

# Meander Valley Gazette

FREE! Every Month

September 2014

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper



## SERVING UP SOMETHING DIFFERENT

Gourmet farming

> **RURAL PAGE 12**



## TAKING ONE STEP AT A TIME

Helping Corom

> **FEATURE PAGE 8**



## INDOOR BOWLS FINAL GOES TO LAST BALL

Red Hills on top

> **SPORT PAGE 16**

## New season's arrivals!



Phyllis Moore celebrates the arrival of spring with Victoria and daffodils

Photo by Mike Moores

## Plans for future Recreation and Sports Precinct

By Danny Ross

IN FEBRUARY 2012 the Meander Valley Council commissioned Treadwell Management to compile the Deloraine and Westbury Sport and Recreation Rationalisation Study.

The aim of the study was to investigate existing sport and recreation facilities within Deloraine and Westbury and create a 10-year blueprint for sport and recreation infrastructure in these areas.

A team of dedicated leaders from sporting and community groups has come together to form the Deloraine Districts Community and Sport Precinct (DDCSP) working group.

The DDCSP is focused on improving the public, sporting and

recreational facilities in Deloraine.

The working group recognises the benefit of sport as a means of uniting people of varied socio-economic backgrounds, culture and age groups within the community.

Deloraine has a proud sporting history and has a stadium that is the envy of many towns of comparable size. But this stadium is aging and no longer meets the needs of the community.

With runoff areas being inadequate and dangerous, along with a leaking roof, the auditorium has long been a difficult space to manage.

Article continues on back page...



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## Rotary Pavillion Kitchen Upgrade

IF YOU have ever tried to run a function at the Rotary Pavilion in the past and been frustrated with preparing or warming food in the kiosk, here is some good news for you.

Rotary has responded to community demand and redeveloped the kitchen which now offers a state-of-the-art commercial kitchen with two gas cookers with electric ovens, a push through dishwasher, two fridges



Rotary Pavilion's new kitchen

(one still to come), a bain-marie, central movable island, stainless steel benches and much more.

All that is needed now is for community members or organisations to put this wonderful new kitchen to good use. This might be to have a function or event there or to use the new kitchen if you are setting up a business to sell food products.

Importantly, the Meander Valley Emergency Management and Community Recovery Committee has identified the Rotary Pavilion and Community Complex as suitable facilities to use in the case of a community disaster or emergency.

The long term plan is to upgrade the whole facility to be able to offer meeting room and conference facilities in the future. With this in

mind, the old indoor cricket centre of the Pavilion has been lined and there are plans to re-carpet it.

You are invited to view the new kitchen between 9.30am to 12.30pm on Saturday 20th of September. Maybe after your visit to the Little Red Tractor Farmers Market you could drop by for a free cuppa and view the new kitchen and up-graded indoor cricket centre.

It's also a great opportunity to see if the facilities suit you or your organisation, suggest other changes, or discuss use of the meeting room, kitchen or the old indoor cricket area. Costs are yet to be determined but feedback on these would also be welcomed.

Rotary Pavilion looks forward to seeing you on Saturday, 20th September.

## Westbury road improvements under way

CONSTRUCTION has begun on a roundabout for Westbury Road and Vale Street to create a safer intersection for both motorists and pedestrians.

Mr Truss, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, said he was pleased to be funding improvements along Westbury Road, including the new roundabout that will significantly reduce the number of accidents at the site.

"Whether we are talking about our \$400 million investment in the Midland Highway, or our \$500,000 contribution to improving

Westbury Road, there can be no doubt that the Australian Government is working to make Tasmania's roads safer" Mr Truss said.

Federal Member for Bass Andrew Nikolic said the planning, design and community consultation for the project had been developed by Council over the last four years.

"I am also pleased to say the construction contract was awarded to a fully Tasmanian owned and operated company, Venarchie Civil Contracting Pty Ltd," Mr Nikolic said.

"Construction will include new shared pedestrian and cycling paths, new bus stops and additional crossing

points for pedestrians. LED lighting will also be trialed as an energy saving initiative."

Mayor of Meander Valley Craig Perkins said construction is expected to take 12 weeks, weather permitting.

"It is great to think that in around three months traffic will be flowing better, making it much safer for both drivers and pedestrians moving around the Prospect Vale Marketplace," Cr Perkins said.

The Australian Government and Meander Valley Council are jointly funding the project.

Article submitted by Meander Valley Council

## Be careful what you put in those bins

OVER THE last 16 months many householders in Meander Valley have had their kerbside recycling bin assessed by staff from the Northern Tasmanian Waste Management Group (NTWMG).

Contamination in the bins, such as food, nappies, lawn clippings and plastic bags, hamper the recycling process and cause hazards for the sorting staff at recycling facilities.

"Things like electrical items, plastic bags and coat hangers can ruin good recyclables, damage collection trucks and even cause injuries to the people who sort your recycling," according to Harry Galea, the NTWMG chair.

Bins with too much contamination are not collected by the recycling truck and have to go to landfill, wasting the good



MVG Mayor, Craig Perkins having his bin assessed by Mary Gill

recyclables in the bin.

The results from the assessments show most people are doing well and want to recycle correctly.

A common contaminant in recycling bins is soft plastics like bags, film, & bubble wrap.

Recycling must also be put in the bin loose, not in plastic bags, boxes or other containers. Newspapers should not be tied in bundles and shredded paper is not suitable.

"Reducing the amount of contamination will ensure

we reduce the amount of rubbish headed for landfill," Mr Galea said.

Assessments are as follows:

1. Each kerbside recycling bin under the assessment will be checked three times.

2. A pass or fail sticker will be left on each bin after each inspection.

3. A form outlining the reason for the decision will be left in the resident's mailbox.

For more information on how to recycle correctly, visit [www.rethinkwaste.com.au](http://www.rethinkwaste.com.au)

# Meander Valley Gazette

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Manager: Joanne Eisemann

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Woolworths, Deloraine  
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Hadspen IGA  
Hadspen Newsagent  
Hagley Four Square Supermarket and Newsagent  
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Mole Creek Supermarket  
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Wayside Newsagency & Takeaways, Prospect Vale  
Andy's Bakery, Westbury  
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Meander Valley Council Offices, Westbury  
Westbury IGA

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](mailto:meandervalleysouth@gmail.com) for assistance with story writing. For other areas, please contact our editor, Sheila, via [editor@meandervalleygazette.com](mailto:editor@meandervalleygazette.com)

While every care is taken the producers of Meander Valley Gazette cannot be held liable for any publication errors in written material or advertisements. The opinions expressed, whether by paid advertisement or editorial content do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper. Some material may be abbreviated due to space availability.

### 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](mailto:general@meandervalleygazette.com) and we will check with our distribution team.

Month	Advertising Deadline	Editorial Deadline	Distribution
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

## Serving great coffee across Meander Valley

A GREAT CUP of coffee is not all that easy to make, but often sought after.

Some of the variables in making a great coffee include the right coffee blend, milk, temperature, equipment and the skill of the coffee maker or barista.

With all that in mind, an advanced barista course was recently run courtesy of the Deloraine Trade Training Centre, sponsored by Deloraine on the Move and the Meander Valley Council.

Run by Tim Jarosz of Ritual Coffee, the coffee-making skills of the following attendees were refined – you might want to seek them out at your favourite coffee shop:

- Caitlin at Amble Inn, Deloraine.
- Kim at Café Bozzey, Mole Creek.
- Marnie and Taylah at the Deloraine Deli.
- Gracienne at Frogs Bakery, Deloraine.
- Sarah at Marakoopa Café.
- Joel at Sullivans, Deloraine.

• Joanne at Meander Bridge Café.

Not just for satisfying local tastes, better coffee is a tourist “magnet” and if that good cup of coffee you have been searching for can be obtained at any of the coffee outlets in the Valley, then everyone’s a winner.

And to show how serious the sponsors are about making sure good coffee is available in the Valley, plus improving the skill levels of our young people, another training course for nine potential baristas will be held in September.

In addition, later in the year, the Rotary Club of Deloraine will be holding a “Best Barista” competition with prize money to encourage excellence in our local coffee makers.

For more information on the September course, contact Berice van der Aa on 6362 8900.



Budding Baristas - Marnie Watson, Kim Rye, Taylah Aulich and Caitlin Berne

## Western Tiers Community Club

THE DELORAINE Senior Citizens Club rooms in Parsonage Street have had a name change. From now on the premises will be known as the Western Tiers Community Club.

This has come about following discussions amongst the current members who have acknowledged that these facilities are being under-utilised, in particular, by senior citizens.

It has been decided to promote the venue to the wider community and perhaps attract other user groups and/or individuals to become aware of the availability of this venue for such events as birthday parties,

meetings, seminars, product display-sales and dances.

Kitchen facilities are available and anyone using the premises can decide whether to bring in their own caterers or use these amenities.

Currently, the facility is used for indoor bowls, cards, bingo, 8 ball, darts, old time dances and dinner functions.

The venue will still provide activities for senior citizens from in the Meander Valley area and visiting clubs but will now offer to the general community an alternative venue for use outside the hours of seniors’ activities.

Rates will vary and depend on the use for which the premises are required.

### Forthcoming events

Sunday 28th September 1.00pm to 4.00pm: fund-raising games afternoon including trivia, bingo, dutch auction, raffles etc. Cost \$10 per person

Funds being raised are for Special Olympics Tasmania - supporting athletes with an intellectual disability.

Sunday, 11th October 9.00am to 2.00pm: Mini Market with variety of stalls. Devonshire teas Table space at \$10 per table.

Any enquiries regarding these events or the hire of the facility should be directed to the President Barry Westwood on 6362 3592 (club) or 6362 2243 (home).

## A really big garage sale on 25th October

MAYOR, CRAIG Perkins has welcomed the involvement of Council in Australia’s fastest-growing reuse and community event, Garage Sale Trail.

“Local households, schools and community groups are set to join hundreds of thousands of Australians across the country on Saturday 25th October as part of Australia’s biggest garage sale,” Mayor Perkins said.

In partnering with Garage Sale Trail, Council saw an opportunity to promote a fun, creative and community-minded program for the benefit of residents and local organisations.

“The campaign provides everyone in our community with the chance to re-pur-



pose their unwanted belongings, live in a more sustainable fashion by reducing waste, connect with other locals, and raise some money for themselves or others,” Mayor Perkins added.

All householders, local

organisations, schools, community groups and charities can register garage sales for free via [www.garagesaletrail.com.au](http://www.garagesaletrail.com.au). And registration includes a seller webpage.

In 2013 over 350,000 Australians participated in



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21 <sup>st</sup> September	The Holy Spirit – Its Role and Purpose
28 <sup>th</sup> September	Archaeology that proves the Bible True
5 <sup>th</sup> October	One Bible – Why so many Churches?
12 <sup>th</sup> October	Does Man Possess an Immortal Soul?

**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](mailto:thebiblecourse@gmail.com)  
or write to - 17 Taylor Street, Westbury Tas. 7303

the campaign with over 1.5 million items listed for sale and re-use on the Garage Sale Trail website. On average, sellers met 13 other people from their neighbourhood on the day.

Find the Treasure in Your Neighbourhood

Now is the time to mark Saturday 25th October in your calendar and prepare for Garage Sale Trail 2014.

Join all the fun by either hosting your own garage sale or visiting some in your neighbourhood.

Australia’s fastest-growing sustainability and re-use event is a great chance to spring clean, declutter, make some money and meet the locals.

To register a sale for free or to see what’s on offer at other local sales visit [www.garagesaletrail.com.au](http://www.garagesaletrail.com.au).

# Start getting into shape with running . . . . or dancing!

THE WESTBURY Fun Run is ready to go in 2014!

An institution for the historic town, it provides some early spring exercise and an opportunity to socialise.

Whilst many find it a fun activity to be done at their own pace, some capitalise on the opportunity to prepare for other races such as the Burnie Ten.

Either way, with the fairly flat route taking in the town, village green and town common, it's an enjoyable way to spend some time outdoors. "Increasingly we're seeing families join in, some coming back year after year" Rotary Club of Westbury President Rob Dent observed. "They may lag behind the serious sprinters, but they seem to enjoy their arrival at the finish line, just the same."



Participants can choose between 4km and 8km runs.

Event organiser David Lee believes that this year's event will be one of the best. "The caterers are ready, we've got kids activities organised, and there's been some early interest through on-line registrations." The usual trophies and spot prizes are awarded immediately after the race, with plenty of water and fruit

on hand for participants.

The race gets under way at 10.45am on Sunday 14th September 2014, at the Westbury Recreation Ground. Participants are advised to register well ahead of race time on the day, or pre-register on-line at [www.registernow.com.au/Register.aspx?E=13538](http://www.registernow.com.au/Register.aspx?E=13538)

For more info Facebook "Rotary Club of Westbury" or contact David on 0408 747 374.

EACH MONTH for the last two plus years, anyone-who-loves-to-dance, has enjoyed the ambience and charm of the Weegena Hall. Driven by an energetic band of local musos, the hall pulses to gypsy, folk and hill-billy tunes for about 1 1/2 hours.

This community event started with the aim of making dancing accessible and fun for anyone-who-loves-to-dance! With this mission came the resolve to give back to our community and keep a country hall alive; this has been achieved. Circle Dance has donated \$450 to Deloraine House and is part of the vibrant Weegena Hall community.

Maggie and Linda, the founding dancers, are all smiles when each month a hall-full of revelling Circle Dancers gather to kick up



their collective heels!

Circle Dance is popular! Experience it yourself! Why? It's great fun and everyone is welcome! Crowds at this year's Forest Festival, String Festival and the Easter Family Festival had a fantastic time dancing the circle!

The next event is on Friday, 5th September from 7.00pm to 9.00pm at Weegena Hall, 8km from the Dunorlan turn off. It costs are \$2 for adults or \$5 for a family.

For further details please contact Maggie on 6368 1379 or Linda on 0417 081 671.

## Orchid Show

THE LAUNCESTON Orchid Society will be holding a Spring Show at Glenara Lakes Retirement Village Auditorium between Friday, 19th September and Sunday, 21st September. The hours are:

Friday: 2.00pm - 5.00pm  
Saturday: 10.00am - 5.00pm  
Sunday: 10.00am - 4.00pm

The Show is open to the public with sales of potting mix as well as plants. Orchid growing advice will also be available. This is a great opportunity to get some really good plants at a reasonable price.

Admission to the Show is \$5 and morning and afternoon teas are available.

In addition, this year, the Launceston Orchid Society, in conjunction with the show, are hosting the 20th



Coraki Gold "105" belonging to David Painter of George Town

State Conference. Speakers at the Conference are Wally Rhodes, Scott Barrie and Ray Clement.

The Conference is \$35 per person, which covers morning and afternoon tea and lunch.

For Conference information please ring David Painter on 6382 1467.

For further information about the Orchid Club contact the President, Priscilla, on 6330 1294.

## Other Events

### New Market in Liffey Valley

THE MARKET will be at the Old Liffey School on the second Saturday of the month starting 13th Sept 2014 to raise funds to replant the commemorative trees, honouring fallen soldiers from past wars. From 9.00am to 1.00pm.

Local honey, organic veges, collectables, garden enrichers, pony rides, new and preloved fashions, preserves, fudge, bric a brac, toys, books, tools, DVD's, hand made soaps and plants will be for sale as well as a delicious morning tea. For info phone Quenton: 6397 3670.

### Seniors Week in Meander Valley: 13th - 19th Oct 2014.

TUESDAY 14TH 11:45am - 2.00pm Seniors Week Luncheon at Deloraine Bowls Club. \$5 per person. For info call Deloraine House 6362 2678.

Wednesday 15th 10:30 - 3:00pm Seniors Week Picnic Village Green, Westbury (St. Andrew's Anglican Church hall opposite if weather inclement) for more info contact Florida 0418 134 304.

Wednesday 15th all day Seniors Indoor Bowls Carnival, Community Complex Deloraine. For more info call Western Tiers Community Club Inc (formerly Deloraine Senior Citizens Club Inc) 6362 3592 or Barry 6362 2243.

Thursday 16th 2.00pm - 4:30pm Learn about ebooks and eAudiobooks, Deloraine Library for more info contact Lark 6777 2456.

Friday 17th 10:30 - 11:45am Tour of the new LINC Family History Portal, Deloraine Online Access Centre. For info contact Joanne 6362 3537.

Friday 17th 6.00pm Club Tea, Western Tiers Community Club, Deloraine (Formerly Deloraine Senior Citizens Club) book by calling the club 6362 3592 or Barry 6362 2243.

### Deloraine House Activities, Services and Courses.

Enrolments essential: ph: 6362 2678; email: [info@delorainehouse.com.au](mailto:info@delorainehouse.com.au) - Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 10.00am-4.00pm.

### Gluten Free Cooking with Mary Jane Gerson

Learn to bake gluten free bread, pancakes and vegetable muffins. Thurs 4th Sept 11am-2pm. Enjoy the samples, morning tea & lunch. Recipes provided. Cost: \$15. Limited places, bookings

are essential.

Gluten Free Cooking 2: For those who attended last term. Thursday classes. Next session: 2nd October 11 - 2pm.

### Expressive Art for Families

Tue 30th Sept: doll making  
Fri 3rd Oct: mandala circles  
Tue 7th Oct: clay work  
Fri 10th Oct: mask making  
Time: 12.00 (join us for lunch)

Art activity 12.30pm - 3.00pm Facilitated by Sally Williams. Cost: \$10 per family (any number of children) per session. Fee includes art materials. As space is limited, bookings are essential.

### First Aid training

Renew your certificate or upgrade your CPR with Angela Enright. Sat 27th Sept. To enrol/enquire: 6362 3633.

## Art Exhibition

AFTER THE success of last year's inaugural exhibition, the Mole Creek Photography and Visual Arts Group will again showcase the talent of local artists at their exhibition on Saturday 13th and Sunday, 14th September at the Mole Creek Memorial Hall.

The exhibition is the showcase of work by members of the MCP&VAG as well as local artists and will feature classic framed photos of local people and places, creative photographic canvases and timeline essays,

paintings, drawings and sketches.

Come along and talk to the artists themselves. You may even take home a piece with you as various artworks will be for sale - all at very reasonable prices.

Along with the exhibition, market stalls featuring local produce and wares will also be in attendance.

This is a must do for anyone interested in photography and visual art. You are welcome to come along and talk to the artists to learn more.

Entry is gold coin donation. Doors open 10am - 4pm daily.



White Rose by Caitlin How



Deloraine Primary School Fundraiser

## Family Dance

with the

# Deloraine Big Band

Featuring Georgina Harvey

Friday 19th September

Where: Deloraine Primary School



Time: 7-9:30

Cost: \$5 Student

\$10 Adult

\$20 Family

(2 adults and

2 or more children)

A silent auction will be running through the night with fabulous items up for grabs!

A plate of supper to share would be appreciated.

For more information and ticket sales please contact 63628999

# Ex-business women of the world, unite!

YOU MAY never have heard of the Probus clubs but they are a world-wide organisation.

The word *Probus* is an amalgam of the words PROfessional and BUSiness.

Probus Clubs provide social, educational and recreational opportunities for retired professional and business people. The basic purpose of the clubs is to provide regular opportunities to keep members' minds active, expand their interests and meet new friends.

They began in the United Kingdom in 1965 and spread to Australia in 1976, where there are currently 1,690 clubs. The Deloraine Ladies Probus Club was founded in April 1989.

The Club is open to retired or semi-retired business or professional women, or those who formerly held responsible positions in the community.

Membership at the club is limited to 80.

Members pay an annual subscription fee and a joining fee that covers the cost of badges – an essential item at all Probus functions as it's not always easy remembering names! There is also a monthly meeting fee which covers the cost of refreshments.



**Mrs Beverly Davis cutting the Probus 25th Birthday cake on the 6th March 2014**

General meetings are held at the Rotary Pavilion, Deloraine Community Complex from 10am to 12 noon on the first Thursday of the month.

Members are encouraged to participate in one of the regular segments – Thought for the Day or A Story to Tell.

After morning tea there is a Guest Speaker. Recent topics have included Palliative Care in Northern Tasmania, Deloraine Community Car and Dragon Boats.

In addition to the monthly gathering, the Club undertakes regular outings to places of interest such as Woolmers Rose Gardens, Cancer Council headquarters and the Self Help Sheltered Workshop in Launceston.

New members are always welcome.

For further details please contact either Phyllis Cubitt (President) on 6362 2339 or Pauline Grey (Secretary) on 6367 8217.



### UMPIRES WANTED

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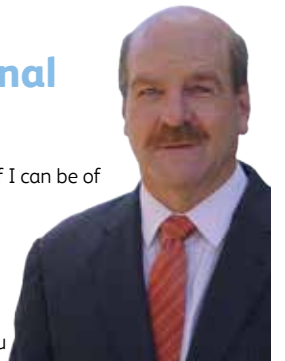
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e: mark.shelton@parliament.tas.gov.au



Tasmanian Liberals

Authorised by Mark Shelton, Parliament House, Hobart, TAS 7000

## Dawn VALLANCE running for councillor in October 2014

Please consider me for your number one vote in the up-coming elections for Meander Valley Council, with that in mind I would like to provide you with a brief profile.....

I have been a resident of Deloraine for 10 years.

My business background consists of 25 years in international and domestic freight; Certificate III Aged Care; 8 years as an electorate officer based in Deloraine in the office of Greg Hall MLC, Independent Member of the Legislative Council for Western Tiers. My role as an electorate officer has provided the opportunity to assist constituents with a wide variety of challenges, some of which have involved dealings with the 5 regional councils in the electorate.

I was a member of the Rotary Club of Deloraine for 5 years, having served as treasurer and a board member in community services.

I have served for several years as a Board member of Aged Care Deloraine and hope to continue in that role for many years to come.

The change in the process of electing all 9 councillors every 4 years is a very significant change and those elected will together assist to drive the direction of our council services for the next 4 years.

I strongly believe that local government employees and elected councillors are in the service of their community and I would be happy to advocate on behalf of people who are having difficulty dealing with issues relating to their council services.

I believe that party politics has no role in local government: I am not and never have been a member of any political party.

In my opinion your local council and councillors should:

- Focus on core services to ratepayers
- Deliver value for money to ratepayers
- Be balanced and fair
- Foster a "can do" attitude
- Encourage and facilitate appropriate development
- Drive economic development and support local business
- Support further development of activities engaging the youth of our community
- Foster the growth of services to the elderly and transitioning levels of support as needed
- Support independent living and transition to retirement



**VOTE 1 VALLANCE**

Authorised by Greg Hall MLC, 39 Elmers Road, Dunorlan 7304

## It's a devil of a time right now

By Sheila Ferguson

THE WORD *iconic* has come to be overused, but the Tasmanian Devil is truly an icon for the state. Even people who know nothing about Tasmania are likely to be familiar with its image – if only through the cartoon character “Taz”.

The other thing that many people know about the Tasmanian Devil is that its population has been devastated by Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD).

The place in Tasmania that has become almost inextricably linked with Devils is Trowunna Wildlife Park near Mole Creek which has been in existence for about 35 years.

As a result, when DFTD became recognised as a serious risk and the decision was made to try and build up insurance populations, Trowunna was ideally placed as it already had 8 generations of genetically diverse individuals.

Trowunna now has 65 devils plus the 11 which have just been born.

Despite their blood

curdling cries, it is now known that Devils are shy creatures who act as one of nature's forms of garbage disposal by scavenging, rather than hunting. They have evolved from being perceived as the farmer's enemy to being regarded with much less hostility.

Other animals that Trowunna is working to try to breed in the face of rapidly declining numbers include the Eastern and Spotted Tailed Quoll, which are both becoming endangered species and are now extinct on the Mainland.

### ***Trowunna is more of a wildlife sanctuary than a park***

Trowunna is owned by Andrew Kelly who has devoted his time and resources for the past 30 years to try to preserve Tasmania's natural wildlife. Because the Park is privately owned and therefore cannot be defined as a non-profit organisation, it is not eligible for any state or federal assistance. And running the park does not

come cheap.

The biggest expenditure is on food. Licenced hunters are used, but it costs \$3,500 a year just to feed each Devil.

Most of the work is done by volunteers without whom Trowunna could not function. A lot of orphans and injured animals are brought in and, according to Emily Duggan, the Sanctuary Manager, there is never a time when people who work there are not caring for some unfortunate animal.

Says Paul Ralley, head keeper, “Trowunna is more of a wildlife sanctuary than a wildlife park”.

There has been some help from the Zoo Aquarium Association (ZAA) which, with the Department of Parks and Wildlife, has coordinated the Devil Insurance program in Australia. However, the bulk of Trowunna's revenue has to come from gate fees and similar sources.

The staff are very proud of the fact that Trowunna has just become one of the first four institutions in Australasia accredited under new welfare standards by the ZAA.

Trowunna always ensures a pleasant visit in a delightful setting. Along with free-ranging wallabies, pademelons and birds you can learn all about Tasmania's endangered animals whilst contributing towards their conservation.

The Park is open from 9.00am to 5.00pm every day and tours are held at 11.00am, 1.00pm and 3.00pm. Admission is \$22 for adults, \$18 for concession card holders, \$10 for children and \$55 for a family of 2 adults and 2 children. All proceeds go towards the running of Trowunna.



Paul Ralley at Trowunna with one-month-old devil and mother

## Spring is just around the corner!

By Nell Carr

THE GRASS begins to race upwards in September, and keeping it tidy is often a twice weekly task.

A battery operated lawnmower makes starting easier, and it doesn't require fossil fuel. Battery operated mowers have sufficient charge to operate for an hour, and then must be re-charged for 24 hours, so if the lawns take longer than an hour, then perhaps it would be a good idea to make them smaller.

They can be turned into vegetable beds, or, in the ornamental garden, reduced to grassy pathways of just one mower's width between the beds. When the dry weather comes, then they can be left without mowing to save precious water, unless the garden is open to the public in the Open Garden scheme. In that case, grassy



pathways rapidly turn into boggy messes, so paths must be made of stern stuff.

For most of us, however, it is not necessary to maintain that lush green sward throughout the drier months. The grass will return when the autumn rains begin.

**Dividing perennials:** Perennials develop multi stems after a few years, and plants such as daisy bushes, Penstemons, perennial Helianthus etc. all lend themselves to division. Cut back the tops, dig out the clump, remove

weeds and soil, split, and replant in clean soil with a little fertilizer added. Spare pieces can be used in new beds, or given to friends.

**Vegetables:** Brassica plants, such as cabbages and cauliflowers, can be planted now in soil, well-enriched with manure or compost.

Carrots can be sown in soil previously manured for a green crop. Manure in the bed at sowing time will cause the carrots to develop multiple roots.

Big-hearted lettuce like Iceberg have largely gone out of fashion, but the smaller open-leafed varieties in different colours have the advantage in that they can be harvested a few leaves at a time. If one or two plants are left to seed, they will by now have germinated. If space is not available, they can be transplanted into polystyrene boxes filled with good quality potting mix.

## Welcoming swallows home

By Sarah Lloyd



A young swallow sits on a Hills Hoist waiting for food

THE TENDENCY of swallows to simply disappear once the weather cools has caused them to be the subject of many misconceptions. An 18th century naturalist was convinced they went to the moon and others believed they spent the winter at the bottom of lakes. Many Tasmanians believe that welcome swallows arrive in spring from the northern hemisphere – they don't!

Swallows and their close relatives, martins, belong to a family of over 80 species that are widespread in the world's temperate regions. Three species breed only in Australia, including the welcome swallow, the one that occurs in Tasmania. (The tree martin, a similar looking species, also occurs in Tasmania.)

Swallows' slender, streamlined body, long pointed wings and deeply forked tail are beautifully adapted to their aerial lifestyle. Their short legs and weak feet are not well developed because they are not used when pursuing prey. Their triangular-shaped bill is edged with rictal bristles. These stiff hair-like feathers, found in many aerially feeding birds, are believed to protect their eyes

as they chase scaly insects.

Whereas centuries ago welcome swallows would build their mud nests on the vertical surfaces of cliffs, rock walls or in hollow trees, nowadays most birds place their nests in artificial structures. Sheltered sites under bridges, roofs, verandas or other overhanging places seem to be to their liking and conveniently placed clothes lines and fences provide ideal perches close to their nest sites.

When the weather cools and flying insects are no longer abundant, swallows start to congregate; they line up along fences and overhead wires in preparation for their northward flight to warmer areas. Most swallows in southern Australia migrate to east and northeast Queensland and the Torres Strait Islands; although some swallows (especially in coastal areas) stay in Tasmania all winter.

In early spring when insect activity increases in response to warmer weather, swallows return to Tasmania. They are, as noted by British ornithologist, John Gould, who assigned the 'welcome' epithet, a 'welcome indication of the approach of spring.'

## Don't leave it till the last minute!

THINKING OF doing some building work over the upcoming Christmas Break?

Don't leave it to the last minute at the time when Council resources are stretched; lodge your application early. That way you can ensure that the necessary permits are in place and you are ready to start work during the Christmas period.

Keep in mind that Council has legislative processes to follow so even the least complicated Planning application can take up to 6-8 weeks to be processed.

Building and Plumbing applications can take up to 4 weeks to be processed.

Good preparation, understanding what is required, and getting the application right before you lodge also helps reduce process times. So if you are thinking of building we recommend that



you come and speak with us before you lodge your application.

For information regarding application requirements, to find out if an application is required for the work that you want to do or to arrange an appointment to lodge an application, contact our friendly staff in Development Services on 6393 5320.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Article submitted by Meander Valley Council

# Yet more free software to keep you busy!

By Alistair Carr

This is the final article in the series about free software.

## Printing

Cutepdf Writer: [www.cutepdf.com/Products/CutePDF/writer.asp](http://www.cutepdf.com/Products/CutePDF/writer.asp)

This adds a "software" printer to your PC so when you want to print a document you can go File > Print and then select CutePDF Writer as the printer. A 'Save As' dialogue box then comes up and you save it like you would for any other file. Requires Ghostscript to be installed first - use link on the CutePDF web site.

PDF Creator is similar to CutePDF: <http://sourceforge.net/projects/pdfcreator/>

## PDF Documents

Adobe Reader: <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>

Untick the optional offer for McAfee Security Scan - you don't want it. Reader is the standard application for viewing PDF files.

SumatraPDF: <http://blog.kowalczyk.info/software/sumatrapdf/free-pdf-reader.html> - this is a very simple, fast and lightweight alternative PDF viewer. Once installed, open the programme and go to Settings > Options and click the "Make SumatraPdf the default PDF viewer".

## Ebooks

Calibre: <http://calibre-ebook.com/>

Probably the best ebook reader out there. Works on Windows, OSX (MAC) and Linux. Even has a portable

no install version. Note: you may have problems with eghbooks protected by digital rights management.

See a nice video of how it works: <http://calibre-ebook.com/demo>

Adobe Digital Editions: [www.adobe.com/au/products/digital-editions/download.html](http://www.adobe.com/au/products/digital-editions/download.html)

You will need this reader if borrowing ebooks from the State Library (LINC).

## CD/DVD burning

Burrrn: [www.burrrn.net/?page\\_id=4](http://www.burrrn.net/?page_id=4)

A simple little programme for burning Audio CDs. Apple iTunes and Windows Media Player can also do this task.

ImgBurn: [www.imgburn.com/](http://www.imgburn.com/)

A very good programme for burning files and disk images (ISO) to cd or dvd. However, the installer now comes packaged with unwanted add-ins so you have to be very careful to use the custom install option, making sure not to accept the add-in licence agreements. Not suitable for you if unsure about installing software.

DVDFlick: [www.dvdflick.net/](http://www.dvdflick.net/) - This is a reasonable programme for converting video files and burning to DVD format.

Ashampoo Burning Studio Free: <https://www.ashampoo.com/en/usd/pin/7110/burning-software/Ashampoo-Burning-Studio-FREE>

BurnAwareFree: [www.burnaware.com/](http://www.burnaware.com/)

## Shell Modification

This may sound strange

but it is basically software that can change the appearance and behaviour of Windows. Modifications vary from tiny tweaks to extreme changes.

Classic Shell: [www.classicshell.net/](http://www.classicshell.net/) is the only one I have used recently and is a very handy little utility to get the classic "start button" back in Windows 8/8.1 amongst other things. It allows a reasonable amount of customisation of Windows behaviour.

Folder Colorizer - <http://softorino.com/products/> - a brief description can be read here: [www.pcworld.com/product/1192054/folder-colorizer.html](http://www.pcworld.com/product/1192054/folder-colorizer.html)

On a more basic level there are various Windows Themes available which just change desktop backgrounds and windows colours.

Microsoft itself has a lot of themes listed at: <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-AU/windows/themes>

A site by the name of DeviantART: [www.deviantart.com/?q=windows+themes](http://www.deviantart.com/?q=windows+themes) also has a lot of themes, but I will give a huge warning about Deviantart. Some of the artwork displayed is definitely adult and could even be classed as disturbing, however it can also be a fantastic source for images and photographs.

As with any software installs, please be careful installing any of the software I have listed as some contain unneeded and useless bundled additional software, search engines etc. Happy installing!

## Software Freedom Day

ON SATURDAY, 20th September, Launceston will be hosting Software Freedom Day 2014 at the Launceston Bowls Club, from 10.00am to 3.00pm. Entry is free.

Software influences how we interact with each other, enjoy different media, get paid, and much more. It underpins our very way of life and our basic freedoms.

Software freedom is about a technological future that we can trust and doesn't negatively impact on the basic human freedoms we take for granted.

For example, spyware that watches what we listen to, our banking details and emails can be installed on our computers without our knowledge. Region encoding of movies introduces a barrier to international content. Proprietary data formats can mean lockout to accessing our own information!

Software freedom can be

maintained by transparent systems like free and open source software which is created by people around the world to share with anyone who wants it, free of charge and usage restrictions. It is estimated that more than 95% of IT professionals use at least one piece of open source software.

This year we will have a number of displays where anyone can come along and see examples of what others, within the Launceston community, are doing with Open Source Software. Events will involve games, business software, home entertainment and others.

Take home DVDs full of software to use straight away, regardless of what operating system you run!

For more info contact Josh Bush on 6326 3113 or email [cheeseness@freesoftwareforall.org](mailto:cheeseness@freesoftwareforall.org) or visit [www.softwarefreedomday.org](http://www.softwarefreedomday.org)

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## Buddhism to Hinduism with Krsna Das

By Liz Walker

*This article is a continuation of last month's story.*

TO SUPPORT and promote a more spiritual life, Krsna Das lived in a Dharma Centre in Sydney, meeting the Dalai Lama several times. He then went to India to pursue Buddhist practices and initiations.

After several months in a cave Krsna emerged, only to be led to a Hindu Ashram. Krsna Das's new spiritual direction began as a practicing Renunciate for five years. This involved trusting in the spiritual support system in India as he had no money, home or shoes.

Krsna Das and Mira now live in Jackeys Marsh practising non-dualism Hinduism, God is imminent. Reincarnation, which promotes losing the fear of death, is practised along with the law of Karma, which is service-orientated and promotes taking responsibility for your actions.

The couple practise Bhakti yoga, which is a



**Krsna Das & Mira with sadhus**

practice of devotion and service. The root meaning of yoga is yuj: a practice leading to conscious union of humans with God.

Every morning Krsna Das and Mira can be found giving offerings to Ganesh, the remover of obstacles; Laxmi, the Goddess of abundance; and Hanuman, the protector of sadhus. They also practice kirtan devotion, call and response singing, and participate in fire ceremonies, "yagja", with other local practising yogis. These activities are spoken in the ancient Sanskrit language, said to have a divine frequency.

Love is at the core of all their practices, promoting a very peaceful, loving couple.

## Recipes (from the Spice Kitchen)

By Pauline Ross

CARDAMOM IS A fabulous and fragrant spice and is very versatile. You can use it in cakes, biscuits, soups, curries and milk drinks and can even add its exotic taste to your coffee. Originally from India (part of the ginger family) it has great health benefits. It has been used for mouth ulcers, digestive problems and even depression.

Here are two biscuit recipes to get you started using this delicious spice.

### Date & Cardamom biscuits

½ cup butter (softened)  
1 cup raw sugar  
1 egg  
½ teaspoon vanilla essence  
1 teaspoon ground cardamom  
1 tablespoon water  
½ teaspoon baking soda  
1 cup chopped dates  
1 cup SR flour  
1 cup rolled oats  
¼ cup sultanas  
1 cup of Weeties or crushed Weet-Bix  
½ cup desiccated coconut

### Method

Preheat oven to 150C. Line two baking trays with baking paper. You'll need to bake trays one at a time. Blend butter and sugar with a wooden spoon. Then add egg, essence, water, cardamom and baking soda and mix until combined. Mix in the dates and then the remaining ingredients. Roll into balls and flatten onto the baking trays. Bake until crisp on the edges. Approximately



**Cardamom Pods**

25 minutes. Makes between 20-25 biscuits.

### Almond and Cardamom biscuits

250g butter  
¾ cup caster sugar  
1 teaspoon ground cardamom  
2 ¼ cups SR flour  
30 blanched almonds  
Icing sugar mixture to decorate

### Method

Preheat oven to 160C fan-forced. Line 3 baking trays with baking paper. Place butter, sugar, cardamom and flour in a large bowl. Using your hands knead mixture together until it forms a smooth dough. Roll level tablespoons of mixture into balls. Place on prepared trays 5cm apart as they will spread while cooking. Flatten slightly with a damp fork. Press one almond onto the centre of each biscuit. Bake a tray at a time for 15 minutes or until biscuits are light golden. Stand for 5 minutes then transfer to wire rack to cool. Dust with icing sugar.

## Giant steps for Corom

By Joanne Eisemann

WHEN 14-MONTH-OLD Corom began to have multiple seizures, he was diagnosed as suffering a rare form of epilepsy. His parents, Deloraine couple Kim and Deirdre Triffitt, searched Australia for effective treatment for their third child. But, in the late 1980s, nothing could be found. A Sydney doctor advised them to accept that Corom would never be more than a vegetable.

Dismayed, they contacted friends overseas, a move that led to a visit to California. But no lasting treatment emerged. Back in Australia, Corom's behaviour was increasingly unacceptable – he ate anything and everything, climbed wherever he could, was hyperactive, sleepless and generally destructive. The family home was modified to accommodate his behaviour.

**"We were desperate for help," says Kim.**

Corom's unusual behaviour drew a diagnosis of autism, a new word for Kim and Deirdre.

What Kim and Deirdre had learned in the US, however, led to their establishing the "Little Aussie Program"; 22 volunteers were organised to spend two hours a day, every day, practising "play imitation" with Corom.

This helped to a degree. Corom grew less withdrawn and more sociable, but he was still prone to unacceptable behaviour – taking his clothes off, pushing his head through a wall, and smashing windows.

"We were desperate for help," says Kim. Nothing could be found in Australia to help autistic children.

A breakthrough came when a psychologist mentioned a program in Kamloops, Canada. They visited.

"We walked into Giant Steps and couldn't believe what we saw. Calm, happy kids interacting and teachers in control," says Deirdre.

Kim and Deirdre were so impressed they contacted Giant Steps' founder Darlene Berringer, then working in Montreal.

Unable to get Corom into the Montreal centre, the family moved to Kamloops while Corom attended Giant Steps. Kim and Deirdre worked as school janitors to help pay fees. Corom made progress but they couldn't afford to stay beyond one year, so they invited one of his workers in Kamloops to come to Australia where his program



**Consultant, Kathryn Leon and Deirdre at a demonstration. Thermomix recently donated to Giant Steps a Thermomix plus \$900 collected by consultants throughout the State.**

could continue.

Once home, they worked on establishing Giant Steps in Tasmania. Darlene Berringer said if they could get enough government support she would come to Tasmania to help.

With financial support from Rotary, Apex and Lions, a planning committee was formed. Committee members travelled to Hobart, where Deirdre addressed the parliamentary parties. "That was the scariest talk I ever had to do," she says. The committee secured \$240,000 to start Giant Steps in Deloraine.

**"Being outdoors is ideal therapy for a child with autism"**

Four years later they were able to start building, converting an old army drill hall. Darlene arrived from Canada.

Giant Steps was the first Autism-specific program in Tasmania; families from around Australia travelled to Deloraine to participate. Kim, Deirdre and Corom received considerable media attention highlighting the plight of families caring for autistic children; often they received calls from parents bewildered by a child's behaviour until they saw Corom on TV.

"It's amazing how much in the dark ages we were," says Deirdre. "It was heartbreaking."

Corom was accepted into the Montreal Giant Steps program on condition that his family did not come too. Kim and 14-year-old Jaram flew with him to Canada and left him in the care of a staff member whom Corom knew. Kim says it was the hardest

thing he had ever done.

The family received weekly updates detailing Corom's remarkable progress. Kim and Deirdre were able to spend valuable time with their other children.

With Corom home, his parents began lobbying for funding to help them support home care. They didn't want him in Government care, a view reinforced by Corom's distress with different schools and different people. Partial government funding finally arrived.

"These days he is a gentle giant, the happiest he's been. We know that had we stayed in Canada he would be more advanced, but we couldn't afford that, so we've just been happy to set him up so he is happy and healthy and well looked after and loved," says Kim.

Being outdoors is ideal therapy for a child with autism.

Kim and friends built water-loving Corom an indoor heated swimming pool and an indoor sandpit and trampoline to exhaust his boundless energy during winter.

Raising Corom has been a huge financial drain, with debt at one stage debt totalling \$300,000. Kim ran two businesses, a dairy farm and a natural pest control business to finance Corom's care and education. Deirdre is now the breadwinner.

Deirdre sums up their experience: 'As hard as it's been we have learned much along the way, and helped many other families.'

Adds Kim, "Our life is more peaceful now, Corom is well set up and looked after, with good people working with him."





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# 60 years of youth drama



**Deloraine Youth Drama Festival Directors past and present: Thelma Jacobs, Clare Thorne and Roy Axelsen**

WHAT DO Graeme Murphy, Jane Bennett and Cr Ian Howard have in common? They have all performed in the Deloraine Youth Drama Festival. This September will see the Festival celebrate its 60th year. Long-time member and past President of the Deloraine Dramatic Society, Kent Furmage, will give

the opening address when the Festival commences on Monday 15th September. The Deloraine Dramatic Society held the first Youth Drama Festival in 1955. "We are so lucky to have so many wonderful people give their time to the Festival over the last 60 years" states current Director Clare Thorne. Mrs Thelma Jacobs (formally Tome) held the

position of Festival Director from 1979-1984. Mrs Jacobs said that she "loved every moment of it, it was a lot of hard work, but great fun".

Other past Directors include Rhyl Furmage (1960-1975) and Jan Smith (1985-1995) who then continued with assistance from Ann Elmer until 2001. Roy Axelsen took on the role of Director in 2005 and then again in 2007 until 2012.

Festival Director, Clare Thorne, who herself participated in the Festival as a high school student, is one of many people whose families have had three generations perform over the years. Clare's Mother Stephanie performed during the 1960's and Clare's two daughters, Zoe and Ruby, are now taking part.

Students in this year's Festival will gather from across the State from as far afield as Hobart, Queenstown, Launceston and Devonport. Local schools will also be well represented with performances from Deloraine Primary School,

Deloraine High School, Mole Creek Primary, Meander Primary and Our Lady of Mercy.

Wally Lyne, winner of the Best Actor award in the very first Festival in 1955 and

Gayle Gerrard (nee Eade), winner of the Best Actress award in 1956, will be presenting this year's awards when the Festival culminates on Friday 19th September.

## Deborah White

Deputy Mayor, Meander Valley Council



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# Spinning and weaving some pure magic

THE DELORAINE CREATIVE Studios (DCS) is a registered community oriented, not-for-profit incorporated body, manned by volunteers and sponsored by local businesses and the Council, specifically set up to assist local crafts people and artists by offering low rent studio and display space and continual direct sales opportunity by connecting them with domestic visitors as well those from overseas.

However, these raw facts do not convey the spirit of those who people it - a group of individuals who strive to be the best at what they can do. It's not until you walk around the studios, have a chat and watch them work at their craft that you begin to realise just how driven they really are.

So, let's introduce a couple of the weavers.

Take Jim Deghand - quiet, shy and self-effacing until he is asked about his craft You could lose half the afternoon listening to his fascinating reply. He likes to share.

Jim, a spinner, dyer and weaver for 40 years has a deep interest in knotted rug making from all over

the world.

He produces the yarn himself from the raw fleece through the cleaning, carding, spinning and plant-dyeing processes. He is an encyclopaedia of complicated dye recipes, chemical reactions



**Jim Deghand works his magic with the loom**

and pattern mathematics and a passion for the craft. Everything he makes is done by hand as it has been done for centuries past with the addition of his ability to see and create patterns and rhythms. And the end products are beautiful. Irene Woodward moved to Tasmania in May 2006, and settled in Deloraine to be near the Western Tiers. Her love of the great outdoors is reflected in her weaving. She spins and dyes her own yarns and, while she produces small items like bags and cushions in the colours and textures

of the bush, she also makes hangings which are fabric expressions of landscape. She is also quiet and retiring most of the time, but like Jim, she loves to talk to you about her craft.

Her sister, Doreen, also weaves, and though she finds it difficult to get around of late, she still produces incredibly fine fabrics for the scarves for which she is famous. Running your hands over her bamboo and silk creations is an experience not to be missed.

So next time you think of passing by the old tin shed we call "home", stop and come inside for a few minutes and meet the family of dedicated crackpots who love to talk about what they do, what they have made and how much they love what they do.

Check out the studio online at [www.delorainecreativestudios.com/studios.html](http://www.delorainecreativestudios.com/studios.html) to see what the weavers do.

You might even find a painter or two worth visiting. But that's for next time....

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# Valleyviews

## September 2014

### Mayor's Message

At the August Council meeting Council provided in-principle support of the Greater Launceston Plan. The plan identifies projects of both regional and local significance. All of the councils involved will need to work together within a well understood governance framework to ensure projects are delivered. We look forward to working constructively with our partner councils on the next phase of this plan.

Industrial hemp and medicinal cannabis were also on the agenda at the last meeting. Media attention regarding medicinal cannabis has created some confusion. Industrial hemp and medicinal cannabis are very different products. The industrial hemp industry is established and well regulated in Tasmania and Council indicated its support of its growth and development. As a separate point, Council encouraged further research into the social, health and economic benefits of growing medicinal cannabis in Tasmania.

The Garage Sale Trail is on Saturday, 25 October. You can repurpose your unwanted belongings, live more sustainably by reducing waste, connect with locals, and raise some money. Register now at [garagesaletrail.com](http://garagesaletrail.com). It is that easy!

By the time you are reading this, the Vale Street/Westbury Road roundabout construction will have started. Construction will include new shared pedestrian and cycling paths, new bus stops and more crossing points for pedestrians. Traffic flow will be improved making it safer for both drivers and pedestrians. Thanks must go to the Australian government for helping to fund this project.

Finally, congratulations to the Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre on being a northern finalist in the People's Choice Category of the Tasmanian Tourism Awards. This category is awarded entirely on the basis of feedback from visitors to Tasmania. Being recognised is a credit to the staff and volunteers.

Craig Perkins



### Council Updates

#### Stepping Stones Camps

Are you interested in learning new skills, building new friendships, and having lots of fun? Then a Stepping Stones Camp is for you! Over 3 days you'll face new challenges, get involved in your community, develop self-awareness and experience leadership!

29 Sept – 1 Oct	Grades 9-12	Golden Valley
6 – 8 Oct	Grades 6-8	Golden Valley

These camps are coordinated by Council. A team of trained leaders and volunteers will supervise the group and it's only \$25 per person to take part.

The camps are drug and alcohol free events. If you are interested and would like more information please contact Vicki Jordan, Youth Development Officer on 0400 155 690 or email [vicki.jordan@mvc.tas.gov.au](mailto:vicki.jordan@mvc.tas.gov.au). Numbers are limited so secure your place now.



#### Annual Hard Waste Collection

Register your hard waste rubbish collection now in time for a Spring clean!

Council's annual hard waste collection service will take place in October this year. It's the perfect opportunity to dispose of items too big for your regular collection service such as old electrical appliances or damaged furniture.

The collection will operate differently this year. You will need to register your items. To register contact Council now on 6393 5300. Visit the website or call Council for specific details and conditions.

#### Nominations for Australia Day Awards now open!

On Australia Day, Council recognises the exceptional contribution of its community members with the presentation of Australia Day awards. The awards are presented in the following categories: Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, Community Event of the Year, Sports Award, and Volunteer Services Recognition Awards.

Do you know someone who deserves an award? Then why not nominate them. Simply complete a nomination



Mayor Perkins and joint "Citizens of the Year" winners 2014

form available on Council's website. Nominations should be received by 4pm on Friday November 21, 2014. For more information contact David Pyke on 6393 5316.

#### Local Government Elections

Don't forget Council elections take place later this year in October. It's your opportunity to shape your Council and elect the people you want to represent you. Now is the perfect time to check your enrolment details. To find out more information about the Council elections visit the following website at [www.electoral.tas.gov.au/LocalGovernmentElections2014](http://www.electoral.tas.gov.au/LocalGovernmentElections2014).

Considering standing as a candidate? *The 2014 Candidate Information Booklet* is now available via the Tasmanian Electoral Commission website, via the link above.

**Friendly reminder ... the first rates instalment is now overdue. Interest is payable until the outstanding amount is paid. Don't pay more than you have to – contact the Rates Officer now to make arrangements for payment on 6393 5335.**

### Community News

#### Community use of School Sport and Recreation Facilities

School sport and recreation facilities can often be under-utilised out of school hours and can be made available to sporting and community groups. View the Department of Education *Community Use of School Facilities* booklet for more information.

<https://www.education.tas.gov.au/documentcentre/Documents/Community-Use-Of-School-Facilities-Location-Guide.pdf>

#### Diary dates for artists - Meandering 2014

Meandering 2014 is an annual exhibition where local artists present work based on images of Meander Valley. Council will award a \$3,500 first prize (acquisitive) and five additional prizes including an encouragement award for novice artists. Entry forms are available from Council's website. The exhibition will be held at Country Club Tasmania between Nov 2014 and Feb 2015. The application deadline is 17 October, but works are not required until 17 November 2014. The Meandering Art Exhibition, now its eighth year, is provided through a partnership between Meander Valley Council, Launceston and Meander Valley Art Societies and Country Club Tasmania.



Winner of last year's 'Acquisitive Award' Miss Meander by Pauline Winwood

### Diary Dates

#### Primary School Holiday Program

The Meander Valley Primary School Holiday Program will run on the 6 and 8 October 2014. Activity details are available on Council's website or call Kylie Johns on 0440 780 189 for more information.

#### Garage Sale Trail

National day of buying, selling, reusing and meeting the locals, held on Saturday 25 October. To register your sale or view local sales visit [www.garagesaletrail.com.au](http://www.garagesaletrail.com.au)

### Markets

#### Westbury Market

Third Saturday of every month, Sat 20 September

#### Little Red Tractor Farmers Market, Deloraine

Every two weeks, Sat 20 September and 4 October ongoing

#### Deloraine Market

First Saturday of every Month, Sat 4 October



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#### General Enquiries

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Web	<a href="http://www.meander.tas.gov.au">www.meander.tas.gov.au</a>

Valley Views can be read at any time by visiting the website, click on Community, Culture and Recreation and then Community News.

## How sweet it is

By Sheila Ferguson

MANKIND HAS been keeping bees since the beginning of recorded time but it wasn't until much later - 1810 that bee keeping was introduced into Australia, reaching Tasmania in 1831.

The Stephens family has been keeping bees since 1919 and Shirley Stephens' grandson, Josh, recently joined the 15-strong workforce as an apprentice.

Unlike cattle and sheep, bees are not a large part of Tasmania's economy, but it provides the much sought-after Leatherwood honey - a species of large shrubs endemic to forests of western Tasmania which flowers between January and April.

Honey is collected on a

**A week's harvest of honey can reach 30 tonnes; miss an hour and about a tonne of honey is lost.**

series of frames which are hung in a box. On these frames the bees construct their honeycombs where the queen lays her eggs. Beekeepers pile more boxes, known as 'supers', on top of the base boxes.

Bees have to be encouraged to produce excess honey. This is done by adding supers and stimulating the bees to over-produce; the keeper removes the extra boxes when they are full, replacing them with fresh empty boxes to be filled. This process continues until March/April when no more extra honey is taken.

The season 'window' for collecting honey is extremely short, so staff cannot afford to miss a day; every minute counts. Staff put in long hours, sometimes working 50-60 hours a week at the height of the season.

They have to shift the bees

to the coast, and continue to extract and replace the supers to keep the bees working. A week's harvest of honey can reach 30 tonnes; miss an hour and about a tonne of honey is lost.

Once returned to Mole Creek, honey is extracted in hygienic conditions using stainless steel equipment and pumped into stainless steel storage tanks in the modern packing room. The factory is the most up-to-date and efficient for its size in Australia.

The honey is sold mainly in Australia but ever-expanding shipments go to the USA, Japan and Lebanon.

By March/April the keepers are taking the last of the honey from the hives and preparing hives for winter, ensuring bee families are big enough to get through till spring. The bees do much of this work themselves, ejecting the drones and older bees.

The bee families reduce from a summer peak of about 90,000-100,000 in each hive to 25,000-30,000 in winter. Between August and October is the Spring Maintenance Period. Each hive is examined fortnightly to check food levels and, if insufficient, supplementary food (sugar and water) is given.

Bees are checked for disease and, if any are found, they must be treated early - at least eight to ten weeks before a honey crop arrives.

Boxes are added as the bees begin to increase their numbers until, by December, they are close to their maximum - about six boxes. Then the extra supers are added.

It is important to ensure that the queen is laying and hasn't been thrown out if she is too old.

Much re-queening takes place at this time and the hive begins to grow. The queen seems to know that the honey season is approaching. The bees also ensure at this time that they breed drones for mating.

Tasmanians rear the queens or import them from

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the mainland; imports are strictly controlled to ensure no diseases arrive.

Bees suffer from a number of diseases most of which are controllable. However, beekeepers tremble at the mention of *Varroa destructor*, a mite which attaches to the body of the bee ultimately causing deformities in the wings and disabling the bee.

A significant mite infestation can wipe out a honey bee colony; such an infestation, usually occurring between late autumn and early spring, has spread worldwide with devastating consequences for honey production. So far, Australia is unique in being unaffected but constant vigilance is needed.

Mention bees and honey comes to mind. Arguably, though, their biggest commercial contribution is to the pollination of crops. On the mainland some beekeepers earn most of their income from farming out bee colonies. This practice is not so widespread in Tasmania; nevertheless the economic value of pollination services to Tasmanian agricultural and horticultural production is estimated to be \$188 million.

Long live the bees.

## A less stressful way of farming

By Sheila Ferguson



**Anna Robertson with her snails**

IF YOU were asked what was the earliest animal that was farmed by man you would probably guess at something like goats, sheep or cattle. You would be wrong. The answer is: snails. Snail shells have been found in archaeological excavations, indicating snails have been eaten since prehistoric times. The Romans, in particular, are known to have considered escargot an elite food.

And snails are still being farmed today. Viewed simply by most of us as garden pests, there is now someone locally who would love to take your snails off your hands in order to farm and supply the current Australian market.

Anna and her husband, Richard, came over from West Australia about 7 years ago, where they had been fat lamb and wool growers.

They set up the farm about a year ago and the first batch of snails are now almost ready for sale. They use the common Garden Snail (*Helix Aspersa*), the same snail farmed in Europe.

The snails are not sold here; Anna and Richard are part of a grower's network and sell under contract to a commercial grower, Hunter Valley Snails (formerly Snails Bon Appetite) in the NSW Hunter Valley, who process

and market them.

The snails take a 8 - 12 months to reach maturity and they are hermaphrodites (both male and female) and fertilise each other when they mate. Burrowing into the ground, both snails inject fertilised eggs into the soil, which emerge as tiny perfectly formed snails

Snails have to reach a certain weight - at least 8 grams - before restaurants are interested in them. But medium sized snails can be sold for supermarket packets (fresh frozen) and small ones from 4-7 grams can be sold for pet food to feed to reptiles.

Snails do not need a lot of space. They are kept in pens made with Colour Bond and are covered with heavy duty

**Snails take 8 - 12 months to reach maturity and they are hermaphrodites**

shade cloth. They are fed on a mixture containing lime and chook food.

They make good eating. They're low in fat but high in protein, as well as fatty acids (largely unsaturated), minerals, vitamins and amino acids. When they reach the right weight their food is withheld completely for seven days for purging to take place. Then they're processed and vacuum packed to ensure freshness.

So, if you find snails in your garden, don't kill them, collect them. Put them in a container with a tight lid with air holes punched into it; give them some lettuce or a few pieces of carrot to feed on and contact Anna on 0459 240 371 or email her at [tasgourmetsnails@gmail.com](mailto:tasgourmetsnails@gmail.com). She needs approximately 8 to 10 thousand breeding snails (8 - 10g), but will take snails of any size or quantity.



**A young bee, not yet fully pigmented, approaches the honey reserves for its first meal**

# Mighty skips

By Sheila Ferguson

TIM DAWKINS started off cleaning houses prior to new owners moving in.

He did this for nearly seven years but it was hard physical work. Some years previously, Tim had been involved in a couple of accidents that had caused injury to his back and this finally caught up with him and made hard physical labour an impossibility.

He had toyed with the idea of setting up a business delivering skips to the bypass towns in the Meander Valley area and, one day, rang the owner of Mighty Skips and offered to buy the business.

A couple of days after stating that he wasn't looking to sell, the owner phoned Tim with a price. They agreed and, four months ago Tim started out in the skips business.

One of the reasons he thought the business was viable was that it was so expensive to hire skips from Launceston.

Operators charge per kilometre for delivery and collection of the skips – there and back each time! It can work out to be an extremely expensive exercise.

Tim charges a flat rate and the skip is hired out for up to a week.

The business was originally based in Devonport but is now in Deloraine. Tim will deliver pretty well anywhere within the Meander Valley area and outside. Sometimes if a customer is too far out he might have a reciprocal arrangement with another



**Tim and Annette Dawkins**

skip company but usually he tries to meet any requests that he receives.

He has been surprised at the range of people who request skips.

Obviously the biggest users are builders. These vary in the way they get rid of their rubbish. Some like using large skips (12 cubic metres) and leave them in place throughout the build; others like to clear up as they go. Tim only has 3 cubic metre skips and these regular smaller jobs are ideal for him.

Individuals need skips too. Most of us procrastinate and so people might spend months telling themselves that they really must have a clear out then one day deciding it must be NOW. So, Tim was surprised to find that although there might not be a strict time limit, the customer was insistent that the skip be delivered yesterday.

And there is the other large percentage of the population who leave things to the last minute - before moving house, for example - and also need a skip urgently.

There are, of course, those not-so-common individuals who are disciplined and well

organised who can order a skip several weeks in advance.

Then there are those left behind after someone has died. Tim believes it is part of the grieving process for some to clear out the belongings of the deceased. There are also those who have been told that they have a terminal illness with a short time to live who then feel the need to "clear the decks" before dying.

Tim was asked once what did he want Mighty Skips to be. He replied that he wanted the company to be "self sufficient for the Dawkins Family." He has no desire to expand the company beyond this point as this would then involve him in all the red tape and paper work that comes with employees.

Nevertheless, he is always on the lookout for other income-generating opportunities that may come up. He searches the internet for businesses that might be for sale in other parts of Australia; not because he wants to move but because he may find the germ of an idea in such places.

You never know where the next great idea may come from.

insurance, be sure you've got what you need for your current situation.

### Know your value

Sit down with pen and paper and figure out exactly what you're worth. What do you owe, and what form does that debt take? What do you own, and how liquid are those assets if funds should be required? How much have you put away so far for retirement and how is that tracking according to your plan? Most importantly, how does where you're at now compare to where you were at 12 months ago?

### Reform bad habits

Throughout the year, since your last financial health check, it's likely that a few bad habits might have developed in your spending. Go through your bank statements and do a rough calculation - it doesn't need to be

extremely accurate - of where your money goes.

Those daily take-away coffees from the cafe outside work aren't getting any cheaper, and if you cut them out you'll save around \$1000 annually. How else can you plug the leaks?

### How super is your super?

It's no secret that super funds have had a challenging time of late, but that's no reason to cover your eyes and hope for the best. Discuss your fund with your financial adviser and request that they make the fund's mix of investments, and their pros and cons, clear to you.

Your fund may already contain the perfect mix for this market, or it could be worth shifting the weight around. Also, if you have multiple funds, ask to see if it is better for them to be consolidated in order to avoid multiplying the fees.

# Now is the time for a financial spring clean

By Sam Horsman, Business Principal PJS Finance

WITH SPRING approaching many of us will take time over the next few months to have a 'spring' clean around our house, why not also have a spring clean of your financial situation. Here are a few ideas of things that you could review to help spring clean your finances.

### Fine tune your insurance

Twelve months is a long time and in that period plenty can change. There could be new financial concerns such as an investment property, or new personal responsibilities such as a child, or grandkids. Whatever happens, it's likely to alter the balance of the amount of personal insurance you require.

Whether it's life insurance, income protection insurance or preferably a balance of several types of

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### Forward plan

What will you need this coming year? Cost it out in one list. Now make a second list of what you 'want' in this coming year (very different to what you 'need').

You may actually need a new car, and you may also want a bathroom renovation, or a trip to Europe. Cost the lot, work out what is realistic and responsible and what is not, then speak with your financial adviser to put plans in place to make them happen.

### Destroy bad debt

Unless it's within an inter-

est-free period, credit card debt can be a drain on your finances. Figure out where all of your "bad" debt lies - the debt that is not tax-effective or working for you as an investment - then make a weekly plan to get rid of it as soon as possible.

### Define your dreams

What does your dream retirement look like? What are its main ingredients? Develop a clear picture of this in your mind and, with the help of your financial adviser, ensure your financial plan contains the right elements for it to become reality.

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# Deloraine Bowls in the Pink

ON SUNDAY 12th October, 2014, the Deloraine Bowls Club will host a Pink Bowls Day and Mini Fields of Women in support of local breast cancer survivors and Breast Cancer Network Australia (BCNA).

Organisers, Rita Eastley and Meredith Wood of the local Bowls Club, say that nearly everyone in the local community knows someone affected by breast cancer and are inviting all bowlers, friends and breast cancer survivors and supporters to attend.

Be aware that fines will incur if you do not wear something pink!

The event will include a BBQ lunch but ladies are asked to bring a salad.

There will also be a raffle on the day.

Maureen Holland, the President of Tasmanian Breast Cancer Network, is assisting the Deloraine Bowls Club representing BCNA.

She reports that “around 15,000 women are expected to be diagnosed with Breast Cancer in Australia this year”

“This Pink Bowls Day is

an excellent opportunity for locals to rally together and offer their support to those affected – be it our mates, our family or perfect strangers.”

Funds raised will directly assist BCNA to support Australians affected by breast cancer. This support includes providing the My Journey Kit, a free comprehensive information resource for women newly diagnosed with breast cancer.

The Club will open at 9.30am for a 10.00am start and the entry fee will be \$10 per person or \$40 per team. For further details concerning the event please contact Rita Eastley on 6362 2086 / 0407 529 059, or Meredith Woods on 0418 126 630.

For more information on BCNA contact Maureen Holland on 0409 020 419.



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Club of Deloraine

Contacts: Ann on 6362 3160 for Club meetings  
Tim on 0428 237 078 for Club membership  
www.rotaryclubofdeloraine.org.au

## Del Bowls Club Inc News

THE DEL BOWLS Club Inc is a community based club with 3 Saturday and 2 Thursday teams that compete in Open Gender Pennant Competitions affiliated to Bowls North.

Last Season it had two Northern Champions from the club. Maureen Buckingham was successful in winning the Women's Northern Singles Champion of Champions and Anthony Frost won the Men's Novice Championship being a first year bowler.

The Club regularly holds Friday night Budget teas and the club rooms are open for Happy Hour 5pm Fridays.

The Open Day for



2014/2015 Season is on Sunday 14th September at 1.00 pm at the Club Rooms, Emu Bay Road Deloraine. The Club welcomes new and existing players, and anyone who would like to play next season or just come to investigate options of playing.

If you're interested, contact President Don Collins on 6362 4334 or Secretary Sylvia Bartlett on 6362 2616 for more information.

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# SPORT

## Deloraine Sports and Recreation Precinct in the Planning

...Continued from Front Page

The Deloraine Football Club stadium and ground is a further large area of recreation in Deloraine. While football in Deloraine is going through a resurgence, with the DFC enjoying success both on and off the field and the establishment of the Greater Western Tiers Master team, the facilities have been neglected and have continued to face issues with flooding.

The Deloraine community is lucky to have a walking track along both banks of the beautiful Meander River. It is mainly due to the members of the Rotary Club that this walk is there because it was the Rotary Club of Deloraine that built both the foot bridges over the river.

But the DDCSP sees an opportunity to further enhance the area and the town by creating a recreational space that will link to the walking track.

To this end the DDCSP has been working on a plan to develop a true recreation and sporting precinct in the area of the Deloraine Community Complex on Alverston Drive.

The plan includes:

- the establishment of netball courts to service the growing participation in this sport.
- the establishment of a multi-purpose facility that

meets the unmet need for conference, meeting and wedding/function facilities within the Meander Valley.

- the relocation of the football ground and associated club rooms.

- the relocation of the squash courts away from what is now otherwise the Meander Valley Performing Arts Centre.

- co-location of the Deloraine Little Athletics Club with the football ground, allowing for a 400m track and other more permanent infrastructure such as cages and pits.

- practice grounds for the Deloraine Soccer club

- walking and cycle tracks for fitness and recreation

- utilisation of the primary and high schools

- the expansion of the Community complex to allow correct run-off and seating

- outdoor basketball and tennis courts

- a skate/scooter park.

The working group envisages a precinct that meets the recreational and sporting needs of the community now and into the future, but also a facility that attracts conferences, meetings and events to Deloraine.

The group also recognises the benefits that such events as the Tasmanian Craft Fair bring to the town. They believe that this pre-



Some of the varied sports that would benefit from the proposed Precinct

cinct plan will enhance this special event by providing an additional exhibitor space, extra parking and potential cost savings. They also note the importance of the Rotary Pavilion in the development of the precinct.

For this plan to be realised it must be owned by the entire community. The working group has engaged with representatives of the Meander Valley Council and has plans to survey all clubs, organisations and community-users in the near future.

Going forward they would welcome the opportunity to

further inform the Meander Valley Gazette about their vision for facilities that meet the entire community's needs. A link to the community survey and plans of the precinct will be available in the next few weeks.

For more information please contact any of the members listed below:

**Laura Richardson**  
Deloraine Amateur Basketball Association  
M: 0437 624 152  
E: Richardson.lauraj@gmail.com

**Shaun Donohue**  
Deloraine Football Club  
M: 0498 099 726  
E: shaundonohue@bigpond.com

**Taneil Bloomfield**  
Deloraine Devils Netball Club  
M: 0439 809 996  
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### JUNIOR CRICKET 2014-2015

#### REGISTRATION DAY

We would like to invite all girls and boys under the age of 15, interested in playing cricket for Westbury Shamrocks Junior Cricket Club, to come and sign up on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September from 5:00pm till 6:00pm at the Westbury Cricket Ground.

#### UNDER 15s

Roster will commence Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October. This year there are changes to the format. Games will commence at 4:30pm and will be played as a two day game (over two Friday nights). Each innings will be 40 overs. Games will be played on turf and spikes will need to be worn. Maximum 8 overs per bowler (4 over spell).

#### UNDER 13s (DIVISION 1 AND 2)

Games will be Friday evenings 4:30pm till 8:00pm. The roster will commence Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November. The format is unchanged, i.e. games consist of one innings per team – each innings 25 overs.

#### UNDER 13s (DIVISION 3)

This Division is for 9-10 year olds. Games will be Monday evenings 4:30pm till 8:00pm. The roster will commence Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November. Games consist of one innings per team – each innings 20 overs.

#### JUNIOR CRICKET REGISTRATION FEE

Under 13s and Under 15s - \$85.00

#### MILO T20BLAST

For children (7-9 year olds), Milo T20Blast will be held on Monday afternoons from 17<sup>th</sup> November through to 16<sup>th</sup> February for 10 weeks (with a four week break over Christmas). These games are held at the NTCA complex. Cost is \$79.00

#### MILO IN2CRICKET

For the younger children (5-7 year olds), Milo In2Cricket will be held on Thursday nights at the Westbury Recreation Ground for 8 weeks for one hour commencing in October – date and time to be advised. Cost is \$65.00

#### ALL WELCOME

For further information contact:  
Sharon Heazlewood (Junior Development Officer) – 0417 592 291

## The Indoor Bowls Association Finals

THE DELORAINE Esk and Launceston Indoor Bias Bowls Association finals were recently played at Deloraine, Bishopsbourne and Ravenswood.

In the Deloraine Association final Red Hills came from finishing third on the ladder to win over Deloraine Bowls Club in a close game where the result was not decided until the final bowl of the game. In the division 2 final Deloraine RSL d Mole Creek.

In the Esk Association final Whitemore were successful over Bishopsbourne, and in the Launceston Association Carrick (Div2) and Mitsubishi Magnets (Div1) were the successful teams.

In the Northern division final played at the Longford Bowls Club the results were:

Red Hills d Mitsubishi Mag-



The Red Hills Bowls Team

nets, Mitsubishi d Whitemore, Red Hills d Whitemore.

Red Hills and Carrick represented the Northern division at the State pennant finals played this year at Somerset with South (Div1) and Wesley Vale (Div2) being the successful teams.

The Australian Indoor Bowls championships are currently being played in Mt Gambier (SA) with Shenaye Simon and Julie Zaporosek and Narrinda Cawthen (Bishopsbourne) and Guy Zeuschner (Whitemore) as members of the Tasmanian team.