



BLACKSTONE HEIGHTS

Landslipping a real problem

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TYLER VILLAGE GETS NEW BUS

Age of chivalry not yet dead

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TRAFFIC FUN FOR KIDS

No road rage at the Toddle Inn

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Meander Valley Gazette

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May 2015

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper



THE SPIRIT LIVES ON

Joy James 89, Jean McNeill 99yrs, both of Deloraine, and Emma Porter and her son Spencer 3yrs of Exton join the hundreds of people gathered to honour all those who served our country in numerous conflicts around the globe at the ANZAC Centenary Memorial Service in Deloraine. Photos by Mike Moores

Kanagara is home for the 'old rugged cross'

By Liz Walker

THE 25TH of April 2015 marked the 100th year of Anzac.

A small inconspicuous cross tucked away in the chapel of the Good Shepherd at Kanangra (aged care facility), Deloraine was made in true Anzac spirit.

In the year 1916, Quarter Master Sergeant Freeman and Corporal Scott of the 4th

pioneer battalion designed and made the wooden cross from the salvaged remains of a wooden altar saved from a totally destroyed church in the war torn area of Somme in France.

The cross was carried on the back of a soldier and given to his padre, Donald Blackwood (later Bishop Blackwood).

Padre Blackwood

used the cross on the battlefield in communion services.

Bishop Blackwood gave the cross to Canon Rupert Heyes when Rupert was ordained.

Rupert Heyes, was born 1917 at Evandale, Tasmania. He came to Deloraine to farm.

Soon after he enlisted with the A.I.F. as captain, he served in Darwin and North Queensland and

was in Timor for the surrender of the Japanese.

After the war Rupert was a church warden of the Anglican parish, a member of ST. Marks, and was very active in Deloraine's church life.

Rupert was described as a "very human" person and a "farmer at heart".

After his death Rupert's widow requested the cross be placed in the Kanangra Chapel.



Georgina Harvey sings 'Keep the Home Fires Burning'

In My Opinion...

By Joanne Eisemann

I ALWAYS imagined that the technology takeover would look like a mob of android beings that got smarter than we humans and put us all in slavery; after all, that's what the Sci-Fi's predicted.

I'm beginning to think that the takeover has already happened; it just snuck up when I wasn't taking much notice.

We have washing machines that don't stop beeping until you turn them off, fridges that complain if you leave the door open and all manner of electronic devices that demand attention in one way or another. In most cases there is no way to override their demands; eventually, we have to give in and respond to them.

I heard a story the other day about a two-year old vehicle speaking to its driver, telling him it needed a service. Eventually, he took it to a mechanic who refused to service it because the vehicle hadn't yet reached

the required mileage. Ughh, his car is still telling him it needs a service every time he gets in!

Or what about the person who tried to pay their house insurance in Launceston. As the power was down that day, they wouldn't even take his money!

And what happens if your address is one of those ones that 'Google Maps' (seemingly the new authority of where everything in the world is located) doesn't recognise? I've had many a call centre person trying to convince me that my home doesn't exist and, as a result, services are refused.

You might think this just happens with rural addresses - not so! Deloraine Online Access Centre is not recognised by Google Maps either.

It took 3 months to convince NBN and Telstra (who were already sending a bill to this address) that the location did in fact exist.

Surely all this technology 'stuff' is supposed to make life easier. But really, in many instances, does it?

In Response...

I WAS unimpressed by the article in 'My Opinion' by Teresa in the April edition of Meander Valley Gazette.

Woolworths employ approximately 100 people in our local community and service thousands of locals and visitors yearly.

Woolworths is the life-blood of Deloraine and without them, Deloraine would be a ghost town.

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Woolworths is a clean, friendly, warm and welcoming store, with thousands of products of all descriptions to choose from.

In a snapshot, last Saturday I observed the pumpkin was \$1.00 per kilo, celery \$1.00

a bunch, carrots \$1.00 per kilo, and lettuce twin pack \$1.00. That is better than good.

Ignorance is bliss. Before warbling on about lettuce leaves check your facts. Woolworths donate all food scraps to the local wildlife park and a local farm, and have done so for years.

There are people and animals being mistreated and starving, not only internationally but locally. And you focus on a business that benefits us in so many ways.

We are lucky to live in a fantastic community with such a smorgasbord of facilities and foods at our fingertips.

Wake up to yourself and be grateful.

Jason, Deloraine

'Nellie' carved her way into history



Detail of screen, St Andrew's Westbury. Photo: R. Menzie Image courtesy of Tasmanian Anglican

ELLEN NORA Payne, a prolific woodcarver, was born at Westfield in Westbury, Tasmania 1865 and died in 1962.

Her life and work will be celebrated in various venues around Westbury from 9th October through to 2nd November 2015.

Ellen carved numerous pieces throughout her life, notably the magnificent altar and screens in the Anglican Church, Westbury and exhibited at the 1907 Australian Exhibition of Women's Work, for which she was awarded numerous prizes.

2015 will mark 150 years since the birth of 'Nellie' Payne. As Nellie carved many of this State's WW1 honour rolls, it is especially fitting that 2015 be the year to celebrate her work.

Anyone with connections to Nellie, including photographs, references to any pieces she carved, anything at all that can help tell the story of this truly remarkable woman, are asked to please contact Pam Swain 6393 1153 or email nelliepayne150@gmail.com

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A riverside Easter Festival was hosted by Deloraine & District Christian Churches on Easter Saturday in Deloraine. There were train rides for the little ones, face painting, stilt walking musical entertainment. Held on a lovely autumn day over 500 people were in attendance.

Pictured here in the donkey race: Right top - Rebecca Barrett 12 of Deloraine, and underneath (the donkey) Abbey Beck 12 of Deloraine. The names of the other two contestants are unknown.

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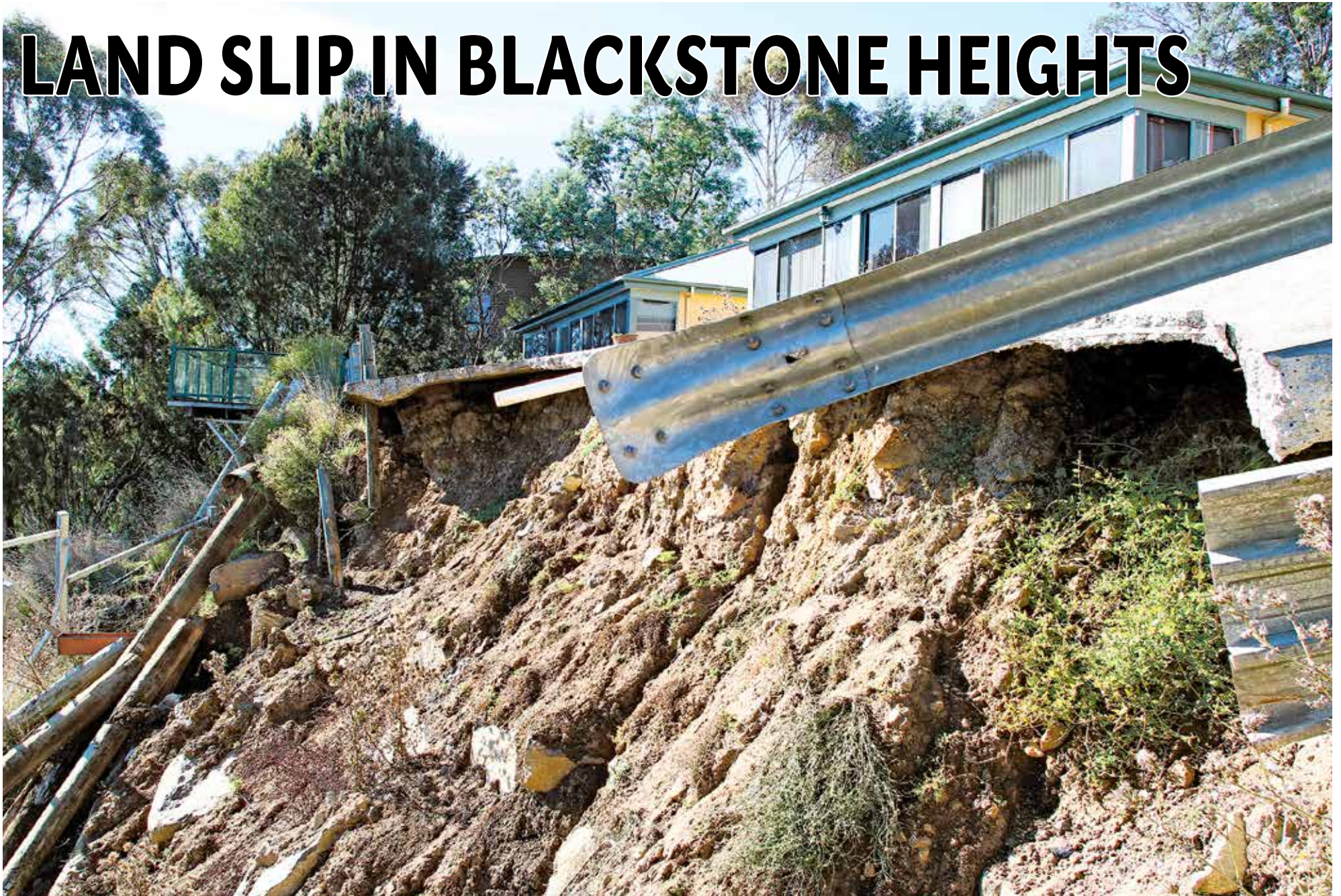
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LAND SLIP IN BLACKSTONE HEIGHTS



Four properties along Blackstone Heights Road have had to be vacated due to landslip. This picture shows part of the slip in front of Eva Griffiths property.

IN MID 2014 Meander Valley Council asked residents to vacate several properties in Blackstone Heights as they have been assessed as unsafe due to landslip problems.

In the early noughties, Eva Griffiths purchased one of the now vacated homes.

Eva moved to Tasmania from Victoria, not having any idea she was moving into a known landslip area and says she is disappointed that Council did not inform her of the possibility when she applied for planning permission to build a deck and lay a cement slab in 2002.

The slab moved slightly after laying. Eva sought

professional help and was advised not to be concerned.

In July 2009, Ben Lomond Water took over responsibility for water from Council.

The problem became apparent around August of that year, when the water company did some digging on the easement of Eva's property. Within a couple of days, land around the digging site had slipped about a metre.

Eva wrote a letter to the water company, but Ben Lomond Water accepted no responsibility for the slippage.

Ben Lomond Water returned around a year later and dug a test hole that was

just six inches deep on the other side of the property. Within a day or so, there was a foot of slippage around that hole.

By this time Eva had begun building another dwelling on her property and, from the balcony of that property, she could see that the slab on the first house was moving further and further from its original position.

Council met with property owners and investigated the problem, which led to the eventual request to move.

Eva continues paying mortgages on two properties that she is unable to reside in or collect rent from.

The slab has now moved approximately 24 inches and the front 2 metres of the slab has broken off and slid down the slope towards the lake.

"Within a couple of days, land around the digging site had slipped about a metre."

Eva engaged an engineer who designed a retaining wall to contain the slippage and stabilise the batter to resolve the problem. She hoped to complete this work before winter.

Although the engineer requested that Council treat the matter as urgent, they are still waiting for approval.

Meander Valley Council's Mayor, Craig Perkins, says that the whole matter is under investigation by Council's insurers, who will report to Council.

"Those reports haven't yet been finalised, but we know that all the steps that Council has taken since the properties were developed over twenty years ago have all been appropriate and met our requirements."

Mayor Perkins further commented, "there will be a report provided to council that we will be able to put on our website for people to see a summary of what has happened."

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Building a sustainable Home Sweet Home

WHAT IS a sustainable house? To some, it is a well designed, energy efficient new house with all the new technologies incorporated.

To others, it is an older home that is renovated with sustainability at the core.

Or it could be a combination of the above if a new extension is added to an existing home.

Now, there is a chance to find out direct from the home owner. Coming to Northern Tasmania is the launch of

Sustainable Home Tours – The Inside Story.

Find out how to make your own home more comfortable and energy efficient or gather ideas for your new house.

By only having twenty people in each tour the chance to interact with the homeowners and others will be optimised.

The tour will be centred around Sheffield and Gowrie Park, with three very different homes on view. You will view a strawbale owner-build on a

two acre semi-rural property.

A retrofitted 1965 weath-erboard house that has been added to over the years and now has double glazing. And an owner-built steel-framed home that demonstrates really good design principles.

It's a great opportunity to tap into their experience.

The tour is on Sunday 24th May. Book in for one, two or all three houses. Phone Sean Manners on 0412 294 779 or visit www.diyeco.com.au for all the details.

Tyler Village residents get to tour the town

RESIDENTS AND staff were hopping on the footpath with excitement as Tyler Village Aged Care Home in Prospect Vale took delivery of its new bus.

With seats for eight people and room for a wheelchair, the bus represents a new era in service delivery for Tyler Village.

The national standard is to offer residents two outings per month.

Until now, all outings have had to use taxis for transport, often proving a difficult and expensive exercise.

Sue Atkinson, Social Care Manager, successfully applied to Tasmanian Community Fund and received \$40,000 to purchase the bus. Island Care chipped in \$27,000 to install a wheel chair lift.

Island Care Facility Manager, Sarah Chong, and Brett Menzies, Director of Care, accepted the keys of the new bus from Lola Cowle, Executive Officer of Tasmanian Community Fund.

Meander Valley Council Mayor, Craig Perkins, supported the application and was at the reception to join in

the celebratory morning tea.

The bus will enable dedicated volunteers to take some time out for thank you lunches and community members with Alzheimer's will be offered a pick up service to join in the Tyler Village activity program. Visiting other aged care homes is also on the agenda.

'It's just going to make life so much easier', says Sue Atkinson.

Pictured below: Faye Lamprey, Leisure and Lifestyle worker; Selwyn Stubbings, resident; and Marcus Man, carer.



Photo by Mike Moores


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Also in Launceston at G1, 26 Elizabeth Street 6331 5838

Donations for seed bank

THE DELORANIE Community Garden is seeking the donation of a cool, dark space for a COMMUNITY SEED BANK.

It could be under someone's house, a cellar even, or a well-insulated shed. It would also need access to water and have electricity for a fridge.

Enough space is required to process seeds, store

seeds in cabinets and conduct germination tests.

A seed bank of locally produced seeds, proven viable in our local climate and soils, is a vital part of community food security.

If anyone knows of a suitable space, please contact Sandy Tiffin on 6369 5510, of Catherine Smith on 6362 2938.

MEANDER VALLEY - GET INVOLVED

CARRICK COMMUNITY Committee are holding their Annual BIGGEST MORNING TEA.

Once again they would like to thank all the wonderful people who participated in previous years.

Anyone who would like to knit a beanie in soft wool, or make a Turban for young women, patterns are available online or ring Cancer Support Centre 6341 8400 or call Sheila who will be happy to help.

Beanies and turbans will be donated to the Cancer Support Centre for all patients to receive.

Any articles donated to the trade table, plants, books etc would be gratefully accepted.

There will be live music, prizes, speakers and lovely food. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy fun, friendship while raising money for a good cause.

The BIGGEST MORNING TEA is from 10.00am to 12.00noon on Tuesday 19th May 2015 at the Carrick Community Hall, Meander Valley Road, Carrick.

Entry is by donation.

If needed, please ring Sheila for more information on 6393 7111.

POLICE REPORT WITH INSP. SCOTT FLUDE

DURING THE past month Meander Valley crime has been low, which is pleasing to see.

Of note, though, is that we have had a small number of break-ins where the property has been left unsecured, which has allowed the offender/s easy access.

Examples of this have been a burglary of a house, 2 sheds, and a couple of cars.

I again would just like to ask that people be vigilant with security, to deter any persons who may be looking for opportunities to commit crime.

Leaving property unsecured is sometimes just enough for some persons to proceed to stealing.

I think it would be nice for all to have a community

that we're able to go about business leaving places unsecured and not having to lock your car in the street; however, sadly, this is not the case any more - even in our country communities.

Every member of the community must play a part in preventing crime wherever possible and we all must play a part in this process.

Our relationship with the community is excellent and I continue to remind everyone to keep up the good work in reporting things that sometimes just "don't seem right".

There is no such thing as bad information and we are keen to speak with anyone regarding things they see or any other issues they deem appropriate.



Emily Gilligan of Deloraine models the bonnet embroidered for Louisa Wright in the stable of the Deloraine Art and Folk Museum.

Photo by: Mike Moores

Female convicts remembered

By Shelly Petersen

THIS MONTH, the Deloraine Art and Folk Museum is showcasing a collection of handmade bonnets commemorating 25,566 convict women who were sentenced to transportation to Australia (1788 – 1853), including women who lived in the Meander Valley.

Curator, Vicky Pryer worked hard at attaining funding for the display, believing it “fitted nicely with the Tasmanian Heritage theme for this month – conflict and compassion.”

Vicky is particularly excited about the ‘local women’ included in the exhibition, saying, “I am hoping that most of the bonnets we receive for the display will be women that lived in the Meander Valley.”

One such woman is Louisa Pointon (nee: Wright) who was 16 years of age when she was trialled in the Central

Criminal Court in London on 13th June 1842, of larceny for stealing a watch.

Louisa was sentenced to seven years imprisonment and transported to Van Dieman’s Land on the *Garland Grove*. She arrived 110 days later and was assigned to Mr Barrett.

From 1843 – 1845, Louisa was reprimanded twice for insolence which resulted in four months of hard labour, and once for disobedience of orders, resulting in 14 days’

“...we, the community, can offer moments of reflection...”

solitary confinement.

In 1845 she was ‘delivered of an illegitimate child’ for which she was granted a ticket of leave on the 20th May 1845. She married convict Frederick Pointon.

They went on to have nine more children and settled in Deloraine. Upon her death,

Louisa was buried at the United Church of England Cemetery in Deloraine.

Bonnet patterns are available for anyone who would like to participate

Louisa is one of the many woman represented and honoured by the display created by Tasmanian born artist, Dr Christina Henri.

The *Roses from the Heart* memorial is a compelling project in which Dr Henri hopes the bonnets will not only symbolise the individual characters they represent, but also connect the viewer with the human face of the individuals exiled for crimes generally driven by desperate poverty.

Dr Henri says, “I hope we, the community, can offer moments of reflection, taking time out from our busy lives to contemplate not only the female convict story, but to also scrutinise our own value systems, our levels of judgement and acceptance towards others.”

To date, more than 24,000 bonnets have been received, each crafted with a rose to symbolise the women being uprooted from their English/Irish homeland, and a heart expressing sincere love from descendants and from the public, with empathy.

Embellished on each brim is the name of the convict woman, the ship she was transported on and the date of her arrival.

Bonnet patterns are available for anyone who would like to participate in this heart-warming project. Entry into the museum is free throughout May.

beyondblue Fundraiser

INDEPENDENT AUSTRALIAN non-profit organisation, *beyondblue*, is working to address issues associated with depression, anxiety disorders and related mental disorders.

beyondblue works in partnership with health services, schools, workplaces, universities, media and community organisations, as well as people living with anxiety and depression, and their friends and family, to raise community awareness of anxiety and depression and reduce associated stigma.

The Deloraine Football Club, in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Deloraine, the Deloraine Hospital and *beyondblue*, will be holding a community event to help raise awareness of depression and anxiety disorders in the community, at and after

their home game vs Scottsdale Football Club on Saturday, 23rd of May 2015. The day will also raise funds for *beyondblue*.

The special guest at this Community event is Troy Luff, former Sydney Swans Premiership player and current sport presenter on Weekend Sunrise.

Troy is a *beyondblue* ambassador and will be attending the football, and presenting a talk during the evening at the Club.

This will be a family friendly event, and the entire Deloraine community is invited to attend. The Football Club and Rotary Deloraine will be conducting a raffle through the day, along with auctioning some football memorabilia to raise funds for the important work of *beyondblue*.

Schedule of events for *beyondblue* Day
Deloraine Football Club - 23rd May 2015

Free *beyondblue* show bags at the gate
Raffle with proceeds to *beyondblue*

9.50am - Under 19, Reserves and Senior Football
2.00pm - Senior game (Auskick match at half time)

Chicken Parmigiana dinner at the Clubrooms from
5.30pm (\$20 per person)

Auction of Football Memorabilia

Guest Speaker Troy Luff from 6.30pm (Free event)
All welcome

Carrick Indoor Bowls boot sale

CARRICK INDOOR Bowls club are competing again this year in the Northern Division, Launceston Association of Indoor Bias Bowls.

A car boot sale will be held in the carpark of the Carrick Inn Hotel on Saturday, 16th

May, between 10am and 2pm.

If anyone is interested in hiring a site for just \$10 please contact Amanda Phillips on 6393 6301.

The club hopes to see many shoppers looking for a bargain on the day.

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Moving Pictures

THE ABC came to Deloraine in the form of the incredible, tall, Leandro (Leo) Palaciao.

Leo is the 'Open' producer for Northern Tasmania and his mission is to instruct mere mortals in the art of producing short videos showing how we entertain ourselves.

Some of these videos will be aired on ABC television.

In revealing the basic steps of video production, Leo opens a fascinating insight into the world of television.

He showed how to construct a script, follow it on a story board, and use a variety of camera angles.

Using smart phones, tablets or digital cameras, it is possible to produce acceptable short 'films' at little or no cost and highlight the pastimes and hobbies that we find so absorbing in our daily lives.

Leo states that age is no barrier to creativity.

Young school children and people in their eighties have, and are producing, lively and entertaining short films using the techniques shown in this short but intensive workshop.

The free workshop held at the Deloraine Online Centre has fired the imagination of a dedicated number of enthusiasts.

Telling your story can not only be very fulfilling but might serve as an insight to future generations of your family.

Video is fast becoming the twenty first century preferred mode of communication.

For those interested in attending beginner classes in making short videos (30 seconds) please register your interest with Deloraine Online Centre on 6362 3537 (or drop in). When numbers are sufficient another course will be organised.



Right: Leandro Palaciao views Jaqueline Thompson's early efforts

Emphasis on being the best they can be

By Joanne Eisemann

MAKING SURE all students are treated as individuals and leave the school with a clear direction for their future is a priority for new Principal

of Deloraine High School, Benjamin Frerk.

This is Benjamin's first appointment as Principal. Previously he spent time as acting principal at Exeter High School; Assistant

Principal at both Exeter and Scottsdale High Schools; and as a teacher at Queechy and Kings Meadows High Schools.

"I'd heard a lot of good things about the school and

thought it would be a great place for me to take on the role of Principal", comments Benjamin.

He is working to raise literacy and numeracy levels at Deloraine and has a broader goal, "to raise the aspirations of every single kid we have here at the school and the self belief that they can actually achieve better."

Strategies used to achieve this include investing in teaching staff.

"we want to make sure that we are providing authentic realistic opportunities for every single learner, so they see the value within their education and their further development."

Benjamin elaborates, "It's all about building capacity amongst our teachers to be the best possible teachers they can and to make sure that translates into the best possible opportunities for kids in classrooms."

Data is used to inform how students are performing and to develop intervention plans where needed. Data also highlights the areas where Deloraine High is functioning above average.

"One thing we focus on heavily here is differentiation", says Benjamin, adding, "we want to make sure that we are providing authentic realistic opportunities for every single learner, so they

see the value within their education and their further development."

Providing a comfortable learning environment is paid careful attention, ensuring temperature and ambience are conducive to learning.

The school is structured differently to many high schools, in that the teachers change classrooms between lessons rather than the students. Benjamin says this leads to a more focused learning environment.

The average class size is twenty three, and a range of practical, as well as academic subjects are on offer.

Benjamin says that he has never been to a school where interest in music has been so strong. Many of the 244 students play music, compose their own songs and even make their own instruments.

As Principal, he welcomes parental involvement in the school and encourages parents to join the association, come and speak with teachers, or talk to him to question what is going on.

Benjamin says he notices "very supportive parents here", further commenting, "education is everyone's business...it's not just the teachers here, it's the parents at home, it's the people in the community."

Benjamin intends that when students leave Deloraine High, "they know that they can question what is around them and can look for further avenues to up-skill and be productive members of the community."



Photo by: Mike Moores

Road safety for toddlers

By Sara Fawcett

TODDLER INN Childcare Centre in Deloraine has been giving children in the Meander Valley a head start in life for 15 years.

Toddler Inn is a non-for-profit, community-based and managed centre with a warm, friendly and educational environment for the kids.

Its Director, Julie Purdon, was pleased for the opportunity to discuss and promote its values.

"We cater for children aged 0-5 years. The centre offers a long day care service for families in a warm and caring atmosphere," Julie said.

She continues, "Toddler Inn recognises the value and importance of early learning and encourages independence and learning through play in a social setting."

Such initiatives include the recently upgraded bike track,

designed to teach our children road safety rules.

This came about as a result of the centre being part of the *Move Well Eat Well* program which is a government award program managed by the Department of Health and Human Services.

"One of the criteria for this, 'strive and ride', inspired us to revamp our bike track," Julie said.

They bought several new bikes and installed stop and go signs, traffic lights and a pedestrian crossing in order to look like a real roadway.

"Road safety is a real part of our curriculum," Julie said. She adds, "RACT have visited to educate children and families on traveling safely in cars."

The children love the experience and look forward to the centre's bikes coming out on a daily basis.

Several times a year they also do a bike week such as



Julie Purdon, Toddler Inn Director, teaches Henry Braun, age 3, of Meander, and Callie Frost, age 4, of Deloraine how to come to a complete stop on the newly upgraded bike path. Photo by Mike Moores

the one coming up in June for which children are encouraged to bring their own bikes and helmets.

Westbury a top performer on the sporting stage

FOR A SMALL rural area, Westbury and surrounding districts have achieved some big wins in sport recently.

The Westbury Shamrocks

North's end of season trophy night, the Shamrock's club president, Michael Claxton, was presented with a Life Members medallion

ern women's team; and four of the Cricket North 'Team of the year', including the captain and coach, were from the Westbury Shamrocks.

The Westbury Bowls Club also had a successful season, fielding teams in five divisions and winning three Northern pennants and one State Flag.

The Division 4 side won its Grand Final and the Division 4 State Final, the only Northern Division side to win a State Final.

The mid-week Division 4 side performed well, winning the Grand Final.

Club President Rod Plunkett and Secretary John McNabb indicated that the Club's successful year was a reflection on the camaraderie of the approximately 70 members. The Club fully owns and maintains its facilities and all work is done voluntarily.

Whitemore thoroughbred breeder and trainer Graeme McCulloch bred Group 1 winner Mongolian Kahn.

The horse won both the New Zealand Derby and the \$2 million AJC Sydney Derby - the first time a horse has won this double since 1986.

Article submitted by Meander Valley Council



Westbury Shamrocks Cricket Club's first grade team celebrates their premiership win.

Cricket Club recorded an impressive 2014/15 season with both the first and third grades winning their respective NTCA premierships.

First grade Captain, Dane Anderson led Jono Chapman, Daniel Murfet, Richard Howe, Josh Adams, Sean Stevenson, Shaun Leatherbarrow, Michael Lucic, Nathan Parkin, Joe Cullen, Dave Rogers and Justin Curbishley to an innings win over South Launceston, taking their premiership haul to three out of the last four.

At the recent Cricket

recognising his contribution to Northern Tasmanian cricket.

The cricketing accolades continue.

Lord's Taverner's Association of Tasmania named Westbury Cricket Club the winner of the "Spirit of Cricket Award" for being the best northern Club.

Former Westbury cricketer, Kristen Beams, has been named a contracted player with the Australian women's Test Team.

Caitlin Webster of Westbury was named as a member of the combined North-

Netflix comes to Oz

By Alistair Carr

A COMPANY called Netflix has been in the news lately, but what exactly is it?

Netflix is a subscription based video streaming service that provides on-demand video from a catalogue of TV shows and films. This means that, once you are subscribed, you can watch any of their advert-free videos at any time that suits you, without being tied to a time schedule.

You can watch these videos on any internet connected device that allows the installation of the Netflix app, provided you have a fast enough internet connection.

This includes desktop computers and laptops, Smart TVs, streaming media players like Apple TV; Chromecast and WD TV live (may need updating to the latest software); game consoles like the PS3 and 4 and Xbox (again may need updating); Smart phones; PVR set top boxes; and Blu Ray players.

If you have a Netflix icon on the screen, then your device should work. Thankfully, Netflix are currently offering a free try-out month for those interested in giving it a shot, but you will need to sign up with an email address to access the service.

Current costs are \$8.99 a month for the basic package; \$11.99 for the standard package; and \$14.99 for the premium package.

The basic package is only standard definition while the standard package is high definition and the premium package is ultra high definition which requires a UHD TV or display to make the most of it.

Given there is little UHD content actually available for the premium package, it

would seem pointless for a few years yet.

For internet connection, you need at least 3.Mbit per second for SD (basic) and 5Mbit per second for HD (standard). The slowest NBN fibre or NBN wireless connection will easily cope with these speeds. Long ADSL lines may not cope.

For the UHD premium package, you will need at least 25Mbit per second. Second tier fibre and fixed wireless connections will be right on the limit. In reality, a 50/20 or 100/40 fibre connection is best. ADSL is not going to cope with UHD. These are the bare minimum speeds and you should have at least 50% faster connection speeds for smooth playback.

There are downsides to Netflix. It can eat a lot of your data, especially HD and UHD so you need to check if your ISP allows Netflix traffic quota free on your particular internet connection plan.

SD quality uses about 700 megabytes per hour, HD uses about 3000 megabytes (3 Gigabytes) per hour and UHD consumes a massive 7000 megabytes (7 Gigabytes) per hour.

iiinet and its subsidiaries have Quota free Netflix but this excludes Satellite, NBN wireless, Mobile Voice and Mobile Broadband.

Optus are also offering quota free on their fixed line broadband, but have also excluded mobile, NBN fixed wireless and Satellite.

For those that count Netflix traffic on your monthly quota, you will need a large or unlimited data plan.

Telstra are going their own way at the moment offering the Presto streaming service, which is similar to Netflix. Happy viewing!

Mother-daughter team pawsitively awesome

By Jan Collett

'LIKE MOTHER, like Daughter' is an apt description of Sarah Ward and her daughter, Clover, of Western Creek. This quiet, unassuming duo make quite the team with their canine family in the dog agility ring.

Both have been around dogs all their lives and took home training to the next level five years ago, starting basic obedience at Tasmanian Dog Training Club in Launceston, with their two Border Collies, Banjo and River.

The dogs were quick learners and willing to please and Clover, a Year 9 student at Deloraine High School, became attracted to the fast-paced canine sport of Agility, saying, "it seemed a



Top: Clover and Sarah Ward, with their dogs, Alaska, Banjo, River and Chilli. Bottom left: Chilli flies over a jump. Bottom right: River has achieved several agility titles. Photos Jan Collett

the dog taking the obstacles under the direction of its human handler. Titles can be achieved by attaining a number of qualifying rounds.

Teamwork is imperative and this is achieved through training and developing a relationship of trust with your dog.

Clover and her mum began agility training in earnest in 2011 and started

entering trials.

Although generally competing individually with their dogs, Sarah and Clover and two dogs come together in

the agility event known as Strategic Pairs. Communication between the humans

"It's important to know your dog and what they enjoy."

in this event is important and Sarah and Clover seem to have that down pat, as they have titled both dogs as Strategic Pairs Dogs.

When asked if there is a rivalry when competing in agility, Sarah doesn't feel she has a particularly competitive nature but suggests that Clover does. Clover admits with a smile, "maybe a little."

River and Banjo have achieved Agility Dog and Jumping Dog titles and River has gone on to achieve his Jumping Dog Excellent title and Snooker Dog title.

Just to show that dogs of

all sizes can excel, Chihuahua-Pomeranian cross, Chilli, has attained his Jumping Dog title, having begun training in 2012.

Sarah admits her biggest challenge is working with Chilli, saying, "I need to get consistency with Chilli in running a course; he gets distracted."

What do the dogs get out of agility? Clover says, "River just likes... being with us."

Sarah says, "With Chilli, when he's doing a good run, he just goes, and I feel very connected to him when he goes."

Sarah goes on to say Banjo loves being around them but will probably retire from agility soon. Banjo's thing

is Rally Obedience; it's slower paced than agility, but still requires excellent teamwork.

"It's important to know your dog and what they enjoy", say the Mother-Daughter team in unison.

The newest arrival in the Ward family is Alaska, a Border Collie pup from good working dog lineage.

Alaska is only 10 months old and, while she cannot start jumping training until she is over 18 months old, to allow for her bones and joints to develop properly, she is already training in obedience and learning to achieve focus.

Clover also plays soccer and this makes for busy weekends as she balances the two fun sports and her school work.

In between all the activities, Clover found time to write a letter to Dogs Life magazine, which was the winning letter in their March/April edition.

What next? "We are going to the 2016 Agility Nationals in Adelaide", says Clover, with a grin.



bit more fun."

In Agility, a course of obstacles such as jumps, tunnels and scrambles, among others, is run in sequence, with



Events Diary

Planning an event? Then make sure everyone knows about it. Simply email the details to editor@meandervalleygazette.com - remember to plan in advance so you don't miss out!

Date and Time	Event	Details
Every day during May 9.00am - 5.00pm	Roses from the Heart - Bonnets - Free	Del Folk Museum-Tasmanian Heritage Month Ph: 6362 5280
Every Monday 10.00am - 10.30am	Story Time for Pre-schoolers	Deloraine Library
Every Wednesday 1.00pm - 4.00pm	Indoor Carpet Bowls, Deloraine	Western Tiers Community Club. Deloraine Barry: 6362 2243
Every Wednesday 10.00am - 1.00pm	Mah Jong \$5.00	Uniting Church Hall, Deloraine. Roma: 6362 2380
Every Wed fortnight 7.30pm - 9.00pm	Prospect Youth Group 12-16 yrs - \$3.00	Community Centre, Primary School, Stanley St, Prospect
Every Friday 3.00pm - 4.00pm	Relaxation Tai Chi with Jenny \$1.00	Western Tiers Community Club Deloraine Barry: 6362 2243
Every Sunday 10.00am - 11.00am	Dragon Boating. Exp or Beg. All welcome	Meander River, Del. (near Swim Pool) Peter 0409 234 061
Friday 8th May Fortnightly	Learn to build 14-21+ age group	9 workshops - Must register with Nate 0427 543 365
Monday 11th May All day	AFL player and Coach Stan Alves Clinic	Deloraine Football Club, Free Entry
Tuesday 12th May 11.00am - 1.00pm	Meander Valley Volunteer Expo	Western Tiers Community Club, Free Lunch Joanne 6362 3537
Saturday 16th May 10.00am - 2.00pm	Carrick Indoor Bowls Car Boot Sale	Carrick Inn Hotel Carpark, Carrick Ph: 6393 6301
Sunday 17th May 2.00pm	Autumn Seed Savers and Surplus Swap	40 Quamby Brook Rd call Brenda 63695538
Tuesday 19th May 10.00am - 12.00 noon	Biggest Morning Tea - Entry by Donation	Carrick Community Hall, Meander Valley Road, Carrick
Friday 22nd May 6.30pm - 12.00am	Old Time Dance -WT Community Club	Meal with Dance & Supper \$20pp Bkgs req. Barry: 6362 2243
Friday 22nd May 8.00pm - 12.00am	Old Time Dance - band 'DeJa Vu'	WT Community Club Dance & Supper \$8pp Barry: 362 2243
Saturday 23rd May All day	beyondblue Awareness Day Fundraiser	Free day-Del. Football Ground (Dinner from 5.30pm Cost \$20)
Monday 25th May 7.30pm	Bingo - Fortnightly - Cash prizes & Jackpots	WT Community Club Parsonage Street - 18 years and over
Thursday 28th May 10.00am - 12 noon	Biggest Morning Tea Cost \$7.00	Del Rotary Pavillion, Alveston Drv. Group Bkgs Ph: 6362 4994
Thursday 28th May 7.00pm	Community Safety Meeting	Del Rotary Pavillion, Alveston Drive.
Saturday 30th May 6.00pm	Empire Night Fireworks	Meander Hall BBQ Adults \$10 Children \$5 Fireworks \$2 (7.30)
Saturday 6th June 6.30pm	Eat & Greet social tea - bring food to share	Westbus, 63 Meander Valley Rd Westbury Jan: 6393 1830
Saturday 13th June 11.00am - 2.00pm	Fruit Tree Care with Sandy Tiffin	Deloraine Community Garden



Deciduous trees provide spectacular colour in the autumn garden

Flaming foliage in the garden

By Nell Carr

PARKS AND gardens in Tasmania at this time of year are ablaze with a multi-coloured display of trees and shrubs, from the pale butter yellow of the 40m high Ginkgo biloba (Maidenhair Tree), to the diminutive, dark red spikey shrub Berberis thunbergii "Atropurpurea".

Another of the same species, "Rose Glow", is a brilliant orange. Other less common plants which colour

up well before losing their leaves are the 15m Liquidamber, and Parrotia persica, a smaller tree of 9m. Nyssa silvatica is a small-leaved, drought tender tree of 20m, which turns red, yellow and green at this time of the year.

Liriodendron tulipifera (the Tulip Tree), at 40m, is a striking bright yellow in Autumn. As its name suggests, the flowers are reminiscent of tulips, appearing in summer, but as they are green, they are

not easily distinguished from amongst a copious covering of large palmate leaves. The slender variety of these trees, L. fastigiata, have been planted on the median strip of a section of Emu Bay Road in Deloraine.

The ornamental grape vine, Vitis vinifera, is easily propagated from the leafless winter twigs. Two or three of these, inserted two buds deep into a pot of clean soil, will sprout leaves when Spring arrives, and will quickly cover a fence or trellis or the walls

of a building, and, so long as they are in full sunshine, will turn copper, and then a brilliant red in late Autumn.

As with the fruiting grapes, they are pruned back to a few short leaders once their leaves have fallen.

In the veggie garden:

Experience has shown that cattle just love those sugar-sweet two metre corn stalks, so any reader who has a few weaners, or a house

cow, or has a neighbour with some, they would no doubt be grateful for them.

They are too tough to break up small enough for compost, and such a valuable source of fibre should be utilised.

Save seeds from the best tomatoes and dry out on a saucer in a sunny window. Refrigerate when thoroughly dry in small labelled envelopes.

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Meander Valley has 4 species of robin

By Sarah Lloyd

THERE ARE four species of robin in the Meander Valley.

Three species, the flame, scarlet and pink robins, have brightly coloured male birds with females and young birds mostly brown.

The fourth is the predominantly brown, dusky robin, a slightly larger bird than the other three and one of Tasmania's twelve resident endemic species.

Robins have complex seasonal movements. The scarlet and flame robins often occur together, but the flame generally prefers wetter

forests and will move to higher ground to breed; some birds cross Bass Strait to spend winter on the mainland once breeding has ceased.

Scarlet robins are often seen in agricultural areas as long as there's still bush close by where they can roost, nest and shelter from inclement weather and predators.

Pink robins are found in rainforest and ferny gullies such as at Liffey Falls, Meander Falls and around the Mole Creek caves.

All robins feed on insects or spiders they take mostly

from the ground.

It used to be common to see red-breasted robins sitting on fences along the highways and country roads, or perching on dead thistles, bracken fern or saggs in rough pasture where they would keep an eye out for insects before dropping to the ground to catch their prey.

Dusky robins used to be called 'stump robins' because they like perching on the side of stumps that were a feature of pastures after the early days of clearing the bush.

Most rough pasture and old stumps have since been



Pink Robins prefer rainforests and gullies, near waterfalls.

cleared and cleaned up to make way for more intensive agricultural pursuits.

These activities are adversely affecting robin populations – and many other birds.

Mayoral 100th ANZAC address reprinted with kind permission

THANK YOU for the opportunity to speak on a day where we reflect on those who both fought and continue to fight for the freedom of our great nation and for those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, and we appreciate that many of those people have families who continue to have strong connections with our community and the Meander Valley districts.

Whilst in some respects we recognise that the story of the ANZAC's commenced 100 years ago today with the landing at the shores of Gallipoli, ANZAC Day provides us with a moment to reflect more broadly on those

who have gone into battle for our freedom.

In recent years ANZAC Day has seen a significant change in the way we approach it as a community.

The ANZAC Day message is broadcast across social media, used by retailers and forms the subject of TV shows ... including news, documentaries and even episodes of Home and Away.

I wonder, does this make us stop and think more about war and conflict and its effects on the men and women who fought for our freedom?

Or does it lessen its impact; make us less sensitive

towards the atrocities of war.

I would like to think that, based on the turn out here today, that the message is still the same, it's about people - the men and women who fought; those who sacrificed their lives; the families at home who lost loved ones and how it had helped to shape an entire nation.

Of course, for most of us we have never experienced war first hand ... so for me ANZAC Day is trying to comprehend and appreciate what war and conflict might be like and how life-changing it would be.

I can only do that through the stories I hear and the

pictures I see.

And this is where traditional media, social media and the like can play an important role.

So notwithstanding the 24-hour news cycle and the flittering of social media, the solemn reflection and the giving thanks and appreciation remains strong amongst us, as it must.

And it is obvious that there is still a deep connection to past members of our communities, whose names are inscribed here on the cenotaph and whose families remain firmly rooted in our district.

It is easy to take the

Australian way of life for granted - we are so incredibly fortunate to live in a safe, friendly and democratic society.

Today we thank those Australians who fought for the Aussie lifestyle, who fought for our freedom.

We reflect on how they helped shape our country.

We honour them and we remember those families from within our community whose lives were changed forever as a result of war, through the loss of family and friends.

For those who served and those who are no longer with us, we thank you.

"LEST WE FORGET"

World class artworks from valley home

By Joanne Eisemann

HIDDEN ALONG a country lane by the banks of the Meander River, you can find an exclusive studio/gallery/sculpture garden called McLachlan Studios.

Mary and Hugh both trained as Gold and Silver-smiths at RMIT in Melbourne and made Tasmania their home in 1980.

"Us moving to Tasmania was a bit of a fluke really. I inherited this 50 acres which was terribly rundown; there was no garden, the paddocks were over grown with gorse and blackberries, the house was falling down", shared Mary.

Their family thought they were slightly mad, but Hugh had a vision and always thought he could do something with it.

These days, there is no hint of a dilapidated past. The house is renovated and not a

"People really enjoy the experience of coming here, because its an art experience", says Mary. She adds, "Hugh just loves making, he loves making jewellery, he loves making sculpture, he loves painting, he gets up to make."

Mary's interests have moved over the years, from the making to the marketing of their product. She enjoys assisting people to find the piece that is special for them.

At first they sold jewellery through galleries around Australia and overseas, but as Mary observes, "then people started getting to know us here, it got to the stage where we couldn't support other galleries as we were selling so much here."

All jewellery sales have been through their studio since 2000.

The jewellery is simple and elegant with a Scandinavian feel. They particularly

stones are sourced from trade fairs in Hong Kong.

Hugh enjoys the process of taking something from the ground and transforming it into something eternal, saying, "it's something that lasts forever."

Represented by Traffic Jam Galleries in Sydney, Hugh is gaining recognition as a sculptor and painter; several pieces have been chosen for Sculpture by the Sea exhibitions in Bondi and Cottesloe (WA). This year he has been selected as a finalist in the Montalto Sculpture Prize 2015.

When asked what the future holds, Mary responds, "It feels like it's all just starting, the world is our oyster, we don't need to know what the future holds, it will be exciting but we don't know what it will be...I don't think an artist ever stops - you just do it till you can't do it anymore."

More information on



Hugh and Mary McLachlan in with one of Hugh's early 'Pod' sculptures Photo by: Mike Moores

blackberry to be seen on the lush river flat pasture.

The English style garden is home to a jewellery studio and a selection of Hugh's sculptures.

like using a combination of gold and silver in their work, feeling that the combination works well together.

Pearls and other precious

their treasures may be found at www.mclachlan-studio.com.au or by visiting their Facebook page "McLachlan Studio".

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State Member for Lyons

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Tassie films in Deloraine

WIDE ANGLE Tasmania will hit the road to bring TASSshorts on SCREEN to regional venues, including Deloraine (Sat 23rd May at 7.30pm), supported by Studio Be and the Meander Valley Council.

The state wide tour of fourteen homegrown short films will help Wide Angle Tasmania to celebrate its 10th year of supporting screen culture in Tasmania.

Showcasing the exceptional talent of local filmmakers, all profits from ticket-sales will be split with filmmakers in this unique initiative that mentors local filmmakers in independent distribution.

The program will screen at 7.30pm at the Little Theatre in Deloraine on Saturday 23rd May, followed by a Q&A session with the tour organiser and General Manager of Wide Angle Tasmania, Abi Binning. 38 short films were submitted to Wide Angle Tasmania's TASSshorts on SCREEN initiative.

An industry panel watched nearly 6 hours of films to choose the final 14 short films included in the tour - a mix of entertaining documentaries, dramas and comedies.

The filmmakers selected for the tour were acknowl-

edged at a reception at Government House on 15th April.

In a first for Tasmania, the producers of each short film will partner with Wide Angle Tasmania in a profit share-venture.

General Manager of Wide Angle Tasmania, Abi Binning explains, "we're committed to providing opportunities for local filmmakers to develop strong careers in screen - and part of being a successful filmmaker is understanding distribution.

We're setting up the tour and working with filmmakers to engage local audiences.

All profit from ticket sales will be split with the participating filmmakers.

It's a way for filmmakers to earn revenue to make more films and is part of our efforts to fill the shortfall our organisation faces when Screen Australia ceases funding Wide Angle Tasmania at the end of the year."

A full line-up of films can be found online www.wideangle.org.au/tassshorts-screen-0 (0=digit not letter). Tickets can be purchased online <http://tassshortsdeloraine.eventbrite.com.au> or at the door for \$15.00 or \$10.00 concession.

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Thanks so much to all the fabulous people who helped us with our move: cleaning, painting, shifting, packing

Because DELORAINE Really is Wonderful!

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We are across the road from the library, right next to the Empire Hotel.

Our dreams have come true! We have a bigger shop, with fabulous windows, still on the main street, in a dynamic part of town.

Find us on Facebook

Valleyviews

May 2015

Mayor's Message

This year I was privileged to give an address at the Deloraine ANZAC day morning service. In the year of the centenary of the Gallipoli landings, it was humbling to see so many people in attendance and listen to the President of the Deloraine RSL, Peter Ashton's stirring speech. Australians who have fought and continue to fight for our freedom were remembered at a number of ceremonies across Meander Valley, including Carrick, Hagley and Westbury. Large crowds were in attendance at both the dawn and morning services, as was the case Australia-wide - once again proving that the spirit of the ANZAC is very much alive.

I would like to thank the City of Launceston RSL Band and the St Andrews Caledonian Pipe band for the invitation and opportunity to address the 'Here's to the Heros' concert on ANZAC Day. The concert gives older Australians who may find it harder now to get to a traditional service, the opportunity to connect with ANZAC day. Congratulations to the organisers on a magnificent, well attended event.

AGFEST 2015 was another successful event. Since commencing in 1986, AGFEST continues to cement itself as arguably the best rural field day in Australia. Congratulations to Rural Youth and this year's organising committee and band of volunteers.

Last month I wished the Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre all the best for the 2015 Australian Tourism Awards, held in Adelaide recently. Although they didn't win the National award this time round, I would like to congratulate the staff and volunteers for all the great work they do representing not only Meander Valley but the entire state.

Mayor Craig Perkins



Council Updates

Deloraine and Hadspen flood history

It's time to cast your memories back to help us gather some information about the floods in Deloraine during 1998 and 2005 and Hadspen, in 2011.

The Deloraine flood between 22 and 24 September 1998 was reported to be the largest flood for 70 years, at the time. We are keen to know how high the water peaked both upstream and downstream for a few kilometres from town—maybe you have photos that show flood peak marks? We would also like any photos/data of the Deloraine flood peak between 31 August and 1 September 2005 (a little more recent for those of us with fading memories).

The Hadspen flood occurred on 25 and 26 March 2011. Time stamped electronic photos would be very useful. If you can help, forward any information via email to mail@mvc.tas.gov.au with the subject line 'Flood Peak Data'.



Community Safety Meeting

The Community Safety Meeting will be held at Deloraine Rotary Pavilion, Alveston Drive at 7:00pm on the 28 May. The group meets quarterly to progress safety initiatives on a wide range of topics. It has Police, Health Service, Red Cross, Council and Community representatives. In 2015 it will hold its meetings in different townships to find out more about local safety issues. Community members, young and older all welcome. Please come along and share your thoughts.



Council Individual Sponsorship

Small donations are made to individuals who have been selected on merit to participate or compete in an event of national or international significance. Applications should be made by letter and include official verification of the individual's selection.

This should be sent to: The Grants Administrator Meander Valley Council, PO Box 102, Westbury, TAS, 7303. For further information please contact merrilyn.young@mvc.tas.gov.au or call 6393 5317.

Drive to the conditions

The colder months tend to bring with them weather conditions that require extra care when driving in Meander Valley and on other roads across the State. Here's some tips from the Meander Valley Community Road Safety Partnership for driving in these wintery 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)

And don't forget pedestrians and cyclists can be hard to see and are vulnerable road users. Cyclists should wear reflective clothing and ensure that they have both front and rear lights operating.



Community News

Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) Division of Lyons

The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) will be conducting doorknocks in Westbury from 8 - 21 May 2015 to check the accuracy of the Electoral Roll. Please note employees of the AEC will be wearing Identity/Authority cards displaying their photographs and the AEC's name and logo.

Computer Games

Sessions are held at the Deloraine Online Access Centre on Tuesdays and Saturdays each week. From 4:00-6:00pm games are suitable for ages 8-15 (rated G). From 6:00pm onwards M+ games. For more information contact Joanne on 6362 3537

Catwalk Creations from Castoffs or Transform Trash into Trendy Togs

A fashion competition for young people: To make and model an outfit from recycled material of your own choice. The show will be staged at Westbury Primary School Hall on 27 June from 6:30-8:30pm with live

music by local artists. Entries close 20 June. For more information contact Vicki Jordan on 0400 155 690.

Prospect Youth Group 12 - 16 years

Prospect youth group runs fortnightly from 7:30-9:00pm at the Summerdale Community Centre, Summerdale Primary School, Stanley Street, Prospect. Come along and have some fun. Drug and alcohol free event.



Diary Dates

Convict Memorial Bonnet Exhibition
Roses from the Heart Deloraine Folk Museum
1 - 31 May 2015 Phone 6362 5280

Markets

Deloraine Market, Showgrounds
First Saturday of every month
Liffey Valley Market, The Old School
Second Saturday of every month
Deloraine Farmers Market, MG Trading carpark
Second and fourth Saturday of the month
Westbury Market, St Andrews Church
Third Saturday of every month



Meander Valley Council

WORKING TOGETHER

Council Offices 8:30am-5:00pm

PO Box 102
26 Lyall Street, Westbury

General Enquiries

Phone 6393 5300
Fax 6393 1474
Email mail@mvc.tas.gov.au
Web www.meander.tas.gov.au

Connect with us



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



Sybilla Scott-Smith of Westbury shows Emma Ross, age 4, of Tarleton some tricks of the trade

Sybilla weaves her magic at the Alpaca Expo

DOZENS OF alpacas and passionate breeders gathered at the 2015 Alpaca Expo presented by the Northern Alpaca Breeders Network last month.

400 visitors saw these wonderful animals up close

and learned about alpaca care, from raising them to the garments and items produced from their fleece.

Kid's corner was a big hit for all ages. Children created alpaca collages with all colours of fleece and worked

out which fleece belonged to which animal, from wallabies to camels.

Alpaca farm management is diverse and the Expo presented a showcase of the varied approaches to alpaca breeding and management.

Kelpies keep on top of sheep in the yard

By Joanne Eisemann

MEANDER FARMER, Virginia Chilcott was a competitor in this year's Australian Yard Dog and Kelpie Field Trial Championships, held recently in Tasmania.

Virginia has been involved in Yard Dog competitions and Field Trials since she attended an 'encouragement day' at a shearing shed 6 years ago.

"Ben is a lovely stock dog; the way that he handles sheep is that they accept him really quickly."

From a farming background, Virginia had worked with dogs all her life, but found learning the many rules a challenge and says there were many handler errors in the beginning. "But then one day, it just all clicks, it's a beautiful feeling."

Virginia says her experience was all the better because she started with a really good dog.

"Everyone has a different opinion of what makes a good stock dog... Ben is a lovely stock dog; the way that he handles sheep is that they accept him really quickly."

Ben is now almost retired and Virginia works with her 4 other kelpies.

Dogs used for the competitions are working dogs.

Virginia explains, "All of the dogs are farm dogs;

I just pluck them from out of the farm environment, then take them into a competition environment; that's what most people do.

Most people have got farms, or they work on farms, or are stock contractors. They pluck those dogs on a Saturday morning, give them a dust off and put them into the competition arena and ask them to do their best."

At what age a dog begins training depends on the dog. They learn things like how to sit when around 8 weeks old and start learning to work with stock around 12 months old.

"You've got to be careful of their bone development, also their mental development; if you push them when they are too young, they get frazzled and they just reject you", shares Virginia.

"Before a competition I work them every day maybe for 15 to 20 minutes just doing something I know they are not brilliant at."

Competitions are divided into classes, depending on the experience and number of wins a dog has had.

According to Virginia the principles of Field Trialling can come in handy on the farm. "I used to do all driving, but now I don't, I'm the leader... it's a huge improvement because all of a sudden, the stock will learn that your ute is the safe point and they only get hassled if they are misbehaving out the back and the

dogs will bring them back to the main mob."

This innovation gives Virginia more time in her day; now she can stand at the gate making phone calls or emailing while her dogs bring the sheep to her.

"The competitions are a bit of fun, but they are also to set the standard of what good genetics are available for the sorts of tasks you may have on your farm, and what you want to achieve with those lines of dogs", says Virginia.

Field Trials are a combination of the three sheep trials



Tasmania Farm Equipment welcomes the return of John Wilson as our sales representative covering the Deloraine and surrounding areas through to Launceston.

John has great knowledge and experience in the Agriculture and Earthmoving industries. John looks forward to assisting you with any inquiries regarding sales, demonstrations, or service of your existing machinery.

For prompt and efficient service regarding all Agriculture and Earth Moving Machinery inquiries call John on 0400 781 621.



Farm concessional loans extended

THE AUSTRALIAN and Tasmanian governments have agreed to extend the closing date for applications for the Farm Finance Conces-

sional Loans scheme to 30th June 2015.

For information on the assistance available visit agriculture.gov.au/assistance.

and a yard dog competition and serve as a demonstration of an allround dog and encour-

"The competitions are a bit of fun, but they are also to set the standard of what good genetics are available for the sorts of tasks you may have on your farm, and what you want to achieve with those lines of dogs"

age people to breed the sort of dog that is an all rounder.

A farmer can expect to pay between four and six thousand dollars for a fully trained dog with prices reaching twelve thousand dollars for top performers.

This will give you, Virginia says, "A dog that could work sheep in the paddock and in the yard, basically you can let it off the chain and it knows what to do, it knows its craft."

People interested in getting involved can contact the association via their Facebook page by typing in 'Tasmanian Yard Dog Association'.

Virginia Chilcott and her Kelpie, Sam, work together with some sheep.

Photo by: Mike Moores





Digging is real easy for Greg and Lennice!

FOR ALMOST a decade Greg Leonard and his wife Lennice, operating as Dig-Ezi, have been catering for a variety of landscaping needs

for clients throughout the Meander Valley.

They understand what the locals want, having lived in the Meander Valley

all of their lives.

From small beginnings in 2006 Greg has, with hard work and a sense of pride in the job, built up the business

Wealth of information at your fingertips

A WEALTH of local information is at your fingertips.

Next time you are looking for demographic or economic information simply visit the Meander Valley Council website. Here you can access the Meander Valley REPLAN 'Your Community-' and 'Your Economic-' Profiles.

Your Community Profile enables you to analyse the population characteristics of

your community, understand how they have changed over time and how they compare to other areas.

The profile answers the majority of frequently asked socio-demographic questions.

Visit Your Economic Profile to analyse your local economy at a glance.

The summary page provides headline stats on local

population, employment, output, tourism and gross regional product (GRP).

From this page, you can explore and understand your economy in terms of industry contributions, the role of tourism, workforce characteristics and trends.

The data is presented in easy to use tables, charts and commentary covering a wide range of Census questions.

Local data can be compared to the Northern Region and Tasmania figures by ticking the 'Benchmarks' check boxes.

Council, the general public, students, community groups, organisations, business and investors all use these profiles to become more informed about the community in which they live.

The profiles present data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census

of Population and Housing in 2011 and 2006 for the local government area, and for smaller areas within it (e.g. towns and suburbs) and are located via the following links:

www.meander.tas.gov.au/YourCommunityProfile and www.meander.tas.gov.au/YourEconomicProfile

Article submitted by Meander Valley Council

Launch of youth IT employment initiative

THE MEANDER Valley Economic Renewal Action Group (ERAG) has launched a career development project for youths wishing to enter the field of Information Technology.

"It may surprise some members of the community that Meander Valley residents include very experienced and qualified technology practitioners.

By combining these expert mentors with resources generously made available by other local organisations, we are now in a position to commence business operations" said ERAG Technology Portfolio Leader Robert Crews, adding "ERAG

actively promotes the ability of the Meander Valley community to secure its own economic future bringing together the strengths of

"It's up to us to ensure their future"

its individuals."

To be initially based in Deloraine, this new unit will offer a broad spectrum of IT services to local businesses, such as website design and management, software and internet games development, social media marketing, computer systems management, digital graphics and video production.

A commission has been

obtained to build a website to promote a youth health issue and discussion commenced with Rotary on ways to introduce technology to support the Tasmanian Craft Fair.

A major focus will be the rapidly growing world-wide Public WiFi industry which is projected to have a turnover of \$150 billion by 2018.

Trials of Public WiFi have been conducted during recent events which have identified exciting interactive marketing concepts that have the potential to create a burgeoning technology industry in Meander Valley and make full use of the arrival of the NBN.

By creating local IT careers, the drift of our most talented youth away in search of employment can be reversed.

To encourage the Meander youth to become involved with this program, an internet-based LAN Games Party is to be held in Deloraine shortly, with full details available soon.

"Our youth is our future, as over time they become the leaders of the community. It's up to us to ensure their future", commented Mr Crews.

For further information about this initiative email robert.crews@erag.com.au.

New rural store for Westbury

A NEW independently owned Rural Supplies store in Westbury has just opened. It is Jamieson's Statewide Rural and it currently employs 3 local staff.

Located in the heritage-listed building in Westbury formally known as Mehegan's General Store, proprietor Lee Jamieson promises a unique rural shopping experience.

He prides his business on having a great range across all farming categories, great prices, service and advice.

The shop is located at 44 William Street, Westbury.

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PROFESSIONAL NOTICES

DELORAIN MEDICAL CENTRE

DELORAIN Medical would like to welcome Dr. Uzma Shamim to the practice. Dr Shamim has interests in family and womens health but welcomes all new patients. Dr Shamim is working 9.30am - 5.00pm each day.

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SPORT

All aboard for some serious fun

THE DELORAINE Flames Dragon Boat Club extend an open invitation for people to come and join in the fun on the river on Sunday mornings.

They meet by the Meander River in Deloraine at 9:45 am for a fifteen minute warm up before hitting the water.

"It's good all-over exercise", says Andy Dunn, the team's Sweep, adding, "we have a lot of fun and learn about teamwork at the same time."

Peter Ashton started Dragon Boating in Deloraine; he hopes that eventually there will be several Meander Valley teams that compete.

"It's all thanks to Peter Ashton; he's the driving force behind it all", says Andy.

Traditionally, Dragon Boats have 20 paddlers, but the Deloraine team decided to trial some 10 paddler boats that are easier to manoeuvre in smaller waterways,

'Sweep' Andy directs the team, so they all start together; the front

two paddlers are the stroke setters; and a drummer sits in front of them, beating a drum to help keep strokes even.

For the more competitive, there are regattas held in Launceston and Hobart as well as championships held at Lake Barrington each year.

The Deloraine boats have been designed so that the dragon heads and tails can be removed.

Andy says you don't need much practice to be able to compete, you just need to get the timing right so paddles don't clash.

Everyone over the age of 12 is warmly invited to attend a Sunday morning session. The cost is \$5 to cover equipment. For info call 0409 234 061.



Pictured: Coach, Louise Schaap; Neil Allen and Graeme Adair; Bev Parker and Anne Lee; Peter Ashton, and Mark Kitteridge; Sweep, Andy Dunn Photo by: Jan Collett

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