



FUN FOR ALL

A great day out at the Westbury Show

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KANANGRA KAPERS

Pollies visit Kanangra aged care facility

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ARE YOU KIDDING ME?

Mini goats in Golden Valley

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Meander Valley Gazette

FREE! Every Month

December 2015

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper

Photo by: Mike Moores



SIMON SAVES OUR SCENERY

By Joanne Eisemann

"I AM JUST trying to take care of our local environment by picking up all the rubbish," says Simon Williams when responding to the people who stop to ask him what he is doing.

"I managed to pick up every scrap of paper, plastic, bottle and can all the way from Deloraine to my back door," adds the Weetah resident on his project to rid our country roads of rubbish.

Simon moved to Tasmania eighteen months ago for a simpler life away from big cities.

While travelling around the island state

he began to notice just how much rubbish lined the roads.

"I just had to do something about it because it seemed like no-one was picking up any of the trash. And it was just getting worse and worse," he laments.

A plan to begin tackling the issue hatched one morning when Simon drove to Deloraine. "I decided I'd walk all the way back to my house. I took a white Hessian bag and picked up all the rubbish on the left hand side of the road - everything I could possibly find all the way home - about 20 kilometres away."

Then he pedalled

back to Deloraine on his pushbike to pick up his car to fill it with rubbish from the small piles he had made along the way. It took him fifteen hours.

The next day he got up and did the same for the other side of the road.

Stored in his garage, the rubbish made an impressive pile. According to neighbour, Roger Davies, "it was huge".

Roger goes on to say that the work Simon has done "is inspirational" and that he will be putting in more effort to keep his verge litter free.

Of the pile of he collected, Simon said "I was jumping up and down on it like Scrooge McDuck. One thing

I noticed is that it is all recyclable stuff".

Simon spent three days sorting it into glass, cans, paper and cardboard before taking three van loads to the tip. He found that 90% was recyclable.

"It was kind of frustrating as well because I did one side of the road and came to pick up my piles and I found that people had already had a few beers on the side of the road and just thrown their cans in the bush. I must have picked up thousands of cans. We live in the best place in Australia and still we are having this problem"

"One thing that would make a huge

difference in Tasmania is if we could get ten cents a can return like South Australia," he advocates. "You see five times less cans on the side of the road there."

Roger agrees: "Anything worth money doesn't lie on the side of the road!"

Simon now has his eyes set on cleaning up the Lakes Road from Deloraine all the way to Hobart.

"I think it's really important, our environment; it's up to us. Locally, we all need to do our part."

Simon welcome assistance. Anyone interested in joining in the collection can contact him on 0405 462 714.

'Golden Shoe' for Elena

THE NATIONAL Heart Foundation of Australia has awarded the Tasmanian 2015 Golden Shoe Award to Elena Olah of Deloraine.

The award recognises Heart Foundation Walking members who have gone the extra mile to improve health through walking in their community.

To join the walking group, call Deloraine House on 6362 2678.



In My Opinion...

By Joanne Eisemann
Managing Editor

A 'GINORMOUS' thank you to all the people and organisations that contacted politicians to speak in favour of continuing funding for the Deloraine and Mole Creek Online centres - the places where volunteers and staff gather each month to produce the *Meander Valley Gazette*.

Gratefully, we received notice from the Education department that funding has been assured to the end of 2016 for ours and other community managed online centres around the state.

During the process we learnt more deeply of the value that our services provide to people - from those who have no other way of contacting their families who live overseas, to those who view Online Centres as a way of making the generally isolating experience of modern technology a social adventure, and to those who love reading *Meander Valley Gazette* each month because it helps them feel connected to local news, stories and businesses.

We literally had people running in the door saying "how can I help save the paper?!"

I fear the struggle to maintain funding from government is far from over. In fact, funding has already been frozen for many years.

Now we are being asked to reduce our paid staff hours, which will inevitably impact on the quality of services we

are able to provide.

It reminds me of the slow demise of the Adult Education service, once a thriving system that had employees in most largish towns that organised a full program of short courses in subjects ranging from bricklaying to French cooking that were all in nearby venues.

Over many years Adult Ed was slowly strangled by the reduction of funding to the point where it is almost, but not quite, dead!

It seems the plan for Online Centres is similar - a death by a thousand cuts, literally.

Lifelong learning is a supposed goal of Education nowadays, but where is this going to happen? At home using Google?

Yes, maybe, if you are one of the lucky ones that has reasonable internet access.

As a community we cannot allow ourselves to become complacent. If we want to maintain the services that we have, it will require an ongoing effort on our part.

We have recently witnessed the power of public opinion here in Deloraine. Once when a proposed bottle shop was proposed and defeated, and now when united efforts have resulted in a funding reprieve for Deloraine and Mole Creek Online Centres.

As reductions in services to the community are usually conducted by stealth, we need to remain vigilant.

Please feel free to contact me if you have ideas to help.

ing elephant for many months, it seems a little adverse publicity may have at least made the beast stir slightly!

Let's see if ANZ is true to its word and people on wheelchairs, scooters, parents with prams etc will soon not need to negotiate steps to access the bank or the ATM.

Denis Lyne

Michelle lends support

STATE DEPUTY opposition leader and shadow education minister, Michelle O'Byrne, contacted Deloraine Online Centre when she heard that some Online Centres were under threat of losing funding.

Michelle visited the centre to provide some tips for our campaign and what follows are some of the comments she made during her visit.

"There is the ability to tell local stories that doesn't happen in communities in other ways and also there is the opportunity that people are safe navigating the online playground or the online world, and people need skills to do that so to lose a facility

like this would be concerning."

"We think the government has come pretty close to, if not already achieved, all the financial savings that it identified so I'm not sure that cutting online access centres meets their previous budget policy anyway."

"As an MP in parliament I can raise the issue and that has a certain impact, but there is nothing more powerful than the story of an individual who says to a politician, this is why this service matters to me and this is why I want you to sustain and maintain it."

"Online Access centres are safe places that build community connectedness. Why would you take that away?"



Michelle O'Byrne discusses with Joanne Eisemann, editor of *Meander Valley Gazette*, the future of the paper.

WONDERFUL news!! Let us hope that the funding continues on for much longer than another year. These centres are so important for non-urban communities. A big plus is that the *Meander Valley Gazette* should still be able to fly and keep us connected.

Linda Ireland

WE ARE writing to inform readers that the Meander Valley Business Association (MVBA) has cancelled the Fired Up 2015 raffle due to lack of ticket sales. It was to be drawn on 18th December. First prize was a Mercedes Benz, second prize was a \$10,000 holiday voucher.

Monthly draws were held in August and September and 2

people won \$1000 each.

MVBA is still aiming to run a community event in July next year and will continue to raise money to fund it. We are having another raffle in 2016, but it won't be such an expensive first prize, something a bit more modest perhaps. Any suggestions, anyone?

If you purchased a ticket to this raffle and haven't been contacted yet on your reimbursement options, please contact either Richard on 0419 623 455 or Laura on 0437 075 266. And a big thank you to those who donated their ticket purchase price to MVBA to help with the 2016 event. Stay tuned for more news in the new year.

Laura Window on behalf of The MVBA Committee

Local foundation assists elderly

IN 1998, THE Rotary-Pratt Foundation was established to provide funding for projects that helped to improve the lives of elderly people in the Deloraine district.

Since that time, over \$140,000 has been donated to various projects around Deloraine, including:

- the Deloraine District Hospital
- the three arms of Aged Care Deloraine: Grenoch Home for the Aged,

- Kanangra and St Mark's the Deloraine Senior Citizens Club
- the Deloraine Bowls Club
- Meander Valley Community Radio

For information on seeking funds for appropriate projects or to support the Foundation in its endeavours, either through a direct contribution or by including the Foundation in your Will, please contact the Secretary, Tim Biggs, on 0428 237 078.

EST. 2013

Meander Valley Gazette

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Photo sales

Many of the photos in this publication are available for sale in varying sizes. For further information please call 6286 8216 or email photos@meandervalleygazette.com

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Letters In...

THANK YOU for publishing my letter about my concern with the ANZ Bank re ramp access to their Deloraine Branch.

I'm not sure if it was the catalyst for some action but shortly after its publication I received a phone call from ANZ assuring me that a ramp will be built by February 2016.

So, after prodding the sleep-

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

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



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



Wheelbarrow winners are grinners

Seona and David Findlay of Hagley take out the inaugural wheelbarrow race at the very well attended Westbury Show

Photo by: Mike Moores

Valley juniors take triathlon challenge

By Wendy Laing

BRACKNELL, WESTBURY and Deloraine Primary Schools took part in the 2015 Eighth Annual Schools Triathlon Challenge which was held in Devonport on the 25th and 26th November. Also held, in the south, a total of 4,764 students from 130 schools around the state took part in the challenge.

The Triathlon consists of swimming, cycling and running for distances matching the ages and abilities of the students.

Tim Smith, the organiser of

this year's triathlon, said that participation was outstanding and he is proud of Tasmanian schools for encouraging participation in the event.

"It is never too early to practice good habits of healthy eating and active lifestyles."

He went on to say Diabetes Tasmania and the Pennicott Foundation were actively working within communities to spread the message of a healthy, active lifestyle for students.

Students were encouraged to become involved, regardless of their current fitness levels, ability, previous experience or preferred sport.

Diabetes Tasmania CEO, Caroline Wells, said it is never too early to practice good habits of healthy eating and active lifestyles.

Bracknell Primary School sports organiser and coordinator for the challenge, Tom Newman, said that he had a team of 19 students from grades 3-6 participating in the event, both as individuals and as a team. They had been very busy training and hoped to do

well for their school.

Marcus Cramp, the Challenge coordinator for Westbury Primary School advised that a team of 17 students from grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 enjoyed the event. The Westbury Primary School P & F had supplied a bus to take them to Devonport for the Challenge.

Robert Pennicott, from the Pennicott Foundation, said that the Schools Triathlon Challenge was doing a great job encouraging children to be active, and that a healthy eating message was a vital part in helping students connect with an overall healthy lifestyle.



Fiery dragons

A TEAM COMPRISED of 7 paddlers from the Deloraine Flames Dragon Boat Club, combined with 5 paddlers from other State clubs, paddled to victory and won the 2nd Dragon Boat Festival on the North Esk River opposite Seaport in Launceston.

Club President, Peter Ashton, commented "It was most pleasing to see that at the level we competed at, even though we're the newest Club in the State, we were able to give the other Clubs a good run for their money."

To join the Flames, contact Peter on 0409 234 061.

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"We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and an extremely Happy New Year"

May we take this opportunity to advise that we will be closed from the 12th December to the 25th January 2016.

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Long term resident of Kanangara Aged Care facility, Betty Hitchens pictured with Tanya Plibersek. Betty celebrated her one hundred and first birthday the following day. Photo by Mike Moores

Tanya witnesses stylish community care

By Joanne Eisemann

FEDERAL DEPUTY Opposition Leader and Shadow Minister for Health, Tanya Plibersek, recently took some time to smell the roses with residents, staff and board members of Kanangra Aged Care Home in Deloraine.

Ms Plibersek, who is a keen gardener, added to her knowledge by quizzing Deloraine Aged Care gardener of 3 years, Wendy Green, while touring the carefully tended sensory gardens surrounding the facility.

Cliff Partridge, Chief Executive Officer of Aged Care Deloraine, conducted the tour, pointing out the

many design features that promote a sense of homeliness for residents.

Ms Plibersek was in Tasmania supporting Brian Mitchell in his candidacy for Lyons in the coming federal election.

Mr Mitchell encouraged the deputy leader to visit Kanangra to see its fantastic facility for herself.

"He is quite right - it has just been wonderful to see the high level of care and the beautiful surroundings," said Ms Plibersek.

"I think the great thing about this facility is that you have the national rental affordability units next door. So people who do not need assistance with everyday

living can live in a place with subsidised rental and a strong sense of community. But as their needs increase, they can easily move into higher care facilities," she added.

Her time there was also spent discussing future needs of the local aging population with board members of Aged Care Deloraine.

"Management already have people on waiting lists - both for this facility and the national rental affordability scheme properties.

So being able to invest in rebuilding, expanding and extending services in the future is a really important issue in forward planning," said Ms Plibersek.

MEANDER VALLEY - GET INVOLVED

ECOLOGICAL Affordable Co-Housing Inc. (Each) has been meeting in Deloraine since April of this year and is investigating other co-housing operatives (visiting those in Tasmania) and looking at suitable properties in the Meander Valley to support its aims and objectives.

Each seeks additional members with interests in ecological buildings, designs and homes who share

similar interests in self-sufficient living.

A web page is currently under development and interested parties can make inquiries to eachdel@gmail.com.

Membership forms are now available and an information evening is scheduled for Wednesday 7.00pm - 9.00pm on 20th January 2016 at the Western Tiers Community Centre in Parsonage Street, Deloraine.

IN THE GARDEN WITH NELL CARR

A DRY SPRING this year is devastating for farmers and gardeners alike.

Farms have no surplus pasture to save for hay or silage and, for gardeners in towns, watering becomes very expensive.

There are few vegetables which can thrive without irrigation, except perhaps asparagus. This has continued to send up a succession of succulent spears with only the occasional dousing.

It is surprising just how much water a top-loading machine uses.

Washing water can be saved with a special hose from the drainpipe into 50Litre garbage bins. Soapy water from the first cycle can be used for washing paths and the car.

Rinsing water can be poured around trees and shrubs, except for acid lovers like Rhododendrons and Camellias.

Mulching with autumn leaves, mushroom compost or pea straw both nourish the vegetables and keep the roots moist. But mulch should be

kept well away from stems, and should never be dug in.

Potatoes should be well hilled up with earth to prevent greening of the growing tubers before mulching with a thick layer of straw.



Cistus purpureus

There are many plants and shrubs which will resist dry periods. Members of the Cistaceae family from the Mediterranean countries of S.Europe can withstand long periods without water.

Among them are Cistus purpureus (pictured) and C. incanus, the latter grown very easily from cuttings, and the dwarf profusely-flowering Helianthemum (Sun Rose) - all flowering November and December.



State recognition for living legend

By Margueritte McNeill

DELORAINÉ WOMAN, Merrilyn Young, loves her community and helping others who live in it.

It's a passion that has shaped her life since childhood and throughout the years has earned her a number of awards.

Last month she stood up again as a finalist in the Heather and Christopher Chong Outstanding Achiever Award, one of the categories

in the 2015 Tasmanian Community Achievement Awards.

Although not the winner, Ms Young was happy to have reached finalist status.

"I feel very honoured," she said. "All volunteering is good."

"It is nice to be involved and to get satisfaction out of helping some one."

A secretary at the Meander Valley Council (including the former Deloraine Council) for almost 40 years, the 53-year-old makes full use of her work

skills to support causes and groups in the community.

The Deloraine Football Club sits high on Ms Young's list of priorities and practically the only thing she doesn't do for the club is play the game.

As a social committee member and secretary for almost 30 years she is actively involved in numerous activities to support the club.

Her dedication has been recognised by a life membership and last month

Ms Young was elected Vice President.

She was also inducted as a "Living Legend of the NTFA" in 2014.

Ms Young is also a stalwart of the Deloraine Show Society where she uses her administrative and organisational skills to great advantage to help ensure the ongoing success of the society.

Pearns Steam World in Westbury also represented Meander Valley as a finalist in the Fonterra Australia Agriculture Award category.



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Season's Greetings!

For your loyal support throughout the year, the editorial team and our wonderful band of helpers wholeheartedly say:

Thank You!

Meander Valley Gazette



Albert the Apex train displays his new paint job

Apex President and train driver, Danny Saltmarsh, with his 3 children Justin (4) kneeling twins (L) Mia and Bailey (2) with other Apex members. Photo by: Mike Moores

By Joanne Eisemann

MEMBERS OF Deloraine Apex stood around reminiscing of the times they enjoyed riding the train when they were youngsters.

That has not changed if the look on four-year-old Justin Saltmarsh's face is anything to go by.

He has eyes only for Albert the Apex train, with its shiny new makeover, as it motors

off the trailer for a spin around the caravan park.

The locomotive has been blowing its horn at events in Meander Valley for many years, bringing delight at Agricultural Shows, school fetes and other events where small children are in attendance.

Apex has managed the bookings for the past 20 years and before that, Rotary.

President Danny Saltmarsh

explains the refurbishment. "It was looking ratty and rundown. The carriages were falling apart."

The overhaul was a joint effort. Deloraine Community Shed (formerly the Men's Shed) renovated the carriages. Mike Yard Bodyworks repainted the engine a dazzling bright blue and Sunrise Trailers resprayed the trailer used to transport the train

to events.

Apex originally formed in Geelong in the 1930s.

"This is our 60th year here, says Danny "building better communities and helping people in need is our purpose."

The twenty members manage several properties.

"We have got the (Deloraine) caravan park, the Red Hills football ground on Mole Creek Road and the Hunts-

man Hideaway up the back of Meander," he elaborates.

"We are always doing something," he adds. "Our next project is doing up the steam train at the Train Park. Apex hauled it there using tractors long before my time."

Deloraine Apex meets at the Bush Inn every second Monday 6:30 for 7.00pm. For enquires, call Danny on 0409 965 712.



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Dr Steve Mace & staff wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to all who have supported us this year



To meet growing demand Dr Brandon Krapf will be joining our team in January 2016

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WISHING YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS



Rebecca White MP

State Member for Lyons

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Authorised by REBECCA WHITE, Parliament House, Hobart



Thank you to our clients and their support throughout the year.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.



Happy and Safe Christmas & New Year



Greg Hall, MLC
Independent Member for Western Tiers

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It is in exchanging gifts of the earth that you shall find abundance and be satisfied. Yet unless the exchange be in love and kindly justice, it will but lead some to greed and others to hunger.

And suffer not the barren-handed to take part in your transactions, who would sell their words for your labour...And if there come the singers and the dancers and the flute players - buy of their gifts also. For that which they bring, though fashioned of dreams, is raiment and food for your soul."

Kahlil Gibran, The Prophet



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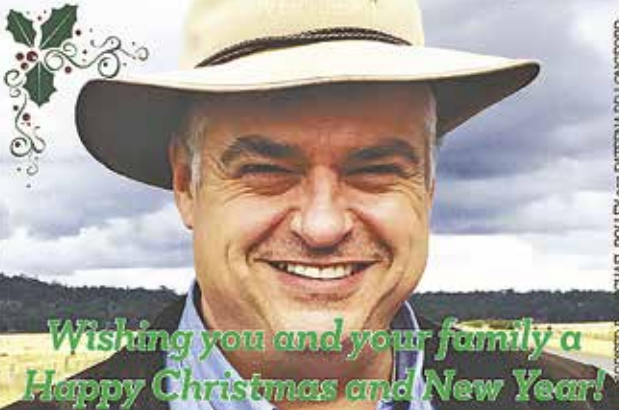


Authorised by Rene Hidding MP, 9 Gordon Street, Sorell

We wish our readers Compliments of the Season and all the very best for 2016.



Meander Valley Gazette
Your independent community paper



Wishing you and your family a Happy Christmas and New Year!

BRIAN MITCHELL
LABOR FOR LYONS

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Christmas Eve Picnic
Santa Delivers 5pm
Train Park



Buy Local
See Participating Local Stores for Details



Fireman Bill Barber instructs Kara Van Dijk, aged 15, in the use of a fire blanket at the Westbury Show. Photo by: Mike Moores

Westbury needs new firies

WESTBURY FIRE Brigade members were at the Westbury Show teaching the correct use of fire blankets and extinguishers.

The Brigade is looking for new recruits both male and female to begin training for what could be a busy fire season. With little spring rain the soil dryness index, and therefore likelihood of dangerous fire conditions, is at an all time high.

Tasmania Fire Service recommends that you should NOT plan to defend your home when the:

• Fire Danger Rating

exceeds 50 (severe) in your area, unless you have created a defendable space and emberproofed your home.

- Fire Danger Rating exceeds 75 (extreme) in your area, unless your home has a defendable space and has been designed and built specifically to withstand a bushfire.
- Fire Danger Rating exceeds 100 (catastrophic) in your area, regardless of any preparations you have made, unless firefighters have assessed your home as defendable dead.

Cyber crims using high tech extortion

By Alistair Carr

FOR A COUPLE of years now a rather nasty bit of ransomware called Cryptolocker has been doing the rounds.

Once on your computer this awful piece of software starts encrypting your personal files. This means all your documents, photos, and the like cannot be opened by you.

The only chance of recovery of these files is by paying the ransom (hence the name ransomware). Details on how to pay are part of the message you receive about your files "being encrypted for your own protection".

This warning may even include a (fake) logo purporting to be the US Department of Justice and the FBI and claim your files have been locked because you have visited illegal sites.

This ransomware will also encrypt personal files on any external drives attached to your computer, any personal files stored in mapped network drives, network shares, and cloud services like Dropbox, Onedrive, iCloud or other cloud storage that shows up as connected to your computer.

It may also encrypt backup files created with specialised

backup software if those files are stored on any of the above storage systems. The only safe data is data stored on write once media like DVDs or CDs or on external storage that is not connected to a computer.

Removing most variants of Cryptolocker is not all that difficult (most antivirus programmes will remove it).

However, this does not unlock your files. The only way to unlock your files is to pay the ransom. This is generally paid via Bitcoin and can vary from around \$200.00 up to thousands of dollars. Even then, paying is no guarantee of getting your files unlocked.

"ransomware will also encrypt personal files on any external drives attached to your computer"

The good news is the Cryptolocker network was taken down last year by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), along with law enforcement agencies in Australia, Germany, France, Japan, Ukraine, U.K and others. This has slowed the spread of Cryptolocker.

The bad news is new variants generally referred to as 'Cryptowall' have sprung up.

Most infections appear to

be coming from attachments in spam email and drive by downloads.

Crucially, these attacks are usually downloaded and run in the background in a manner that is invisible to you, and without you clicking on anything.

Just the act of viewing a web-page that harbours this malicious code is enough for the attack to run!

So how do you avoid getting Cryptowall? First make sure you have some form of security suite software installed.

Keep Windows up to date with Microsoft security patches, avoid clicking on emails from unknown senders, especially those with attachments, and even be wary of email attachments from people or businesses you know, especially if they are not expected or have odd titles or text.

Lastly, make sure you do regular backups or copies of your personal data to an external hard drive that is only connected to the computer when doing the backup.

Of course, do not connect the drive to do one last backup if you are already infected or think you may be infected.

ADVERTORIAL

Quamby Shoes thanks Meander Valley

QUAMBY SHOES Deloraine sincerely wishes to thank all our lovely loyal customers. Since opening our store on the 1st June the response has been overwhelming.

Knowing it could be a risk to open a small business in Deloraine we took the chance and thought "why not" and it is with the ongoing support from you all that our shoe store is still here for your convenience and to enjoy.

Hence, we now have a lovely young lady, Chevelle, who is now working in the store on Fridays and every second Saturday.

"Rex has made this business venture believable, fun, and most of all professional"

Chevelle is a local girl so it is terrific to be able to add our small contribution by employing locally.

It's a huge thank you to my eldest daughter, Sam, who has been an amazing help throughout in giving up a lot of her spare time to be available to work in the shop when I wasn't. Also, not to forget my youngest daughter, Madi, who has been very patient and understanding as I have not been at my home in Launceston as much as I would have liked.

My partner Rex who was the instigator to "open a shoe store" is my number one fan.

Rex has made this business



Photo by: Mike Moores

venture, believable, fun, and most of all professional.

I have learnt and am still learning from a man who had an idea and "Gave it a Go!"

Our summer range has arrived, the styles and colours are gorgeous, soft sandals, comfortable wedges, and closed in footwear for everyday wear or work wear with some brands also being

orthotic friendly.

I'm still enjoying the drive from Launceston to Deloraine. So many people I've met do the drive back and forth.

People ask "do I get sick of it?" Not at all. It's a beautiful drive and a nice wind down time at the end of the day.

Over winter it was stunning driving in to Deloraine and seeing all the

snow on the mountains.

We live in a beautiful state, that's for sure.

"Our Summer range has arrived, the styles and colours are gorgeous, soft sandals, comfortable wedges"

With Christmas nearly

here, just a reminder that lay-bys are welcome. Gift vouchers are available and, of course, we honour the seniors card with a 5% discount.

From Rex and myself we wish everyone a safe and Happy Christmas and we are looking forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Karol Brown



Valleyviews

Mayor's Message



Mayor Perkins (right), with Show President Toby Ritter, opening the 152nd Westbury Show. Photo by: Mike Moores

IN NOVEMBER, I had the pleasure of opening the 152nd Westbury show and attending the 69th Deloraine show.

Agricultural shows continue to play a vital role in bringing our communities together. According to a 2012 study, 587 agricultural shows across Australia have an economic impact of at least \$965 million per annum.

Our local shows continue to provide popular family-friendly activities, arts and crafts and entertainment.

A big thank you must go to all of the volunteers who work tirelessly to organise these events. I hope that the local and broader communi-

ties continue to support these rural traditions so that the "The Show" may continue for many more years to come.

COUNCIL IS THE major sponsor for the Meandering Art Exhibition and I had the pleasure recently to be involved in the judging and launch of this year's event at Country Club Tasmania and was amazed at the high quality of work.

The major prize went to Carlene Bullock for her artwork titled, Along Church Lane.

The full exhibition is now on at Country Club Tasmania until 14 February 2016. Everyone is welcome to view

and admission is free!

Thanks must go to 6ty degrees, Country Club Tasmania, Deloraine and Districts Bendigo Bank, Elemental Artspace, Tasplan Super, the Launceston Art Society and Lions Club of Hadspen South Esk, for their generous sponsorship and support of this exhibition.

LASTLY, THE YEAR has almost come to an end and I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and merry Christmas and look forward to a happy and prosperous New Year.

Mayor Craig Perkins



Photo by: Mike Moores

Paddle safe this summer

DO YOU OR your family paddle a recreational kayak or canoe?

A Paddle Safe Program has been developed to improve the knowledge and skills of paddlers who have had little or no formal training. This free 90 minute session covers general water safety, weather reports, safety equipment and correct paddling techniques.

Two Paddle Safe Programs will take place on the Meander River in Deloraine on Wednesday 27 January

work toward completing the Draft Plan by mid next year.

'I encourage everyone in Deloraine and those interested in the area to have their say and help shape the future of the town.'

Planning specialists, JMG Engineers & Planners, have been commissioned to prepare the Plan. Together with the Council, they will begin community consultation in January next year.

Public activities will include:

- Two community workshops
- Listening posts and suggestion boxes at regularly visited locations, like the supermarket
- Focus group meetings with key stakeholders
- Online surveys
- Other specialty workshops

For more information contact Craig Plaisted, Project Officer on (03) 6393 5324 or email craig.plaisted@mvc.tas.gov.au

Council Updates

Planning for the future of Deloraine

COUNCIL IS PREPARING an Outline Development Plan for Deloraine.

The Plan will provide a blueprint for development of the town for Council and developers over the next twenty years.

Mayor Craig Perkins said that Deloraine is a community with clear aspirations for their future.

'The Outline Development Plan will align with those aspirations—while helping us to manage the challenges that come with change and identify opportunities for new infrastructure and investment in the area.'

Mayor Perkins encouraged the community to participate in the planning process.

'We want the community and those with an interest in the area to get involved with the Plan, and to help shape the future of Deloraine.'

'There will be several opportunities for the community to provide input, as we

All that glitters is not just gold!



Visitor Centre staff Mark Mitchell and Vicki Pryer accept the Tasmanian Tourism Awards silver award.

THE GREAT WESTERN Tiers Visitor Centre won the silver award at the 2015 Tasmanian Tourism Awards (TTA) held in Hobart on the 6 November.

The award is the third TTA accolade for the Centre, having also won the category in 2014 and the silver at the 2013 event.

Housing both, Yarns Artwork in Silk and the Deloraine Folk Museum, the Centre is operated by Council, but without the efforts of its dedicated staff and 34 fiercely proud volunteers it would just be another Visitor Centre.

Visitors are welcomed by friendly locals who share their passion for the area and impart their knowledge about the spectacular gems on offer in Meander Valley.

Mayor Craig Perkins said The Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre is consistently recognised by visitors for their genuine willingness to help and service with a smile.

'When you get the op-

portunity to meet our great staff and wonderful volunteers, you think ... no wonder our Visitor Centre keeps winning awards!'

The service certainly exceeds expectations but it is also the community focus, roving ambassadors and arguably the best loos in the North which separates it from many others.

'Congratulations to all the staff and volunteers for their contribution to the tourism industry—to be acknowledged again with the silver award is recognition well deserved,' said Mayor Perkins.

Nearly 47,000 people visited during 2014-15, mainly from interstate.

Open seven days a week, 362 days a year, the Visitor Centre is located at 98-100 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine.

Diary Dates

Meandering Art Exhibition
Country Club Tasmania

On display until
14 February 2016

Festival of Small Halls
Chudleigh Memorial Hall

22 January 2016
www.festivalofsmallhalls.com

Markets



Deloraine Market
Showgrounds

First Saturday of the month
Liffey Market

Old Liffey School
Second Saturday of the month

Deloraine Farmers' Market
MG Trading carpark

Second and fourth Saturday of the month

Mole Creek Market
Mole Creek Memorial Hall

Third Saturday of the month (except second Saturday in December)

Westbury Market,
St Andrews Church

Third Saturday of the month

Christmas/New Year services

COUNCIL OFFICES AT 26 Lyall Street, Westbury will close on Thursday 24 December at 1.00pm and re-open on Monday 4 January 2016 at 8.30am.

Our Works Department will operate a reduced crew from 12.00pm Wednesday 23 December 2015 until 7.30am Monday 11 January 2016.

For all maintenance and emergencies please contact the following numbers:

General Enquiries and Animal Control Officer (All areas) 6393 5300

Deloraine, Mole Creek

and Chudleigh areas (West of Exton) 0407 754 031

Westbury to Prospect Vale areas (East of Exton) 0407 706 245

Garbage and recycling collections over the Christmas period will not change from the scheduled days.

Westbury and Deloraine refuse disposal sites and the Mole Creek transfer station will close on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

Magnetic collection 2016 calendars will be delivered throughout January and February 2016. If at the end of February you have not received yours, please contact Council and one will be sent out to you.

Community News

Festival of Small Halls



Liz Stringer part of the line up at Chudleigh Hall in January 2016.

COUNCIL IS DELIGHTED to announce a special community concert to be held on Friday, 22 January 2016 at the Chudleigh Memorial Hall.

This will feature one of Canada's best folk music exports, 'The East Pointers', along with nationally acclaimed singer songwriter, Liz Stringer and Meander Valley's very own, 'Meander Men'.

This extraordinary event forms part of a National 'Festival of Small Halls' and is delivered through a

partnership between Council, Arts Deloraine and the Woodford and Cygnet Folk Festivals.

It promises to be a rare evening of pulsating folk music and song. The show starts at 7.00 pm with a BBQ and Bar from 5.30 pm.

Tickets are limited and subsidised so secure yours as soon as you can.

Available now, \$10.00 (12 and under) and \$15.00 (13 and over), from Council's Westbury office, telephone 6393 5300 or online at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com

Masterchef BOOTCAMP

FOR BEGINNERS TO budding chefs aged 12 – 25 years. All skill levels are welcome.

Challenge yourself with cooking a meal and learn skills that will last a lifetime.

Meander Valley Council, supported by the Meander Valley Harvest Co-Op and Deloraine High School are

running a series of free 1-day cooking sessions during the week 25-29 January 2016.

Come and learn how to turn local produce into a sensational meal. Mentoring will be provided by professionals in the food industry.

The day will run from 1pm to 6pm when you will serve a 2 course meal to family or friends. This will be followed by the cleaning up as no good cook leaves the kitchen a mess! Some talented

young people will progress to a Grand Finale Cooking Challenge during National Youth Week in April 2016.

If you would like to take part in this program, call Vicki Jordan NOW on 0400 155 690.



Champions honoured

OVER 70 PEOPLE attended the unveiling of the latest inductees to Westbury's Champions' Parade on Sunday, 8 November.

The nine new inductees have either represented Australia at an international level in a sporting competition (as a competitor or official) or have a National

profile in their sporting field.

Mr Kevin Pitt, Westbury Recreation Ground Committee Chairman, welcomed those gathered and Westbury Primary School students were on hand to help with the unveiling of the new plaques, along Meander Valley Road.

The Westbury community is proud of its sporting heroes and the Champions' Parade, established in 2009 honours their achievements and celebrates its rich sporting roots.

New Champions' Parade Inductees

Peter Atkins	Equestrian
Sandra Atkins	Equestrian
Luke Blackwell	Boxing
Debra Fisher	Badminton
HALWES	Harness Racing
Stuart Lester	Equestrian
Craig Newitt	Horse Racing
'Jack' Stamford	Harness Racing
Jerome Whiteley	Running



Local sporting heroes and school students at the Westbury Champions' Parade ceremony in November.

Deloraine Pool is now open!

THE POOL IS open for business and play!

Located at West Parade, Deloraine, the main 20 metre outdoor pool is solar heated.

There's a small children's paddling pool too. It's only \$2.00 for children under 16 and \$3.00 for adult entry.

Opening Hours:

11.00am to 5.00pm
Tuesday to Sunday
(December and February)
11.00am to 6.00pm
Tuesday to Sunday
(January)

Pool Closed:

Mondays, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

For details visit Council's website.



Celebrate what's great!

COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE warmly invited to attend our Australia Day celebrations on Tuesday 26 January 2016 and enjoy an afternoon of entertainment and celebrations.

Council will hold a function at Country Club Tasmania from 2pm to 4pm (followed by light refreshments). This will include the presentation of Australia Day Awards to Citizen of the Year, Young

Citizen of the Year, Community Event of the Year and Sports Award.

Volunteer Recognition certificates will also be awarded and a Citizenship Ceremony will be held. Entertainment will be provided by the Meander Valley Choir.

If you would like to attend please RSVP to Merrilyn on 6393 5317 by Wednesday 20 January, as seating is limited.



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.

Right up your music alley

"PEOPLE FELT they'd made a discovery," said Mark from The Empire Hotel.

"Just walking up the street they weren't expecting to find a stage full of musicians with stringed instruments or the poets or bards or beautiful

vocal harmonies."

The Little Laneway Fringe Festival Live Performing Arts was almost a 'pop-up' event, being conceived just 2½ weeks before the Craft Fair.

"I always thought that the space between Seppenfelts

and The Empire Hotel had lots of potential," said Isabel from Seppenfelts. "So when Anthony from Keep the Beat, a local drumming teacher, said he'd organise it, Alfred and I said 'go for it!'"

"We got so much positive feedback! Everyone's hoping it will become a regular event.



The bridge scarf reaches for Nepal

'BRIDGE SCARF to Rugs' Project now has a home at Elemental Artspace. Niccy (pictured above) will be there most days for awhile, but always on Wednesdays from 12 noon to 4.00pm.

If you would like to help with this project which aims

to assist people in Nepal, especially children affected by the earth quake earlier this year, and also to present knitted woollens as welcome gifts to newly arrived refugees to Tasmania, you can do it in the following ways:

1. Pop into the next work-

ing session at Elemental Artspace every Wednesday in December anytime from 12 to 4pm and 10 to 12 on Saturdays.

2. Call into Elemental anytime and pick up a kit that will have instructions of what needs to be done.

3. Spread the word, please.

Horticulturalists have a ball in Hadspen

by David Claridge

ENTALLY ESTATE came to life in November as hundreds of gardening enthusiasts flocked to Gardenfest 2015.

Now in its eighth year, Gardenfest provides an opportunity for people to ask questions and acquire new plants and decorations to add to their own gardens.

Event organiser Sue Dibella was impressed by the number of people on opening day.

"It has been absolutely excellent, probably a record number of people through the gate."

"A special (Tasmanian) guest, Tino Carnevale from Gardening Australia was here wandering in the garden, chatting with people."

"We have so many varied people that come through - gardening enthusiasts, the ones that are sitting on the gate at 9:30 in the morning to

get the best bargain, or people who just come out as an excuse to support Entally."

Among the fifty-two stalls there was a variety of plants to purchase and flowers to admire from bonsai to petunias. There was even a new brand of Gin for sale, *Poltergeist*, which is Tasmanian made.

Stall holder Matthew 'Moby' Dick from Kimberley had an impressive display of creative metal artwork as silhouettes for sale.

"There is always plenty of interest here, and lots of questions."

"Among the most popular silhouettes are the Tassie Tigers, everyone loves those."

Gardening enthusiast Trish Campbell, a local of Entally had a great time there.

"I always come down every year, and I always come later in the afternoon so I have time to wander around and have a good look at things without huge crowds that are here earlier."

"It's just a beautiful place to be in, I've found some unusual things to plant in the garden."

"I don't promise my husband that I won't spend money, I always find something."

Gardenfest will be held again in 2016.



Shane Boyce of Launceston Bonsai

Photo by: David Claridge

Quiltessential viewing

A FANTASTIC QUILTING exhibition 'Hexagon Hype' will be on at the Durham Gallery Space, Elemental Artspace, 20 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine from 4th December 9 - 5 every day for the month of

December; admission is free.

'Hexagon Hype' is the result of the Quilters Guild of NSW quilt challenge in 2013. There are over 60 quilts on display, all containing the theme of the hexagon.



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Authorised by Eric Hutchinson MP, 53B Main Road, Perth TAS 7300.

“FROM THE moment we drove up the driveway, we just knew we wanted to put an offer on it,” says Carolyn Scott-Burgess of the family’s 50-acre property in Golden Valley.

Bought in 2003, Carolyn and her husband, Dale Burgess, were keen to provide their then three small children with a “feeling of a sustainable life on the land and an understanding of animals.”

“We’ve never had any disease here because we keep them vaccinated. It’s a standard, particularly as they are a pet animal.”

Dale’s work in mining and Carolyn’s, as a geologist, inevitably took them away from the property; returning from Vietnam to live in Golden Valley two years ago.

The idea for rearing miniature goats on this property came from their son, Dominic.

The family had seen some during their travels in England but it was he who inspired his parents to purchase, given the quirky animals’ quaint personalities.

“They are good tempered and... a lot more playful. So they bring a lot of joy into our



Carolyn Scott-Burgess with baby buck.

Photo by: Mike Moores

Geologist strikes gold with mini goats

lives,” shares Carolyn.

She adds, “They have been very good for establishing a pasture here that is weed free... because they are browsers. They like to eat lots of things that other grazing animals do not.”

One of only a handful

of miniature goat studs in Tasmania, ‘Attunga’ has a number of mini goats grazing their lush wallaby proofed pastures.

Having only been around 20 years, miniature goats as a breed are relatively new in Australia and are

“still very much in the establishment phase”.

There are three grades: A, B or C - dependent on the height of the goats’ shoulder, with an A grade measuring 57 cm or under to this height.

Bloodlines are varied. “They are a breed in them-

selves but have had roots in many breeds that have come together,” comments Carolyn.

About the size of a medium dog, miniature goats are bred primarily to be sold as pets.

Management practices include de-budding of horns at a young age, a five-in-one vaccination, and regular hoof care to prevent foot rot.

“We’ve never had any disease here because we keep them vaccinated. It’s a standard, particularly as they are a pet animal they may be going to people who are not used to having livestock,” says Carolyn.

These goats handle the snow very well, and are fine for rain or wind but not together.

“So we have in each paddock some form of shelter, small sheds built by Dale that they can sneak into if they need to,” she adds.

Gestation for goats is five months, so two kids per year is possible.

At Attunga, the choice is to breed only one lot of kids per year, as it helps reduce stress on the animals and the family caring for them.

For more information about the miniature goat stud visit www.attunga-miniaturegoats.com.au or call 0438 523 084.

Hagley’s ‘Uncle Sam’ connection

By Sara Fawcett

BEING THE agricultural region that it is, it was an honour for the Meander Valley as a whole to have principal of Hagley Farm School Michael Davy and Tasmanian lead Agricultural teacher Andrew Harris being awarded Hardie Fellowships to study in the United States.

They were among twelve Tasmanian teachers to receive the fellowships at a ceremony in Hobart last month.

The Hardie Fellowship was established in 2002 after the death of Charles Hardie, a Dean at UTAS who imparted in his will that two Trusts of over \$7 million were to be established.

These Trusts – The Hardie Fellowship Trust and the Hardie Education Trust – are designed to recognise excellence in the study of education and to allow teachers to further their education abroad.

As a result of being granted this opportunity, Mr Davy and Mr Harris will examine exemplary practices in agricultural education as well as elements of aquaculture, viticulture and sustainability.

As part of this, they will study at Auburn University in Alabama, Cornell University in New York, and the University of California.

“It’s a fabulous opportunity. There are 800,000 students that participate in a formal agricultural education program. So we’re very keen to investigate their programs,” said Mr Davy.

This opportunity to raise Tasmania’s agricultural standards certainly comes at a good time as it is predicted that our agricultural output will expand over the next decade.

“It’s our 160th year as a school and we’re looking to establish some future directions for the school. We want to improve student engagement and retention, and mentor and model good pedagogy in agricultural education,” he said.



Principal of Hagley Farm School, Mike Davy, receives a Hardie Fellowship. Photo courtesy Tasmanian Perpetual Trustees

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find me on Facebook

Authorised by Guy Barnett MP, 76 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine 7304 

Get Christmas hopping by local shopping

DELORAINE IS a very lucky town this year.

Santa is again making a special visit to hand out gifts at the Train Park from 5.00pm this Christmas Eve.

Folks wanting someone special to receive a gift from Santa on the night should see participating Deloraine stores for details.

Organisers Megan Brinsmead, Patrick Gambles and Jeanette Manning felt that

more should be done to encourage people to shop locally this Christmas, to support local businesses and keep Christmas spending in our town. "Every year Deloraine haemorrhages money out to major chain stores, instead of keeping our hard-earned local money in town where it is needed.

To have a vital main street, we all need to support each other. Our town can't afford another 'Kmart Christmas',"

said Mrs. Brinsmead.

The Meander Valley Business Association is supporting the project, along with Meander Valley Council and the Deloraine Fire Brigade.

"To have a vital main street, we all need to support each other"

Many local businesses are taking part, and making the effort to put an extra spar-

kle into our Festive Season this year. This initiative was a wonderful success last year, and will provide a memorable annual community event for Deloraine this year also.

Look for the 'Buy Here' signs in participating store windows throughout December and share a little Christmas cheer. Then be at the train park from 5.00pm Christmas Eve with a rug, picnic, or BBQ.

Music, a sausage sizzle, games for the kids, a trophy for best decorated shop window, a prize for best lit house – and of course a 5.00pm visit from Santa! – will make this a Christmas Eve to remember.

Tour maps of our local beautifully decorated and lit homes will also be available in stores and on Google maps during December and on the night.

See participating local stores during December for your someone special to receive a gift from Santa.

Gifts purchased will be gift wrapped and stored in-store, to be collected just before Christmas ready for Santa to hand out on the night.

Where: Deloraine Train Park. When: 5.00pm on Christmas Eve. What to bring: Rug, Picnic, BBQ, Sausage sizzle available.



Master basic computing

EVER WONDERED what all those other keys are for on your keyboard? Join Trent on Wednesday 13th January from 10.00am to 12 midday for a guided tour around a computer keyboard. You will pick up some valuable tips and tricks for your computing pleasure.

Or join Trent the following Wednesday morning the 20th of January for an Introduction to Instagram workshop.

This short course will cover the basics for those new to this social media platform.

Or, are you worried about clicking on the wrong links in

Facebook and getting caught up in something you really didn't mean to?

Our resident facebook guru Jan will show participants some hints about how to identify facebook hoaxes and other scams, plus a little on how to deal with them if you do happen to get hooked in: Wednesday 27th of January 10.00am to 12 midday.

All courses to be held at Deloraine Online Access Centre 21 West Parade Deloraine \$15.00 waged, \$10.00 conc, \$5.00 registered users.

Book your place by phoning 6362 3537 or drop in.

Regarding MARRIAGE

ADVERTISEMENT

Equalised treatment of same sex couples in areas of Taxation, Social Security, Health, Aged Care, Superannuation, Immigration, Child Support and Family Law are common sense and right humane requirements, but marriage is quite another issue... To marry; is to join, and when applied to human kind, the components, both the moral and physiological, required to establish a lasting union, have been fixed by the Designer and Lawgiver.

The proliferation of the human race, has occurred and been maintained by not only having the physical components of the subjects to be joined, but the emotional and physiological details set in order.

Up to the flood of Noah's time, man increasingly reverted to the exercise of his will, to the setting aside of God's will, a behaviour introduced by our first parents, and consistently he failed to govern himself, so that his behaviour became more and more offensive and destructive, requiring the putting of government, into the hands of the responsible elements of society to discharge (*Genesis 9:4-7*), which in consequence, led to public recognition of the 'married state' initiated by God when He said (*Genesis 2:24*) "Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife and they shall become one flesh."

A casual or even extended sexual relationship, can't be said to fulfil the requirements of the statements of Genesis, the word cleave, implies a union which is lawful, exclusive and permanent. The primeval law governing this bond, goes beyond the bounds of the church, embracing the whole of humanity. Westermarck, who lived from 1862 to 1939, said "marriage is rooted in the family rather than the family in marriage."

In every area of human experience, the intention of God, regarding the existence of man, is to be observed, so to set God's will aside is to invite a situation where mans finite insights, hasten the breakdown of society.

In 2 Samuel 23:3 the inspired words of king David assert "the ruler among men shall be just, ruling in the fear of God" then the Biblical record Romans 1:21-32 which reads "Because, knowing God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but fell into folly in their thoughts, and their heart without understanding was darkened: professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into the likeness of an image of corruptible man and of birds and quadrupeds and reptiles. Wherefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to uncleanness, to dishonour their bodies between themselves: who changed the truth of God into falsehood, and honoured and served the creature more than him who created it, who is blessed forever Amen. For this reason God gave them up to vile lusts; for both the females changed the natural use into that contrary to nature; and in like manner the males also, leaving the natural use of the female, were inflamed in their lust towards one another; males with males working shame, and receiving in themselves the recompense of their error which was fit. And according as they did not think good to have God in their knowledge, God gave them up to a reprobate mind to practise unseemly things; being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, covetousness, malice; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit evil disposition; whisperers, backbiters, hateful to God, insolent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, void of understanding, faithless, without natural affection, unmerciful; who knowing the righteous judgement of God, that they who do such things are worthy of death, not only practise them, but have fellow delight in those who do them."

This leaves no doubt, that it's possible to know God and yet not to honour Him, indeed, even to think it's not good to have Him in our thoughts. Details as recorded in this passage, cover ideas that men generate who are opposed to Gods order in creation, but we are left to understand that if we would enjoy the guardianship of God, it will be on His terms and not ours. It's not a pleasant prospect to be given up by God to a reprobate mind, a mind void of understanding.

Though these thoughts deal with the broad human experience, they won't be readily accepted by all, because man as born of Adam isn't subject to God's law, indeed he is at enmity with God.

The base on which human marriage rests isn't love, but righteousness and righteousness is the fulfilment of the duties of relationships, God is the determinator of righteousness not man.

Sincerely
Neville D Overton
Minister Devonport Community Church


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For info call Annie Robinson on 0419 134 946
artsdeloraine@gmail.com
or join at Elemental Artspace

Meander Valley Residents!
Don't be alone on Christmas Day

The Churches of the Meander Valley invite you to our 12th annual
CHRISTMAS DINNER 2015

In the Uniting Church Hall, West Barrack Street, Deloraine
11.30am Christmas Day, Friday 25th December

NO CHARGE AND ALL WELCOME
NO TRANSPORT? NO WORRY!

Let us know and we'll arrange transport. Sorry, no dogs in the hall.

Please RSVP to **Graham & Judy 6491 1594**
No Later Than Monday 21st December

To volunteer or make a donation contact Judy on 0458 190 591 or email christmas@internode.on.net

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Established January 1998




Meander Valley Online (Inc) actively supports the Meander Valley community by providing:

- 2 online Centres for internet & training in Deloraine and Mole Creek
- the publishing of the Meander Valley Gazette
- the sponsoring of this paper's Community Directory
- Technical IT Support valley-wide for home & small business



Deloraine Band End of Year Concert



Tuesday 15th December
6.30pm
at the Little Theatre
2 Meander Valley Road
Gold Coin donation

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 Tuesday and Thursday	Heart Foundation Walking Group	Meet at Deloraine House just before 10.00am for an hour walk.
Saturday 12th December 7.30pm	Western Tiers Film Society	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine "The Illusionist" Animation Rated PG
Saturday 12th December 9.00am - 1.00pm	Mole Creek Market	Mole Creek Memorial Hall \$10.00 per table – for bookings and enquiries call Leanne on 0409 713 240
Saturday 12th December 8.30am	Deloraine Farmers Market	MG Trading Car Park, 2 Racecourse Drive, Deloraine
Saturday 12th December 11.00am	Apex Tractor Pull	Apex Memorial Park, Red Hills Entry \$15.00 Under 16 Free Ph: Justin on 0419 876 447 or Rohan 0427 477 553
Sunday 13th December 11.00am	Apex Tractor Pull	Apex Memorial Park, Red Hills Entry \$15.00 Under 16 Free Ph: Justin on 0419 876 447 or Rohan 0427 477 553
Sunday 13th December 9.30am	Anglican Parish of Quamby Christmas Carols	St Andrews Anglican Church, Westbury
Tuesday 15th December 6.30pm	Deloraine Band End of Year Concert	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine. Gold Coin donation
Saturday 19th December 8.30am - 1.30pm	Westbury Market	3rd Sat. every month 11 Lonsdale Prom. 0417 931 619 Rob
Sunday 20th December 11.00am - 4.00pm	Kimberley Country Muster	Kimberley Recreation Ground Camping available BYO food & drinks \$10.00pp entry/\$20.00 family Child Free
Monday 21st December	Blokes Day Out	Beaconsfield Gold Mine Museum tour (\$12.00 entry) & Beauty Point Bookings essential Ph: 6362 2678
Thursday 24th December 6.00pm - 8.00pm	Deloraine Fire Brigare Lolly Run	Throughout the streets of Deloraine - Kiddies, listen out for the Fire Siren to get your lollies!
Sunday 27th December 3.30pm - 7.30pm	Westbury Cup meeting	Carrick Park Pacing Club, Carrick
During January School Holidays	Master Chef Cooking Challenge 12-25 years	Register your interest now with Vicki 0400 155 690
Saturday 2nd December 9.00am - 1.00pm	Deloraine Showground Market	Deloraine Showgrounds, Highland Lakes Rd, Deloraine Phone: 03 6369 5321 or 0409695321
Wednesday 10th January 10.00am - 12.00noon	Computer Keyboard tour	Deloraine Online Access Centre Ph: 6362 3537 \$15 waged \$10.00 conc \$5.00 registered users
Saturday 16th January 9.00am - 1.00pm	Mole Creek Market	Mole Creek Memorial Hall \$10.00 per table – for bookings and enquiries call Leanne on 0409 713 240
Wednesday 20th January 10.00am. 12.00noon	Introduction to Instagram	Deloraine Online Access Centre Ph: 6362 3537 \$15 waged \$10.00 conc \$5.00 registered users
Wednesday 20th January 7.00pm - 9.00pm	Ecological Affordable Co-Housing Each Inc.	Western Tiers Community Centre, Parsonage Street, Deloraine (Information evening)
Friday 22nd January - 24th January 5.30pm	Community Concert & BBQ Limited tickets	Chudleigh Memorial Hall Tickets \$15.00 (13 & over) \$10.00 (12 & under) Limited tickets available Ph: 6393 5300
Saturday 23rd - 25th January	Marshmelody Festival (Family friendly)	669 Jackeys Marsh Rd, Jackeys Marsh Tickets on sale now at www.marshmelodyfestival.com.au
Tuesday 26th January 2.00pm - 4.00pm	Australia Day Citizens Awards	Country Club Casino, Prospect Vale RSVP to Merrilyn on 6393 5317 by Wednesday 20th January
Tuesday 26th January 8.00am - 10.00am	Australia Day Breakfast	Chudleigh Memorial Hall
Tuesday 26th January	Harveydale Rodeo	"Harveydale" 11 kilometres from Westbury on Birralea Road
Tuesday 26th January 7.30am - 10.00am	Australia Day Breakfast (Westbury Rotary)	Westbury RSL Club Entry \$12.00 per person or \$25.00 Family - All welcome (Gluten free available)
Wednesday 27th January 10.00am. 12.00noon	Facebook hoaxes and scams	Deloraine Online Access Centre Ph: 6362 3537 \$15.00 waged \$10.00 conc \$5 registered users

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DIGGERS CRICKET Club veteran, Lee Clarke. Life member who joined the TCL Club 25 years ago became its most capped player. Reaching his 350 game milestone at Diggers home ground Hagley, 21st November 2015. Lee Clarke's first match with the club was 31st October, 1992. Lee started as an opening bowler before becoming a wicket-keeper batsman. Congratulations Lee, "Go Diggers".

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LITTLE ATHLETICS

THE 2015 Little Athletics season started with some fantastic results by Deloraine athletes both locally and around the state. November saw 26 athletes represent the club at the Northern Centre Challenge where the club earned 3rd place in the points based competition. 35 athletes represented the club at St Leonards for the Northern All State where many athletes performed personal bests and 5 club records were broken. The athletes are now gearing themselves up for the season's major competitions.

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SPORT

By David Claridge

Practising the art of Aikido

AFTER A WEEKEND of intense training, students of Aikido found themselves relaxing and eating sushi under the cherry blossoms along the Meander River bank in Deloraine.

The annual event called Hanami geiko (which means the 'flower viewing training' in English) is about peace and nature.

Hanami Geiko organiser, Bodhi McSweeney, who has coordinated the event for years, told us, "It all started with our Aikido club following the Japanese tradition of Cherry Blossom viewing with an informal picnic at the peak of the flowering."

Event founder and President of Aiki Kai Australia, Tony Smibert, remembers how a Japanese businessman, Rick Shiritori, came to the district and donated the Sakura, Flowering Cherry Trees.

"Over the years the cherry trees have grown and now they are quite impressive."

"It is now a national Aikido event with people coming from other states," he said.

The training took place at the newly built Dojo

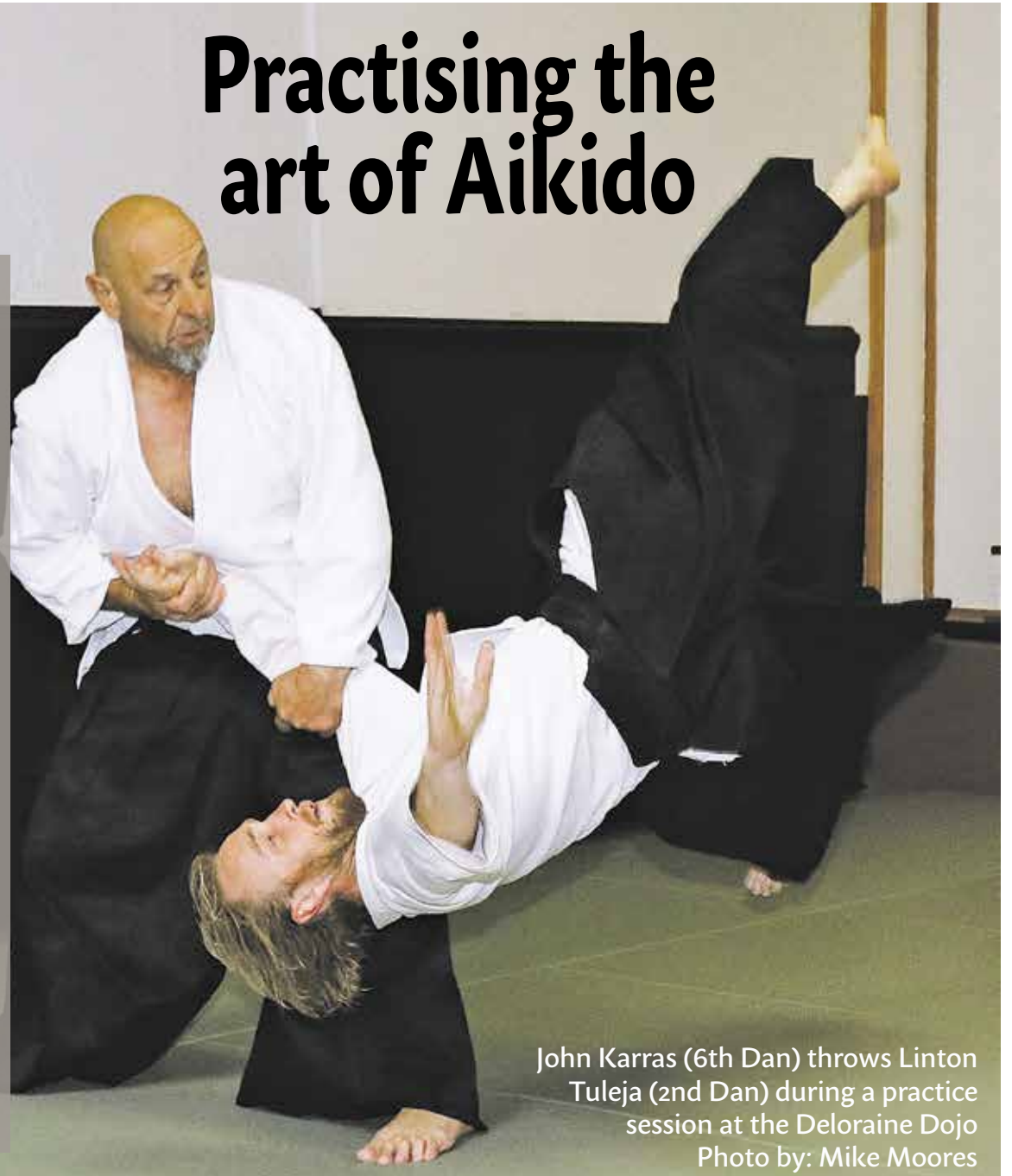
(training hall) in Meander. Martin Bratzel and his wife Bodhi owns Tenchi Farm Dojo. Martin, Tasmanian Aikikai Area Representative, stated, "The dream started a long time ago and is ongoing."

"The most important part of the dojo is the people who train in it. There is a wonderful group of people training in Tasmania and we continue to use the Dojo for trainings and seminars.

"Aikido is something we practise in the Dojo but it is also a place for people to use for other activities," he said.

Ms McSweeney added "Aikido, the art of harmony and self-defence, has had a strong presence in Deloraine for over 30 years. It is under the guidance of Tony Smibert Shihan, the President of Aikikai Australia who is, unbeknown to most, one of the world's great proponents of the art."

"Aikido has a mission to contribute to the world through a spirit of peace, love and harmony which is what we aim to do with our new facilities, also available for non-aikido events."



John Karras (6th Dan) throws Linton Tuleja (2nd Dan) during a practice session at the Deloraine Dojo
Photo by: Mike Moores

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