



WINTER FIRE

Celebrate winter with fire twirling!

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HELP IS AT HAND

Meander Valley's outreach worker

> FEATURE PAGE 7



HAND-MADE WINE

Gently does it at Three Willows

> RURAL PAGE 12

Meander Valley Gazette

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June 2015

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper



TRASHION TREASURES

Photo by Mike Moores

Left to Right: Kate Sheahan 13, Jessica Rushton 13, Chelsea Rushton 11 and Holly Larcombe 10 all of Westbury model their 'trashion' creations. Read more on page 10.

SMALL CHANGES RESULT IN BIG SAVINGS

MEANDER VALLEY Council has recently implemented simple energy saving measures at three of its highest energy consuming facilities.

Council received funding of \$151,000 from the Australian Government in 2014 to help deliver its \$226,000 building energy efficiency project.

The three buildings selected: the Council Offices in Westbury, the Visitor Information Centre, and the

Community Complex in Deloraine consume 85% of the total energy of Council-owned buildings.

The upgrades have so far reduced energy use over the six months to 1st April 2015 by 26% overall. This equates to an estimated \$16,930 saving per year based on the 2011/12 and 2012/13 financial years. The saving is as much as 47% at the Community Complex when compared to the two previous years.

"Not only are we seeing a significant reduction in energy use at our buildings but visitors and staff are benefitting from more comfortable conditions," Mayor Craig Perkins said.

"Council is constantly looking for ways to become more efficient and reduce costs to ensure that its buildings are sustainable and affordable."

The work included improvements to heating, hot water,

insulation, draft proofing, lighting and more. Local contractors and businesses were engaged and have benefited from the project.

Changes in energy use patterns have been assessed using two years of historic energy data, onsite energy audits before and after the upgrades, as well as real-time energy monitoring.

The project outcomes have been shared with local residents through a series of education

workshops to help them identify simple ways to save money and improve comfort levels in their homes and businesses.

"It is really clear that you can make a difference to your energy usage through simple changes to lighting, insulation, draft proofing, hot water and other measures.

"We've learned some valuable lessons during this process and we are excited to be able to share them

with our community," said Mayor Perkins.

An 'efficiency fund' will be established to use savings on future efficiency upgrades and achieve even more savings; creating an ongoing benefit to Council and community.

For more information on reducing energy costs, contact Craig Plaisted, Project Officer for Meander Valley Council on 6393 5324 or email craig.plaisted@mvc.tas.gov.au.

In My Opinion...

By Joanne Eisemann

I AM IN awe of the Rural Youth team that puts Agfest on each year. For a start, they always organise the parking so well. I have never been to another event where traffic moves so smoothly considering its volume.

Organising groups of people is often like herding cats. So drawing 60,000 people together over three days, as well as building a pop-up shopping mall for farmers, is mind boggling. How do they do that with just 120 volunteers?

According to Volunteering Tasmania's fact sheet the value add by volunteers to the Tasmanian economy in 2014 was conservatively estimated to be \$4.9 billion. Moreover, for every dollar invested by a volunteer's time and talent, at least \$4 in benefits

is returned. That seems to me a pretty good return.

Imagine if everyone stopped volunteering tomorrow. Our lives would not only be adversely affected: I am convinced that society, as we know it, would collapse.

On the front line we would have very few emergency workers - the vast majority in this work group are volunteers. So put out your own fires. Drive yourself to hospital. Employ someone to help you when your roof blows off. And I have only touched the tip of this iceberg.

There would be no meals on wheels and legal aid. No animal rescue. No op shops. No literacy help too.

There would be no visitor information centres and online centres either.

No community banks. No business mentoring. No progress associations. No land-care groups. No service groups as well.

At the same time, we would get very few sporting, arts and music events. No recreation groups. No festivals. No agricultural shows. No social groups. Even no Christmas lunches for the lonely.

And heaven forbid, no Meander Valley Gazette! Yes, that's right: our Gazette also relies heavily on the help of volunteers.

The list of what would grind to a complete halt goes on and on and on. It is indeed a pretty bleak picture without volunteers - whom we so often take for granted. These people are the heart and soul of our communities. As Sherry Anderson once said

"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless."

In Response...

DEAR SIR/MADAM

Regarding the letter in the May issue of this publication, concerning what Jason had to say about the Woolworth Store in Deloraine. He has some nice, but erroneous comments regarding the International American Store started by Winfield Woolworth earlier last century.

Woolworth is only the 'blood' of Deloraine simply because they dropped their prices, when they first started in this area, until they 'killed' three local stores. We had Rolph Vos which was bought out by Woolworth so as to get the store to start off their business near the top hotel. (whilst awaiting for the present building to be built). Then Four Square was put out of operation, where Salvos shop now operates and finally Craig and Mary Gleeson which was a family business, but they employed several locals as did the other two. But, mainly, what they sold was local or Australian and not imported trash.

Jason touches on a lot about the prices of carrots, lettuce, pumpkin, and etcetera. Where do these important food acquisitions originate? Most likely China!

I bought two pears on one occasion which were both rotten inside. They sell tinned potatoes grown in the USA. Tasmania's North and North West grow the finest potatoes in Australia, why sell USA grown potatoes here, putting our own farmers out of work? This multinational has too much, too much power over our government. Let us do something about it leading up to the next General and State Election.

What is needed here is a transporting service where those whom dislike shopping at this greedy multinational are able to shop elsewhere.

At least with all their failings Coles is Australian whose money remains in our country and not just 50% of it. Wake up Jason, whom ever you are.

Chas J. Camden

Dance with fire

SUPER SILLY US Circus is teaching interested adults fire twirling, poi (involves swinging tethered weights through a variety of rhythmic and geometric patterns), and fire dance.

On Sunday afternoons at 4.30pm till early July head down to Rotary Park Pond (on the way to Showgrounds) by Meander River with a gold coin in your hand to join in.

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Vicki Ziesel and Lee-anne Rouse cook up meals at Deloraine House for those in need

Collaborative caring in the kitchen

IN A collaborative effort between Deloraine House and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, nearly one hundred meals were prepared, cooked and frozen at the Deloraine House kitchen.

The food was provided by Deloraine House and the

preparation and cooking was done by the members of the church's Relief Society.

Seven local women spent three hours preparing and cooking meals, in what has become a twice yearly event, which is aimed at reducing hunger for local families who are doing it tough.

Over the fifteen years that the partnership has been in operation it is estimated over three thousand meals have been produced and donated.

With government funding for social services becoming increasingly hard to find, more pressure is being placed on services such as this.

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Mark Shelton MP

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

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p: (03)6324 2080

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



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Liberal

Authorised by Mark Shelton, Deloraine House, Hobart, TAS, 7180



Super Silly Us circus members were seen twirling fire recently at Rotary Park Deloraine in preparation for their performance at Winter Fire. Photo by: Mike Moores

Mid-winter festivities to be filled with fire and light

WINTER FIRE is firing up to be a cracker of a night. So wrap up warmly and bring all the family for an evening of fire, fun, food and fireworks.

On the night you will be able to wander between 12 fire drums, around which different activities will take place including music, story-telling and poetry readings.

There will be marshmallows to toast, hot chocolate to warm you up and fire twirlers to watch.

The Circle Dance Band and dancers will start at 5.20

pm so remember to come early. There will be a great fireworks display followed by a bonfire constructed by Deputy Mayor, Michael Kelly.

Arts Deloraine, Rotary, Apex, Lions, Fire Brigade, SES and the Show Society are all working together to make this an evening to remember and one which we hope will become an annual event.

A raffle will be drawn on the night with a prize of a patio firepot made out of sheet metal. Raffle tickets can be bought early at Elemental Art Space or can be

purchased on the night.

The gate will open at the Deloraine Showgrounds at 5 pm Saturday, 27th June with a \$10 entry fee for adults. Entry for children is free but all children must be accompanied by adults as this is a fire event.

Please bring a torch as lighting is limited and you will want to find your car again.

Most events will take place behind the Furrage Building.

For further information ring Jaqui at Arts Deloraine on 6362 4335.

DELORAINES BUSINESSES will be tripping the light fantastic in July as they dress up their shop windows with Christmas lights and participate in a Crazy Day Sale.

Fired Up in July is the brain child of Elemental Artspace owners, Cindy Watkins and Laura Window.

"We have a good line up of events happening," notes Cindy, "we have had a great response from business and community groups."

A raffle will run through the rest of the year to fund a future community event.

First prize is a Mercedes Benz valued at \$40,000 with second prize a \$10,000 cruise voucher from CruiseAbout.

Home-owners are not to be left out of the lighting fun and should start planning their own displays to vie for the 'Best House Lights' prize of a hamper donated by local businesses.

Home-owners must be registered to enter and should contact Megan for further details on 0434 593 430.

A range of events during July can be viewed in the Events Diary on Page 8.

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Eileen Litherland of Bracknell enjoys morning tea with Rebecca Townsend, Cancer Council Tasmania

Cakes and honky tonk swell the coffers

YOU WOULD be forgiven for thinking you had walked into a Wild West saloon when entering Carrick's 'biggest morning tea.' 70 people were in ear numbing conversation as Dorothy Leonard played lively music on the hall piano and chairs were scraping the wooden floors.

A raffle was held with prizes donated by local businesses; a trade table selling, among other things, biscuits that looked too good to eat; and a magnificent spread

of cakes and sandwiches were there to go with that all-important cup of tea.

Organised by the Carrick Community Committee, it was a festive scene.

Yet its movers and shakers, Sheila Stevenson and Jill Cunningham, say the numbers were a little down compared to the previous two years. Jill puts this down to not having quite as much time to organise the event this year.

Even then, their Committee

and all those who attended the event raised an awesome \$1054. Congratulations to their efforts and generosity.

Rebecca Townsend attended from Cancer Council Tasmania to share these facts: the Cancer Council is 90% funded by the Tasmanian community, and last year, there were 809 'Biggest Morning Teas' held around the state, raising \$310,000.

For more information visit www.cancertas.org.au or call 1300 656585.

MEANDER VALLEY - GET INVOLVED

WESTBURY BAPTIST Church are hosting a concert by Peter Shurley on Friday 12th June at 'Parklands', 53 Franklin St, Westbury at 7.00pm and extend a warm welcome to anyone who would like to come along to hear this renowned musician.

Peter is one of Australia's most popular Gospel recording artists.

Entry to the concert is free and there will be supper afterwards.

DELORAIN HIGH School Student Executive Council are having their first trivia night in the High School hall on Thursday 18th of June.

From 6.00 to 8.30pm great prizes including a lucky door prize are on offer as well as snacks, tea and coffee.

Adults \$10.00, Students and children \$5.00.

Book a table of 8-10, a family or individuals. Contact the school office 6362 8900 for bookings before 15th of June.

POLICE REPORT WITH INSP. SCOTT FLUDE

DID YOU know that a program called 'Ponyz 4 Kidz' is run at the Westbury Primary School for this term every Tuesday by Tasmania Police?

The Program aims to engage children in an alternative learning environment as well as developing positive relationships between children and Police.

Two small ponies, usually 'Ginger Spice' and 'Cha Cha', but occasionally others, are taken to the school and small groups of children have lessons throughout the day. The children learn about safety, how to brush, clean out feet and care for the ponies.

As the children's confidence increases they are taught how to manoeuvre the ponies around, over, under and through different obstacles.

Ginger Spice is by far the overwhelming favourite pony! She is the "smallest, cutest, easiest to handle and the best at jumping high!" (From the students).

Ponies are wonderful tools at assisting to improve self esteem, confidence, patience and self discipline in people.

The kids at the school are always very enthusiastic to attend their pony classes and we are getting lots of positive feedback in relation to the benefits of the program.

COMMUNITY BANK TURNS TEN

On Friday July the 24th Deloraine and Districts Community Bank Branch will celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Branch's opening.

Who could have predicted in 2001 when the project to establish a **Community Bank** for Deloraine began, that we would be where we are today? Back then, not many people in Meander Valley were aware of this Australian-designed, globally unique form of banking which was designed to not only return banking services to communities who had lost their banks as a result of widespread major bank closures in regional Australia in the late 90's, but also to share the revenue from the local banking business with the local community-owned franchise for the benefit of the community: a unique, sound business and social model.

Local banking revenue under the control of a local community company operated by local volunteer Directors as a public company working for the benefit of the community and accountable to its 340 local shareholders. That's the model which forms the foundation of community banking all across Australia: fairness and equity to all of our stakeholders over the longer term and with the goal of

helping to support and build community assets.

The inspiration and foundations of the Community Bank model are as alive and relevant today as they were 10 years ago. Our Branch is part of a growing network of now more than 310 such Branches in all states and territories whose returns to the Australian community now exceed \$130 million.

From modest beginnings in Meander Valley in 2005, with the support of the community, we have grown our business and customer base enabling us to retain and distribute over \$800,000 back to the Meander Valley community, through grants, sponsorships, donations, and shareholder distributions over the past 10 year period.

From upgrading local community hall facilities, providing defibrillators to locations right across Meander Valley, programs for disadvantaged kids, sporting club sponsorships, arts programs, partnerships with other clubs and organisations, the funds returned to the community have been directed to assist in developing and supporting our quality of life.



Community Bank Chairperson Lynn Hayward (left) with Maighan Brandwood, recipient of the 2015 tertiary scholarship

The funds to achieve these outcomes would have been lost to the community without the Deloraine and Districts **Community Bank**.

We invite you to join in and help us celebrate our 10th Birthday on July 24th. With your support we can continue to grow and develop our community contributions. Who knows what we will achieve in the next 10 years, but it will always be a win-win for our community!



Meander School, closed December 2014, is looking for new purpose

Photo by: Mike Moores

What fate awaits Meander School?

By Marguerite McNeill

THERE IS an air of expectation and speculation at Meander where residents are waiting to discover the future of the former Meander Primary School site.

The once proud little school that nurtured the hopes and dreams of children for more than 100 years, has sat sadly silent since its doors closed for the last time in December last year. Students who might have attended it in 2015 have settled in others and its echoes of busy classrooms, playground chatter and laughter have gone.

Gone too is the drawcard that has involved so many community members throughout the years. Now locals are hoping that a new enterprise will bring life back to the site and help reinvigorate the Meander community.

However, a major stumbling block is the question of ownership.

The Meander Valley

Council has declined an offer from the Department of Education to assume its ownership under the current terms, but has expressed a willingness to work with the department and the Minister for Education and Training to achieve an outcome suitable to it and its future use.

“...echoes of busy classrooms, playground chatter and laughter have gone...”

Meander Valley general manager Greg Preece said Council already owned the Meander Hall and the adjacent playground and could not justify the cost of maintaining another public facility in the Meander area.

He believes it would benefit the community more if the property were to be developed as a commercial enterprise.

Meanwhile, Council has written to the Minister for Education and Training to

request more information regarding its condition and offered to engage in further talks on its future.

Mr Preece hopes that an agreement can be reached, whereby Council faces no added costs but facilitates and coordinates the process of bringing the vacated school ground back to life.

In that event, Council will explore its new commercial and general uses with the help of community consultation.

Education Department Manager of Asset and Planning, Todd Williams said that under government guidelines, the Meander School site could be transferred to Council at no cost.

As Crown Land it could not be transferred to any other body, but the property was surplus to Government’s requirements and if there were no agreement with Council, a new owner would be sought.

Passing the parcel one last time

AFTER TEN years delivering parcels through rain or shine for Australia Post, Stephen and Cheryl Loone are moving on to other endeavours and ending their contract on 30th June.

Their cheerful, smiling faces will be missed by the many acquaintances they made during their tenure.

Cheryl enjoyed the job and being out in the fresh air every day, even on rainy days saying, “How often do you get to do a job that you thoroughly enjoy?”

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Contractors learn safety first at workshop

MEANDER VALLEY Council recently held an induction evening for contractors at Westbury.

All organisations including contractors are responsible for providing safe places and systems of work.

Safety is a serious business and it was encouraging to see 50 people attend the event.

A Worksafe Inspector from the Department of Justice spoke to the group and there were a number of Work Health and Safety consultants on-hand to speak to contractors in a less

formal situation.

The evening included a general work health and safety induction.

Comments flowed from participants:

“It was one of the more interesting safety inductions in that it was succinct and open with the emphasis on getting it right and timely reporting.”

“Well done on hosting the induction evening last week. I personally spoke to a few business owners and managers and found the evening quite useful.”

“I just wanted to thank you for the invite for the night, it was very interesting and I could see that the Council is very proactive in this area. Good turn out too!”

For anyone who missed out, please contact Council’s Work, Health and Safety Officer, Sam Bailey on 0437 351 310 to make alternative arrangements, or register your interest for Council’s next Contractor Information and Induction Evening.

Article submitted by Meander Valley Council

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Brian says: ‘The Liberal Government cuts inflicted on families are unfair. Let’s make corporations and the very wealthy pay their share before going after parents and pensioners.’



Brian Mitchell

Federal Labor for Lyons

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AUTHORISED BY MICHAEL POLLEY 907 PATEENA RD LONGFORD



Photo by Mike Moores

Youthwork over three continents

By Joanne Eisemann

NINETEEN-YEAR-OLD Natalie Dell of Blackstone Heights is bucking a trend by giving much of her time to improving the lives of other young people here in Meander Valley and overseas.

Her interest in volunteering began in 2008 when she started attending a Stepping Stones Camp organised by Meander Valley Council.

"I never would have gone abseiling or rock climbing without Stepping Stones... I've always pushed myself to step outside my comfort zone (and) the camps allowed me to do that. It's a great opportunity to grow and develop," shares Natalie.

Prospect Youth Group has grown out of the Stepping Stones camps she had attended.

Its catalyst crystallised during the second year Natalie was a camp leader; her conversations with participants and other leaders made her realise that a youth group was needed. Young people wanted a place to hang out and do some fun things together in between camps.

Thus, Natalie, with co-leaders, Josh Lippis and Keygan Reed, formed the group.

"I've grown up in Prospect and there hasn't been that much in that area. So we see

this as a great opportunity," she adds.

Held fortnightly on a Wednesday at Summerdale Primary School in Summerhill, from 7.30 to 9.00 pm, the numerous activities offered

"I am trying to be an ethical traveller (by being) aware of the negative impacts that overseas volunteers sometimes have."

include 'Humans Versus Zombies', 'Survivor', 'Air-time' and 'Circus' – each with a focus on face-to-face interaction rather than that with devices.

All youths in Prospect and beyond are welcome to join in, have some fun, learn new skills and make new friends; contact Prospect Youth Group through their Facebook page.

Meander Valley Council Community Development supports the group and it, in turn, publicises some of the other activities Council runs for young people, such as Stepping Stones Camp.

Natalie's yearning to help others does not stop at Tasmanian shores. A keen traveller, she has volunteered in Cambodia and Vietnam by working in orphanages and

teaching English.

"I've always been interested in giving back... (At the same time) I am trying to be an ethical traveller (by being) aware of the negative impacts that overseas volunteers sometimes have," says Natalie.

She further shares, "The (Cambodian and Vietnamese) people are so friendly and so happy (despite having so little)... we seem to get caught up in all the materialistic things. (Yet) when you look at their lives, our problems seem tiny in comparison."

By the time this is in print Natalie will be in Maine, USA, on a lakefront, teaching water sports to young people in the American Summer Camp program.

"I'll be living in a cabin with 7 to 9 year-olds for two months straight," she says.

"I think (this US trip) stemmed from going to Stepping Stones camps. Because I love that, but they are only 3 days long and I wanted (them) longer," she explains.

Natalie is keen to learn more about American culture and enjoys the adventure of new places and new people: "I always tell mum, 'I'm having a gap life and not just a gap year.'" Follow Natalie on her travels on her blog www.girlgonetravelling.wordpress.com

44 yrs of Inner Wheel

INNER WHEEL is one of the largest women's organisations in the world with clubs in almost every Country.

The first Inner Wheel Club was established in Manchester in 1924. Since then, clubs have formed across the globe, the first one in Australia being in Ballarat.

The emblem is a small wheel contained within the Rotary Wheel, hence the name 'Inner Wheel'.

In 1968 the Australian National Council was formed and is represented at the International Inner Wheel Board meetings and, in 1969, became Inner Wheel Australia.

Australian Clubs are divided into 15 districts with Tasmania known as District A80.

In 2006/07 Deloraine member, Judith Chamberlain became the Club's first District Chairperson.

A National Conference is held each year in a different District, and in 2012 Tasmania hosted the Conference; almost 400 members and their partners attended.

ROSE OF FRIENDSHIP

In 1957 the Inner Wheel Club of Kalmar in Sweden was chartered. The President from another club gave congratulations to the new Club with one red rose which was all that Club could afford.

One visiting member was so enthusiastic about this idea, that she took it back to her Club in Denmark, where it was adopted as a symbol of Friendship, Gratitude and Love. This has now spread all around the world and a Red Rose of Friendship is now the symbol of Inner Wheel.

INNER WHEEL CLUB OF DELORAINE

In February 2015 the Inner Wheel Club of Deloraine celebrated the 44th Anniversary of their Charter as a Club.

To celebrate, a Luncheon was held. Members from most of the other Inner Wheel Clubs in District A80 (Tasmania) attended.

Over the past 44 years members have been active in the community, raising funds for many different projects, including the three Gazebos on the eastern side of the Meander River, the Barbecues at Rotary Park, trees, roses and other floral tributes, many picnic tables and seats around the town and at the cemetery. Donations have been made to Grenoch, Kanangra, Giant Steps, Yarns, Junior Drama Festival, St Giles, Clifford Craig Foundation and Schools in the Deloraine district amongst many others.

Agfest attracts the young



Making friends at Agfest, Dustin Graham 2 of Longford with 3-week-old calf Fernwood Fernleaf of Bracknell



Meg Mackean 18 Deloraine and Erin Hall 14 also of Deloraine enjoy the shopping at Agfest

Counsel and support in times of crisis



“SUICIDE IS the most preventable cause of death,” says John Clark, a newly appointed Meander Valley outreach worker for Rural Alive and Well (RAW).

RAW started in the Midlands 7 years ago when a severe drought saw a number of farmers take their own lives. A few locals

got together and decided to do something about the problem.

“We attracted enough funding to employ one bloke in a ute and sent him around the local area. From there it’s grown to ten staff, covering the entire state,” says John.

Suicide levels in Tasmania are the second highest in the

nation, behind the Northern Territory; you are twice as likely to die this way than in a road accident.

Men are also three times more likely to thus die than women, the highest risk group being males aged seventy and over, with those in their mid 40’s coming in second.

While they are more successful at attempting suicides, females do so at higher rates, with equal effect across all age groups.

John explains, “The further you are away from services, the more prone you are to suicide.”

That, together with risk factors like social isolation and stress, “tends to really gang up on somebody with no reprieve”.

No stranger to depression, John has himself been close to suicide and is able to empathise with people experiencing suicidal feelings:

“I didn’t realise I had depression. I didn’t realise I was ill. I just knew I was really angry, really irritable, not performing well, unable to make decisions and avoiding people.”

“It wasn’t until I jumped on the *beyondblue* website and started looking at some of the symptoms of depression and thought, ‘wow, this is me, this is describing my situation’, that I went to the doctor and received some medication. (And) went to see a psychologist and started to do some work on recovery,” he adds.

A trained Chemical Engineer, John finds the work he does with RAW far more satisfying and wishes that suicides were

talked about more, to help reduce the stigma.

He elaborates, “It is not something that gets reported in the media unless a high profile person, such as Robin Williams, dies this way.”

Suicide was, until quite recently against the law and is considered a sin by some churches. Put that together and throw in a little bit of mental illness and you have something that just doesn’t get talked about.”

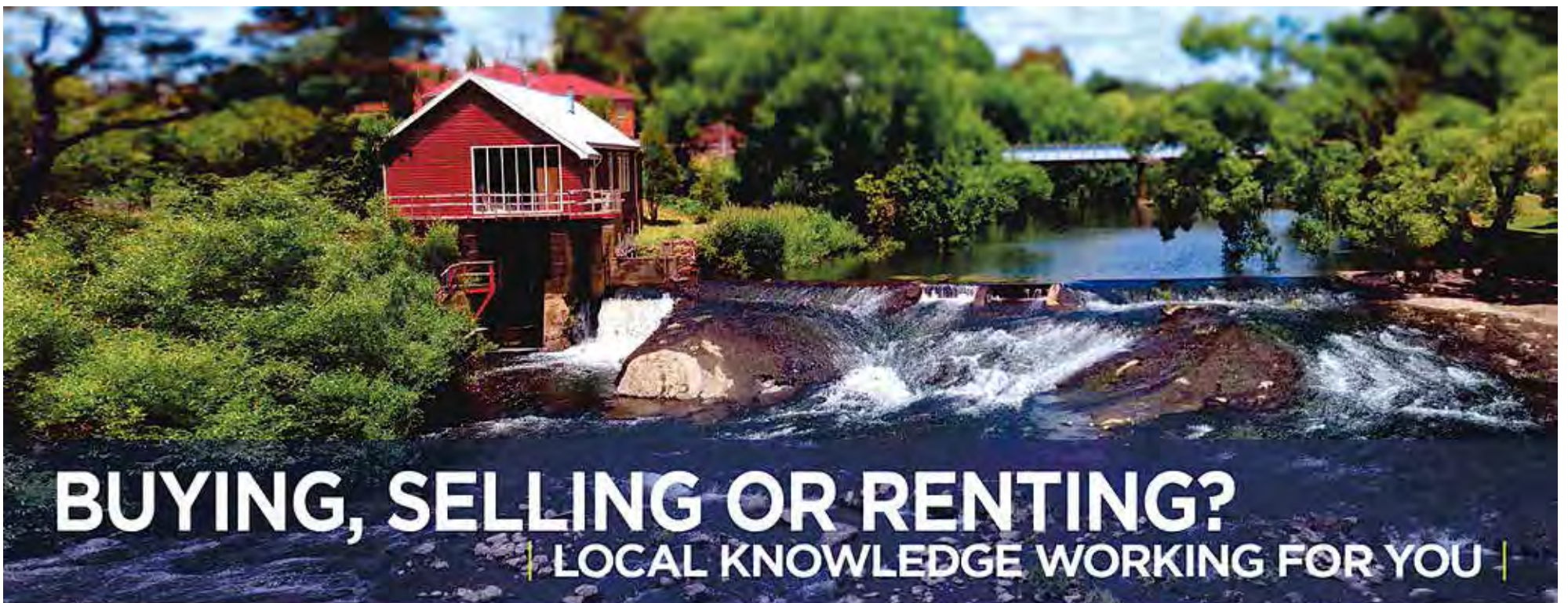
As a result, RAW staff conduct farm and house visits on a ‘cold call’ basis and to those who have been referred by their friends, family or work colleagues.

“We help people to get help,” emphasises John.

RAW has a wide referral network. Despite strong backgrounds in working with people, and mental health, their staff are not clinicians - they do not offer any professional counselling.

Instead, they focus on connecting people with appropriate services and support: “Help is always available; there is always hope. There is no situation that is insurmountable.”

If you need help or know someone who might, contact RAW via their 24/7 hotline: 1300 4357 6283, www.rawtas.com.au or Facebook: ‘Raw Tas’.



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Peter is ably assisted by Katy Haberle who will be available at our Deloraine office during the week to help with your enquiries and to make your experience as enjoyable as possible.

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Call Peter on 0428 602 305 or call in to arrange an obligation-free appraisal and/or to discuss the professional services we provide.

Please feel free to call in and say hello to Peter and Katy as they look forward to working with the local community.



Still telling a yarn



Lexie Young, former YARNS works coordinator, seen here giving a talk about the panels

YARNS - ARTWORK in Silk, celebrated its 20th birthday on Sunday 3rd May.

20 years on and 'Yarns', a story woven around a valley, is still drawing visitors and locals into the landscapes and lifestyles of the Meander Valley community.

The artwork was created by more than 300 community members using both hand and machine embroidery and

textile techniques.

1,000,000 stitches and 10,000 hours in the making, the soft sculpture comprises of four silk panels, depicting each season.

Original contributors Lexie Young and Niecy Brown were on hand to present 'Yarns Past' and 'Yarns Future', respectively, to the 90 plus audience on the day.

Niecy Brown, Artistic

Director, is still passionate about Yarns saying, "It was the most marvellous project to work on because it really did bring our community together in such a positive way."

"What we produced is of outstanding quality and recognised by the Australia Council for the Arts, the major supporter, as a project of national significance", said Niecy.

Housed in a purpose-built auditorium at the Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre in Deloraine, it consists of enough thread to circle the world several times.

An audio presentation runs every half an hour from 9.30am to 4:00pm, 7 days a week. The presentation, with lighting effects, provides information about what the panels depict and how and why they were made.

"Yarns' has done a great deal for us already", said Niecy.

"I believe that it has the potential to assist Tasmania in attracting visitors from all around the world.

"I would love to see one of the 4 panels travel

to China and other locations as a showcase of our glorious attractions.

"We like to dream big in this neck of the woods", she said.

Mr Ned Terry and his

wife Margaret were a major driving force behind the three year-long endeavour.

Article submitted by Meander Valley Council

Melaleucas smell good in November

By Nell Carr

VISITORS TO the Tamar Wetlands reserve will have their attention drawn to a few remnant clumps of Swamp Paperbarks (*Melaleuca ericifolia*), as they are considered to be one of our many threatened native species.

So many of our farmland creeks have been stripped of their riparian vegetation, often to be replaced by the invasive crack willow.

Paperbark flowers have a delightful perfume in November, and are worth growing just for that.

They do not have a long life, but rely on perennial regrowth from suckers and seedlings.

Stock should be excluded from creeks where remnants of these threatened native understorey species remain.

Paperbarks are of course, not suitable for suburban gardens, because of their shade, an inconvenience for neighbours.

Our native *Leptospermums*, such as *L. lanigerum* (Woolly Tea Tree), for wet areas, and *L. scoparium* (Manuka), for drier areas, should find a place in the native garden in suburbia.

These are easily propagated from seed, and there is an exclusively native plant nursery in Northern Tasmania.

Seeds can also be saved from the cones of the Yellow Bottlebrush (*Callistemon pallidus*), and the Silver Banksia (*B. Marginata*).

In the Vegetable garden. The gardening books say that garden peas, both dwarf and climbing, may be sown in June. However, they should be sown in a bed which does not get the early morning sun, to avoid being cut when in flower by a late frost.

When the fronds of asparagus turn yellow, it is time to cut them down to ground level. These can be placed in the compost.

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 Monday 10.00am - 10.30am	Story Time for Preschoolers	Deloraine Library
Every Tuesday and Thursday	Heart Foundation Walking Group	Meet at Deloraine House just before 10am for an hour walk.
Every Wednesday 1.00pm - 4.00pm	Indoor Carpet Bowls, Deloraine	Western Tiers Community Club, Deloraine Barry 6362 2243
Every Wed during School Terms 3.30pm	Keep the Beat - All welcome	Westbury Health Centre \$10.00, \$5.00 Concess.
Every Wednesday 10.00am - 1.00pm	Mah Jong \$5.00	Uniting Church Hall, Deloraine. Ph: 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 Saturday 11.00am - 12.00pm	Produce Swap	Deloraine Fountain (near the Library)
Every Sunday 10.00am - 11.00am	Dragon Boating. Exp or Beg. All welcome	Meander River, Del. (near Swim Pool) Peter 0409 234 061
Every Sunday 4.30pm till early July	Learn fire twirling, poi and fire dance	Super Silly Us, Rotary Park Pond gold coin donation
Friday 5th June 1.00pm - 3.00pm	Social Game of Cards \$2.00 per person	Western Tiers Community Club, Deloraine Barry 6362 2243
Saturday 6th June 6.30pm - 8.30pm	Eat & Greet social tea - bring food to share	Westbus, 63 Meander Valley Rd Westbury Ph 6393 1830 Jan
Saturday 6th June 9.00am - 1.00pm	Deloraine Showgrounds Market	Deloraine Showgrounds
Tuesday 8th June 1.30pm - 3.00pm	U3A Meander Valley Choir	Clayton's Mill, Beefeater St, Deloraine Ph: Bruce 0435 073 091
Saturday 13th June 11.00am - 2.00pm	Fruit Tree Care with Sandy Tiffin	Community Garden Bookings essential Ph: 6362 2678
Saturday 13th June 10.00am - 2.00pm	Rotary Club of Deloraine, Macular F'dation	Woolworths Supermarket - Eye Health re Macular Disease
Saturday 13th June 8.30am - 12.00pm	Deloraine Farmers Market	MG Trading Car Park, 2 Racecourse Drive, Deloraine
Thursday 18th June 9.30am	Blokes Day Out Axeman's Hall of Fame	Bookings essential, Deloraine House 6362 2678 \$5-\$10 byo lunch
Thursday 18th June 6.00pm - 8.30pm	Deloraine High School Trivia Night	High School Hall \$10 Adult \$5 Child/Students Ph: 6362 8900
Saturday 20th June 7.30pm sharp	Deloraine Folk Museum Trivia night	Rotary Pavillion \$10 pp devonshire tea Ph: 6362 5280
Saturday 20th June	Westbury Market	3rd Sat. every month 11 Lonsdale Prom. 0417 931 619 Rob
Saturday 20th June 9.00am - 1.00pm	Liffey Market	The Old School, Liffey Contact Quenton Higgs 6397 3670
Friday 26th June 9.30am - 12.30pm	MV Art Society lino/block printing	Uniting Church Hall, Deloraine. Ph: Sally 6362 4994
Saturday 27th June 5.00pm - 9.00pm	"Winterfire" Arts Deloraine	Deloraine Showgrounds Ph: Jacqui Stacey 6362 4335
Saturday 27th June 8.30am - 12.30pm	Deloraine Farmers Market	MG Trading Car Park, 2 Racecourse Drive, Deloraine
Wednesday 1st July 2.00pm - 2.30pm	Storytime for Preschoolers - Westbury	Westbury Library, 33 William Street, Westbury
Wednesday 1st July 10.00am	Combined Schools "Bonnet" Exhibition	Deloraine Creative Studios 59-61 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine
Friday 3rd July 6.30pm	Eat & Greet social tea - bring food to share	Westbus, 63 Meander Valley Rd Westbury Ph 6393 1830 Jan
Friday 3rd July 7.00pm - 9.00pm	Gypsy Circle Dance	Weegen Hall \$5.00 Family \$2.00 Single
Saturday 4th July 8.30am - 2.00pm	Deloraine Showgrounds Market	Deloraine Showgrounds
Sunday 5th July 1.30pm	Deloraine Jazz Club	WT Community Club, Parsonage St. Del Ph: Ken 6367 8243
Saturday 11th July	Deloraine Farmers Market	MG Trading Car Park, 2 Racecourse Drive, Deloraine
Wednesday 15th July	Blokes Day Out, make puzzles for LGH	Bookings essential, Deloraine House 6362 2678 \$10 lunch \$5 or byo
Saturday 18th July 9.00am - 1.00pm	Liffey Market	The Old School, Liffey Contact Quenton Higgs 6397 3670
Saturday 18th July	Westbury Market	3rd Sat. every month 11 Lonsdale Prom. 0417 931 619 Rob
Saturday 25th July	Deloraine Farmers Market	MG Trading Car Park, 2 Racecourse Drive, Deloraine

Sarah finds secret beauty

By Joanne Eisemann

SARAH LLOYD, amateur naturalist, is one of only a handful of people worldwide making a serious study of Myxomycetes since 2010.

These strange organisms were first described in the 1730s. Furthermore, their unfortunate common name of 'slime mould' belies their, often, exquisite beauty and the fact that they are most often neither slimy nor mould-like.

They also exhibit unusual behaviours, which have led scientists on a merry dance in classification: from plant to fungi to animal and now protozoa.

Sarah's investigations have increased the number of



species of Myxomycetes recognised in Tasmania from 42 to 115, including one previously unknown to science and has been named after her – the *Alwisia lloydiae*.

"There are only about 1000 known species world wide, which is really amazing when... there are at least 1.5 million fungi and that is considered the tip of the iceberg. So why there are so few is a bit strange," she shares.

"(Also) because no one else has done comprehensive surveys, there is not much work done in Australia," adds Sarah. "It's really hard to study organisms that are mostly invisible."

The study is made more difficult because of

Myxomycetes' unpredictable nature and difficulty in identification.

In most cases, scientists go into the field to collect specimens and take them back to the lab for identification. However, Sarah's research is a little different.

She is in the privileged position of being able to watch them grow through their developmental stages in their natural habitat as she does her studies from her home on Black Sugarloaf, Birralee.

This convenient location is possibly a hotspot for slime mould: not logged since the 1950s, there are many old logs lying around, standing dead trees and lots of litter on the ground – all providing plenty of organic matter on which to feed.

Sarah has published a book on her findings. 'Where the Slime Mould Creeps – the fascinating world of Myxomycetes' is filled with facts, anecdotes and wonderful images of slime mould; leaving readers in awe of the microbial world and how little they understand of it.

Part of a quote on page 39, from AAP December 29, 2011 on Myxomycetes is particularly intriguing: "A brainless primeval organism able to navigate a maze might help Japanese scientists devise the ideal transport network... Toshiyuki Nakagaki, a professor at Future University Hakodate, says the organism organises its cells to create the most direct route through a maze to a source of food... (And that) humans are not the only living things with information processing abilities."

Sarah's book 'Where the Slime Mould Creeps' is available through Petrarch's Bookshop, in Launceston.

Alternatively, you can purchase by emailing: sarah.lloyd@iprimus.com.au



Above: Sarah ready to photograph Myxomycetes in their habitat Photo by: Mike Moores
Left: Sarah's discovery; immature *Alwisia lloydiae* grows amongst moss, photo courtesy Sarah Lloyd

Keep your computer running smoothly

By Alistair Carr

THERE ARE a few simple tasks owners can undertake to help keep their computers running smoothly.

Disk Cleanup. This is built into Windows and can be accessed via Start menu > All programs > Accessories > System tools > Disk Cleanup or by right clicking on a hard drive in Computer and then left clicking properties.

Once Local Disk properties is open, click on the Disk Cleanup button. Let it do its thing till a new window opens. Select what you want to remove (it is safe to tick all the boxes) and then click on OK and then delete files. Again let the programme do its thing till the cleanup window closes.

On Windows Vista, 7 and 8 (not Windows XP) you have the option of a bigger cleanup.

Follow the above till you get to the cleanup window again and then select cleanup system files. Disk Cleanup will again check what it can remove and take you to a file selection window. Using the system file option allows disk cleanup to remove things like service pack backup files (Windows update files). This can free up a lot of space on a drive if system files cleanup has never been run before.

Do note: Disk Cleanup will remove all your temp files for Internet Explorer so anything you automatically sign into (web-based email, Facebook etc) may need you to re-enter your username and password. Disk Cleanup only needs to be run every 6 months or so.

Disk Defragmenter.

Windows has its own inbuilt Disk Defragmenter

and works well enough that you don't need any other defragmenter programme. For those running Vista, 7 and 8/8.1 there is no need to do anything as Windows automatically schedules Disk Defragmenter to run on a regular basis.

For those still on XP, go to Start menu > All programs > Accessories > System tools > Disk Defragmenter; select the drive you want to defragment (usually C:) and click on defragment. Running time can be several hours if it is a large hard drive with heavily fragmented files. Once every six months is quite often enough in most cases.

Be aware you should NEVER run Disk Defragmenter on SSD hard drives. Windows Vista, 7 and 8/8.1 will automatically disable disk defrag on SSDs.





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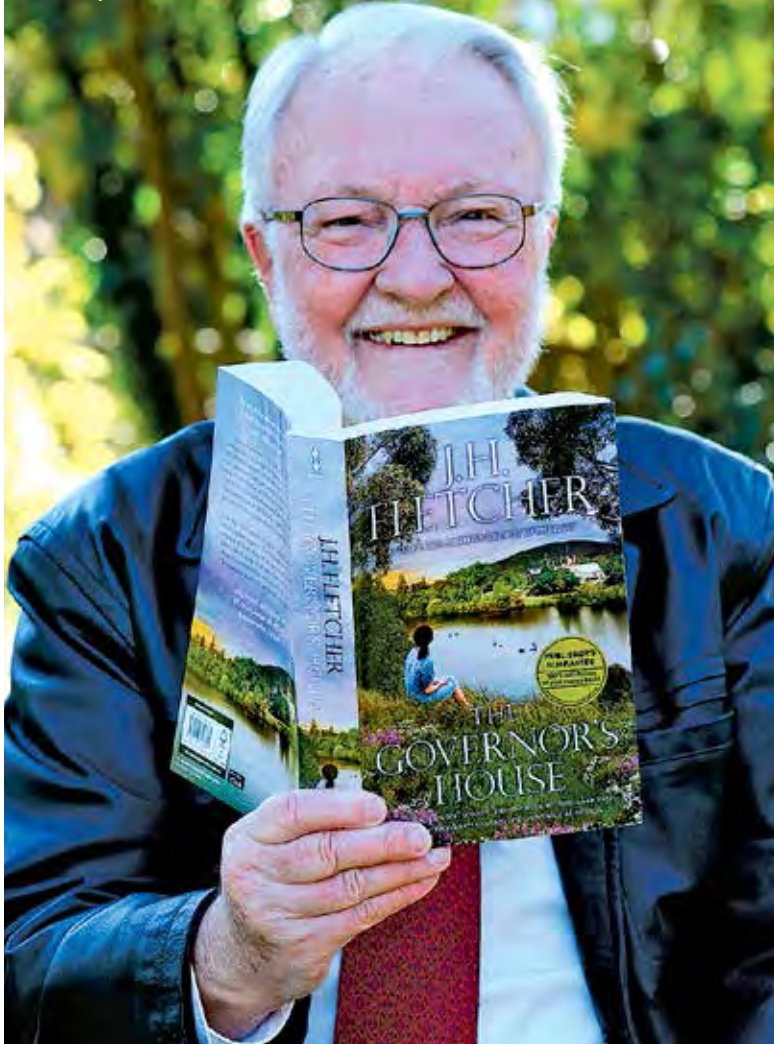
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Tyler Ayres
Meander Valley

Photo by Mike Moores



Words flow from Creek

By Sara Fawcett

NOT ALL of us might consider writing a form of art but authors such as local novelist John Fletcher certainly do; it all depends on what we write and how we write it, with fiction being one of the more creative processes.

Being a creative writer, John's sixteen published novels have received critical and popular acclaim in Australia, Germany and the UK.

He has also written numerous short stories and plays for radio and television. John seems born with a talent to write, having started from quite a young age.

"I remember when I was about eight; waking up one fine morning and saying to myself that when I grew up, I would be a writer," John said. And indeed he is.

As with many artists, John's work has always reflected his sights and encounters.

"I attempted my first creative work at eight; it was

a play but didn't get very far," he shared. "When we were being taught Roman history and the works of Shakespeare at school, I tried again: a play about the aftermath of the Roman defeat by Hannibal at the Battle of Cannae in 216BC."

"(And) I wrote my first unpublished novel based on my experiences as a junior officer in tropical rainforest," John added.

His writing has taken him beyond Australian shores too. "I lived in England for six years where I was writing plays for radio and television which were broadcast by the BBC," John shares.

Wherever he went, he drew inspiration for his writings, describing their unique qualities. He has, thus, regaled his readers of a house overlooking Table Mountain in Cape Town, South Africa and an apartment on the lower slopes of Singapore's Mount Faber.

"I live with my memories of all the other places and use them as background in the books I write," John elaborated.

As for Mole Creek, Tasmania, John has this to say, "I now live in a place that a friend of mine once described as the spot where God's finger touched the earth."

Indeed, as part of his creative practice, his life in Australia gets reflected in his books. Often, it is the main setting.

In his forthcoming book, 'The Governor's House,' the role of women in the pioneer age is celebrated by telling the story of one woman's transportation to Australia for theft in the 1840s; leaving behind a mystery that her descendant had to try to resolve.

John says Australia's well-developed pioneering tradition is so inspirational for his books and as for writing itself, "I did not choose writing, writing chose me."

We'll go no more 'a-WOADelling'

OPEN LETTER to All who have contributed to WOAD over the past 5 years.

Windows On the Arts in Deloraine (WOAD) held during the Craft Fair in the shop windows of Emu Bay Rd has reached the end of its time.

It has been a beautiful thing but I'm ready for more house and garden and less voluntary hours and we at Arts Deloraine haven't attracted a 'driver' with the time and energy to continue.

Through a wonderful partnership between Arts Deloraine and The Tasmanian Craft Fair, we have delivered five years of public art involving artists, shop keepers, schools, hospital and medical centres, musicians, boundless volunteers, arts funding bodies, MV Council, MV Enterprise Centre, Giant Steps, Trash

Transformers – in fact over 500 people and 40 community partnerships.

During the WOAD years, together we have achieved great outcomes for the town and attracted thousands of visitors up into the main street of Deloraine during the Tas Craft Fair to benefit the retail and hospitality sectors.

Many artists have gained part time work and benefited from the grants that have supported the event. And we all enjoyed learning and sharing skills.

It is with some sadness and heartfelt gratitude that I thank the exhibiting artists, the community volunteers who worked to make the street decorations, and the generous shopkeepers who made their windows available for the WOAD street gallery in a magnificent effort in

assisting Deloraine to uphold its reputation as a creative place to live and work.

The volunteers of Arts Deloraine and The Tasmanian Craft Fair deserve special recognition for their support both financial and in-kind in making WOAD happen.

We on the Craft Fair committee are looking at other ways to encourage visitors to still come up into the street in future years.

The WOAD poppies were a real favourite and our good friends at the tip have welcomed a huge bunch to be on display out there.

So, a big thank you for the fun, joy and opportunity to work with so many generous and clever people in expressing my creativity in and devotion to my home town.

'Til the next adventure, farewell from Niecy Brown.

Turning trash into fashion



Kate Sheahan models Trashion

ON SATURDAY the 27th of June 2015 at 6.30pm the Westbury Primary school hall will come alive as it hosts the "CATWALK CREATIONS" Trashion show.

Youth from Meander Valley are invited to create an outfit using recycled Anything!

Create your own masterpiece. Then model it on the catwalk!!

Judged by Ian Howard, Sandra Charlton and Lauren Brown, entries will be eligible for fantastic prizes.

MC is Jen Collier, a master op-shopper and brilliant at putting outfits together.

The evening will also feature a Rock Band from Deloraine High school, enjoy the singing of Megan Deeth plus other local talent for your entertainment.

Gold coin entry, door prizes, spot prizes, the show will be supporting the Cancer Council of Tasmania and supper for sale on the evening. For information call Vicki Jordan 0400 155 690.

Workshop

THE MEANDER Valley Art Society will be holding a workshop on lino/block printing by popular local artist, Ann Kearon at the Uniting Church Hall, West Barrack Street, Deloraine on Friday 26th June at 9.30am – 12.30pm. All are most welcome. Equipment will be provided. There will also be a follow up day a few weeks later.

Cost: Members \$10.00
Non-Members \$20.00
(includes Morning Tea).

For more information, call Sally Dawkins on 6362 4994.

Scholarship for arts leaders

FEDERAL Lyons MP Eric Hutchinson invites aspiring regional and rural arts leaders to apply for a new scholarship.

"The Australia Council will provide \$150,000 over the next three years for three high-performing regional arts leaders to take part in the Australian Rural Leadership Program," Mr Hutchinson said.

Arts Minister George Brandis said that the scholarships had been developed to address additional barriers that regional arts leaders face

including fewer opportunities than their metropolitan colleagues to participate in arts sector initiatives.

"Running over 15 months, it consists of five residential programs and covers topics such as leadership, advocacy, media, international relations and community programs.

"Participants will also have the opportunity to attend a two week study tour to South East Asia."

Applications close on 31st August 2015. Visit www.australiacouncil.gov.au

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State Member for Lyons

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Valleyviews

June 2015

Mayor's Message

I was honoured to attend Government House in May to witness Mr Mark Gillies receive his Emergency Services Medal for Distinguished Service from Her Excellency, The Honourable Kate Warner, Governor of Tasmania. Mark was recognised for the 18 years of service he has contributed to the SES, and his role in making the Meander Valley Unit the best in Tasmania.

At the May Council meeting, the capital works program for 2015-16 was approved. Some of the items include:

- \$150,000 to renew existing footpaths in King Street and Franklin Streets, Westbury
- \$450,000 additional funding for the development of new footpaths and pathways in Blackstone Heights
- \$350,000 additional funding for traffic improvements identified from Westbury Road Transport study
- \$155,000 to complete upgrades to Meander Valley Road, Deloraine from the bridge back towards Launceston to Railway Street
- \$1.06M for road rehabilitation works including Dairy Plains Road, Dunorlan Road, Westwood Road, Bengoe Road and Marriott Street
- \$1.45M on road resurfacing across the municipality
- \$1.05M on replacement and upgrading of timber bridges to concrete across the municipality
- \$496,000 to upgrade stormwater to mitigate flooding across the municipality
- \$200,000 additional funding for Westbury Recreation ground pavilion upgrade

Council's next challenge is to consider the 2015-16 operational budget at the June Council meeting, including setting the rates. Once again, we will endeavour to deliver a fair and reasonable budget and rate structure.

Mayor Craig Perkins



Council Updates

Meander Valley

Primary School holiday program

Young people aged 6 to 12 years old

Tuesday, 7 July 2015

Puppet making & sports/games

Hadspen Recreation Ground, 9:00am – 3:00pm

Own transport

\$5 per child

Thursday, 9 July 2015

Kite making & sports/games

Deloraine Community Complex, 9:00am – 3:00pm

Own transport

\$5 per child

PLEASE NOTE CHANGES TO BOOKING PROCEDURE:

1. Ring Jodie Walters on 0439 596 850 to register (between 6:00pm – 8:00pm)
2. Download the Activity Consent form and Annual Registration form from Council's website (If you are unable to download these forms, copies are available from Council)
3. Complete forms (1 per child please, not 1 per family) and return to Council Offices with payment by Wednesday, 1 July 2015.

- Post to: PO Box 102, Westbury, TAS, 7303
- In Person: 26 Lyall Street, Westbury



Council Meetings

Visitors are most welcome to attend Council meetings. Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month commencing at 1:30pm at Council's offices, 26 Lyall Street, Westbury.

Council has approved the following schedule for the remainder of 2015:

- 14 July 2015
- 11 August 2015
- 08 September 2015
- 13 October 2015
- 10 November 2015
- 08 December 2015

Agendas are available for viewing at Council offices, Westbury and Service Tasmania, Deloraine, four days before the meeting and also online.

Please note that meeting dates and times are subject to change—changes will be advertised in The Examiner.

Thinking of holding a function?

Council owns and operates a number of facilities that might be perfect for your next event! We've produced a handy brochure outlining what each facility offers as a sporting, recreation or community event venue. You can download a copy of the brochure from Council's website or grab one next time you pop into the Westbury office. Where applicable a venue phone contact is provided, however for general information enquiries please contact our Customer Service Centre on 6393 5300.



A Meander Valley Council goal is to actively plan, manage and assist with the provision of sporting and recreation facilities, programs and services that enhance the quality of lifestyle for the Meander Valley community

Community News

Eat and Greet – 3 July

Invitation to a monthly social tea and family get-together at 63 Meander Valley Road, Westbury (Westbus shed) at 6:30pm. Bring food to share and enjoy a pleasant evening with new and old friends. Please also feel free to bring games or a musical instrument. Contact Grant and Jan Bingley on 6393 1830 or gjbingley@westbus.net.au

Catwalk Creations from Castoffs

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.



WinterFire

A night of fire, fun and fireworks, food and warmth, music, song and laughter! Arts Deloraine together with many other community groups will make Meander Valley Light up on Saturday, 27 June 5.00pm. For more information ring Jaqui Stacey on 6362 4335 or email artsdeloraine@gmail.com



Diary Dates

Prospect Youth Group

Every second Wednesday night 7:30-9:00pm
Summerdale Primary School Hall, 10 June and 24 June

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.

Three Willows cold climate wines a winner with tourists

By Joanne Eisemann

"PINOT NOIR loves cold nights and we can provide that in Red Hills," says fervent wine maker Philip Parés.

He and partner Lyn Prove had been keen to match New Zealand's central Otago's reputation as the best Pinot Noir region in the southern hemisphere.

Believing they could do that in Red Hills, they moved into Three Willows Vineyard, a 16-acre property in 2001, and began planting 4 acres of vines in 2003.

Organic methods are used, including choosing ground covers that encourage deep-rooted vines, and special teas.

"I compost the previous years' grape skins and make up a tea with that, some willow stems, horse manure and seaweed from the north coast. It ferments and, after about a month, is teaming with wild yeast which I include in my fungal sulphur sprays. And it's now 3 years since I've had any powdery mildew," shares Philip.

"[The willow stems] certainly make plants more hardy and resistant to disease," he adds.

Fruit quality rather than an organic crop is his priority, as pursuing certification is not on his radar screen. He explains, "You can see some pretty terrible organic fruit. It isn't a guarantee of quality."

Philip manages the vines himself and employs backpackers to harvest. A neighbour helps with netting.

Once picked, the grapes are put through a crusher-de-stemmer. White wine grapes then go straight into the basket press to separate skins from juice.

The press, cranked by hand, enables the operator to tell when the pressure is right and so eases off. This

stops seeds from splitting, preventing harsh tannins being released.

This smaller scale wine making draws a lot of equipment from Italy. The basket press is Italian made and can be loaded up with only half a ton of grapes at a time.

Red varieties are left to sit in their skins for twenty-one days before pressing, to allow flavour and colour to permeate the juice.

Yeast is added to assist in converting sugar in the grapes to alcohol, with carbon dioxide as a by-product. At this stage, the wine is stirred four times per day to further maximise colour and flavour.

"Pinot Noir loves cold nights and we can provide that."

Once pressed, the wine is stored in vats with oak staves. "For light bodied pinot noir, an oak barrel would just swamp it with oak flavour," explains Philip.

"Patience is required," he adds, as sixteen months later the wine is bottled and left to mature for a further twelve months.

Last year Three Willows produced 3,200 bottles and that is slightly over half of what they can make at full production.

Their wine is sold through the cellar door and at Red Feather Inn, Mole Creek Hotel and Deloraine Deli, with a small quantity by mail order from people that have visited before.

The winery is, thus, gaining a reputation for its hand-made wines. Yet, business has still been affected by a recent Jetstar policy.

"Up till December we were growing 20% month on month. But with the Jetstar crackdown on hand luggage weight, things are going in



Philip Parés samples a glass of Three Willows Pinot Noir

Photo by: Mike Moores

the other direction at the moment. It's had a big effect," says Philip.

"Patience is required"

Fortunately, Three Willows is on the Cradle Coast Tasting Trail, and that has brought in many new customers from Burnie and Devonport.

"I would say they are the biggest growing section of my market. They are not restricted by flights so they can purchase as many as they want," adds Philip.

Three Willows also sells a wine from the Tasmanian winery, Waterton at Batman Bridge. Its Botrytis Riesling is a sweet desert wine that Philip thinks is world class.

He says, "This is the only wine you can mix with blue cheese without getting a metallic aftertaste."

You can read more about the wines made and sold at Three Willows Vineyard at www.threewillowsvineyard.com.au or visit the cellar door at 46 Montana Road, Red Hills.



Rural Forum covers pressing problems

FIFTY PEOPLE gathered last month at a forum hosted by Lyons MHA Guy Barnett, to hear about the future of agriculture in the Meander Valley.

Tasmanian Minister for Primary Industries and Water, Jeremy Rockliff, spoke about irrigation infrastructure planning.

"Already about 7000 people are employed in the agricultural sector in Tasmania and this is growing, especially with \$115 million due to be invested in Tranche Two irrigation infrastructure by 2018," Mr Rockliff said.

Minister Rockliff identified the revised Bass Strait Freight Equalization Scheme as giving Tasmanian agricultural a unique opportunity to grow and prosper.

He also agreed that biosecurity was a big issue and that vital agricultural research and development would drive the state forward.

It was subsequently announced at Agfest that biosecurity would be strengthened by additional detector dog teams to cover ports and airports.

Tasmanian Farmers & Graziers Association president,

Wayne Johnston, also in attendance, spoke about the importance of the 'Tasmanian brand', the on-going benefits of the Meander Dam and the need for the industry to be more self-reliant.

Mixed Dairy/Cropping farmer, Tony Wadley, was in attendance and was particularly interested in biosecurity issues. He learned that apparently, only 30% of airplanes coming to Tasmania are checked and that the Government has now put extra funding towards having all planes checked.

From junk mail to political propaganda, Salmat handles it all

LOVE OR HATE it, most people have received junk mail.

Salmat in Prospect is one of two companies delivering this unaddressed mail in Tasmania.

Started in Sydney in 1979, it expanded into Tasmania in the late 1980s and is now international with operations in New Zealand and the Philippines.

Its Prospect office cum warehouse manages all its catalogue mail deliveries in Tasmania, sometimes, as

many as three million items per week.

Andrew Giles, who heads up its Tasmanian division, says, "20 years ago, when I started, there were very few catalogues going out. There wasn't a lot happening. These days it is a very different scene."

He sees the company as more into freighting than anything else, with a constant stream of printed catalogues being delivered, split up and couriered on to distributors state-wide, all

with a tight turnaround.

Small customers, as well as large, are catered for. As an example, it delivers Meander Valley Gazette to homes in Prospect Vale and Hadspen, as are several other community newspapers in Tasmania.

Salmat strives to stay ahead of technology. "We are really good at doing what people want now, but probably even better at doing (that) in 2 or 3 years' time," Andrew comments.

Customers are able to pick and choose areas they would

like their brochures delivered and do this using statistical data about who buys what, where and when, all collected from a number of sources that includes Salmat.

"At the end of the day what we do is dependant on what people want. We try and look after them as much as possible," says Andrew.

"By and large the people who deliver do a wonderful job."

Using smaller owner operators to transport catalogues around Tasmania has proven a successful policy. For example, Country Couriers distributes to the Deloraine and Westbury areas.

Andrew explains, "We find if we get people like that, we build a relationship. Usually, (their) guy picking up from here drops off at the other end so we get communication between our people. (And) they are very good at keeping a close eye on what's going on. If they think something is not quite right, they tell us straight away. They notice if bundles are left on someone's verandah."

Recruiting people to deliver catalogues into letterbox-

es has become more of a challenge nationally. Up until a few years ago Andrew would put an ad in The Examiner and wait for the phone to ring. That method does not work anymore.

These days he uses Gumtree or a letterbox drop in the area he is looking to recruit in. As it is not particularly well-paid work, its workers tend to have other reasons for participating, such as fitness or parents helping their children to develop a work ethic.

That said, the crew of letterbox distributors are a mostly stable workforce, with only ten per cent regularly turning over. Moreover, there are a number of people in the north that have been delivering for over 20 years.

"By and large the people who deliver do a wonderful job," says Andrew.

Interestingly, the complaints coming from people wanting junk mail and not getting it outnumber, by ten to one, objections from people not wanting it but getting it.

"People enjoy reading catalogues. If they don't, they put a sticker on their letterbox and we don't deliver," Andrew adds.



On the forklift Allan Button, with Andrew Giles (left) and Corey White in the warehouse at Salmat

Hockey creates budget for small business

By Sam Horsman,
Business Principal,
PJS Financial

THE RECENT Abbott Government's budget has been targeted at providing small businesses with opportunities to grow and included a number of significant changes that are specifically for small businesses.

To be able to take advantage of these, a small business needs to have an annual turnover of less than \$2 million.

The announced but not yet enacted changes are:

Small Business Tax Cut/Discount

The Government announced that for those small businesses that operate as companies their tax rate will now be 28.5% rather than 30%. And for those small businesses that aren't incorporated they will receive a 5% discount on the income tax payable from their business.

The discount will be capped at \$1,000. This will apply from the 1st July 2015.

Small Business accelerated depreciation write-off

By far the biggest headline from the budget was the accelerated depreciation write off. This change allows small businesses to immediately write off any new asset purchase of less than \$20,000 rather than depreciating it over the items life time.

The \$20,000 is per asset and can be for second hand or brand new items.

This change applies for assets acquired after 7:30pm on 12th May 2015 and before 30th June 2017.

Immediate write off of start up costs

Small businesses starting up will be able to write off the cost of lawyers, accountants and consultants immediately.

Currently these start up costs are written off over 5 years. This is available for costs incurred after 1 July 2015.

Capital Gains Tax roll over relief changing entity structures

This change enables small

businesses to change their business structure without incurring capital gains tax.

That is a business can be rolled over from a partnership to a trust without any capital gains tax payable, provided certain conditions are met.

This change comes into effect from 1 July 2016.

Primary Producers

A change that doesn't just apply to small businesses but in fact any Primary Producer is the accelerated depreciation on water facilities (dams, tanks, irrigators, pumps etc.) and fencing. Water facilities can be written off immediately, rather than 3 years and new fencing can also be written off immediately rather than 30 years.

In addition fodder storage items (silos and bins etc.) can be written off in 3 years rather than 50. These changes apply to assets purchased after 12th May 2015.

N.B The above information is general in nature and should not be taken as tax advice.

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Please be aware that a firework display will take place on Saturday 27th June at Deloraine Showgrounds from 6.30pm for 20 minutes.

Owners of pets or livestock within a 1 or 2 km radius should take note.

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SPORT

FOUR YEARS AND STILL UNDEFEATED

SIX DELORAINE High School girls have done the hard yakka for the past four years, supported by car pooling parents and travelling to Launceston every week to play basketball teams from the likes of Scotch Oakburn, Prospect and Kings Meadows.

Mimi McKee, Erin Paine, Juanita Buttery, Hannah Beck, Zoe Robertson and Lakitta Bartlett have formed the nucleus which has remained undefeated that whole time.

This year, the girls took it one step further, being able to enter the Northern High Schools Sports Association's Grade 10 basketball competition.

They achieved the Holy Grail of Grade 10 Division 1 girls basketball, defeating Queechy High School 49-26 in the Grand Final to win the premiership and Deloraine High School's first Grima Cup.

The cup will reside at Deloraine High School for one year.

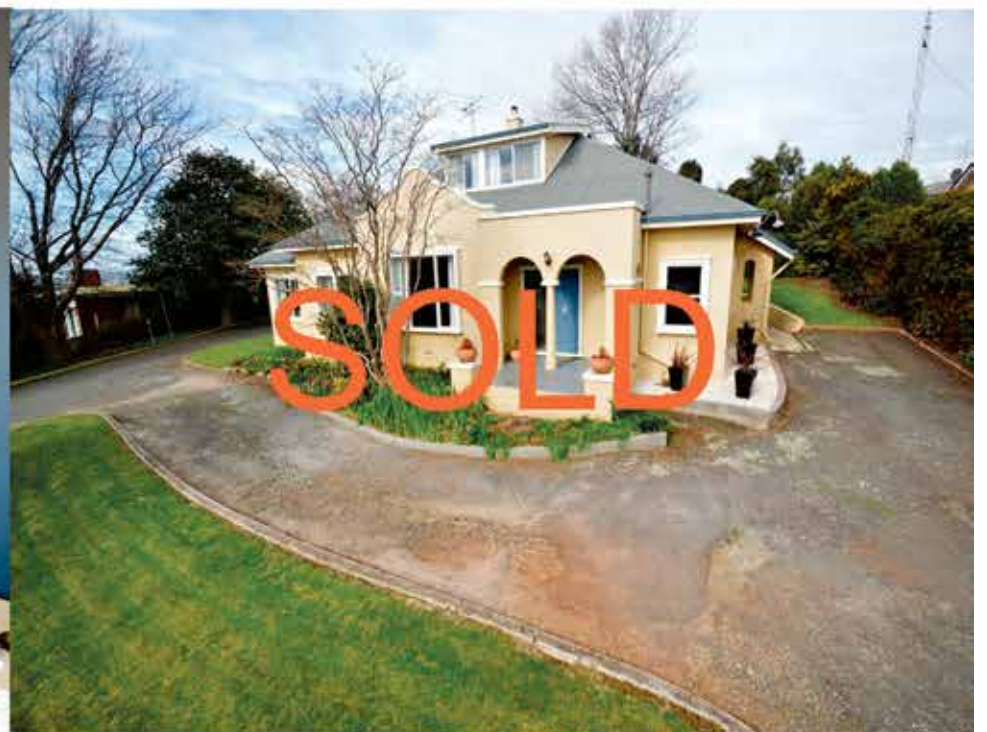


Mimi McKee and Lakitta Bartlett hold the Grima Cup, Grade 10 girls Division 1 premiers for 2015.

Photo by Mike Moores

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