games finishing with

the Western Bulldogs. Jason

Gibson played in the Under

16s, Under 19s and Seniors

before going to Hawthorn in

1988. He returned to the Club

as coach in 2001 and took

the Kangaroos to sixth spot

on the ladder, just missing

the finals in the year Burnie

and North Launceston re-

turned to the NTFL. Anthony

Loone was drafted to Carlton,

an AFL powerhouse team

and back in the 1960s Ron

McGowan went to Footscray.

Deloraine Football Club will

celebrate its 120th Anniversary with a game against the highly fancied Bridgenorth

Parrots during the day followed by a function on the

same night at the Deloraine

football ground. There is

On Saturday July 26th, the

By Danny Ross

THE DELORAINE Football Club was formed in 1894 and has journeyed through different competitions across the North of the State during its long history. Playing solely local competitions prior to the Second World War, the club has since participated in several competitions including the NWFU, the Northern District League, NTFA, NTFL and the Esk Association.

Up until the 1980s the club predominantly wore black and white and a Magpie emblem before the most radical change came in 1984 when they changed to blue and white stripes and became known as the Kangaroos.

Though Senior Premierships have been rare of late, the club does boast 27 premierships with its most recent premiership sequence occurring in the 70s under John Williams. During this period the Club won the 1975/76/78 and 79 Premiership Flags.

The Reserves won back to back Premierships in the NTFA in 2006/7 and the Under 18s failed by just a kick to win the 2009 Grand Final.

As well as the three Senior teams the Deloraine FC also



The Deloraine FC Clubrooms, venue for the big night of celebrations

fields Under 10s, Under 12s and Under 14s in the NTIFA competition. This competition covers a large area, spreading from Deloraine to Scottsdale to the East Coast and up the Tamar Valley. The Under 14 team is currently battling for a top three spot on the ladder.

The junior body has been well run by Craig Lovell, a player with some 200 games under his belt. This year the Club will be hosting the Preliminary Finals.

Over the years the Deloraine FC has been the starting point for some big careers. Trent Bartlett played in the seniors at 15 years of

played on the day with the Seniors battling it out for a top three finish, the Reserves sitting on top of the ladder and the Juniors just outside the five. Some former coaches and personalities of yesteryear will be in attendance

interest in all the games being

including Ian Donnachy, John "Gomer" Williams, Goughy Howe, Goosie Morice and Phil Moir.

If you have been involved with the club as a player, supporter, committee member, trainer, sponsor or whatever, the Club extends a warm invitation to you to join in the celebrations. And, if you have brothers, uncles, sisters, aunties, cousins or whatever, please pass on the message that they are all welcome to join in as well.

The Juniors will kick off

at 10 am, followed by the Reserves and then the Seniors. And after that the big night of celebrations will begin and no doubt there will be many yarns and stories (some true) and perhaps a little gossip floating around the clubrooms during the evening.

This will be a sensational night and the club looks forward to catching up with its many friends both past and present. Shaun Donohue, President of the Deloraine FC, who has been very proactive in recruiting Rory Mansell to the Club as Senior coach, is looking forward to catching up with everyone.

For further information about the Deloraine FC 120th **Anniversary** Celebrations, please ring John on 0418 697 061.



The 1902 Premiership team

Good practice for local basketballers

THE DELORAINE Junior Basketball club will be hosting a u/18 social match on Friday 18th July in the Deloraine Community Complex.

The Launceston team Japara will be coming out to take on the local girls and boys teams in what is sure to

The event will give the local kids the opportunity

to match their skills against other opponents and gain some good practice before the roster restarts after the school holiday break.

The Girls game is at 6:00pm and the Boys at 7:00pm.

All families are invited to come and encourage the young local basketballers and give them a real home court advantage.



Basketballer Blayke Lehman

Picture: Karen Lehman

Deloraine Darts Results for June

25/06/2014

BRITISH TWO 6 (Owen 2 x 100, Buffy 70, 53 peg)

V BRITISH ONE 3 (Mark 3 x 100, Graham 2 x 100)

DELORAINE HOTEL 2 (Simon 2 x 100 62 peg, Jamie 3 x

V BRITISH KIMBERLEY 7 (Paul 9 x 100, Aaron 5 x 100, Ken 76 peg)

RSL 7 Mark 6 x 100 72, 91 pegs, George 4 x 100 60 peg)

V MEANDER TWO 2 (Jared 7 x 100, Zinzan 73 peg, Dan 52 peg)

BUSH INN 2 (Frosty 5 x 100, JD 3 x 100)

V MEANDER ONE 7 (Ray 7 x 100, Scott 180, Wally 152 peg) 18/06/2014

MEANDER TWO 5 (Jared 3 x 100, Zinzan 3 x 100, Terry 54 peg)

V BRITISH TWO 4 (Alan 2 x 100, Owen 3 x 100 44 peg)

KIMBERLEY 9 BRITISH (FORFEIT)

V BUSH INN o

BRITISH ONE 6 (Steve 3 x 100 47 peg, Mark 140)

V DELORAINE HOTEL 3 (Keith 3 x 100, Greg 115)

MEANDER ONE 3 (Roger 5 x 100, Ray 180, Steve 3 x 100 112 peg, Nathan 3 x 100 70 peg) V RSL 6 (Mark 7 x 100, Dale

3 x 100, George 3 x 100)

11/06/2014

MEANDER TWO 6 (Dan 6 x 100, 60 peg, 77 peg, Zinzan

V MEANDER ONE 3 Roger 3 x 100, Nathan 57 peg)

RSL 4 (Mark 7 x 100 and 170 peg, George 88 peg, Dale 4 x

V BRITISH KIMBERLEY 5 (Aaron 13 dart game and 6 x 100, Paul 72 peg and 3 x 100)

BRITISH TWO 7 (Owen 100 peg, Simon 2 x 100, Buffy 2 X 100)

V DELORAINE HOTEL 2 (Cam 2 x 100 and 64 peg)

BUSH INN 3 (JD 6 x 100, Phil 4 x 100 100 peg, Beau 180 and 60 peg

V BRITISH ONE 6 (Steve 4 x 100, Graham 72 peg)

4/06/2014

BRITISH KIMBERLEY 6 (Paul 3 x 100 81 peg, Chris 180

V MEANDER TWO 3 (Dan

DELORAINE HOTEL 1

V BUSH INN 8 (Beau 6 x 100, JD 5 x 100, Frosty 5 x 100 60 peg and 15 dart game)

MEANDER ONE 8 (Ray 4 x 100, Grant 60 peg, Steve 55

V BRITISH TWO 1 (Owen

55 peg and 57 peg) BRITISH ONE 2 (Steve 3 x

100 76 peg)

V RSL 7 (Mark 6 x 100, Dale 5 x 100 63 peg, George 66 peg, Mark/George 15 dart 501)