



### ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR

Chudleigh Show a scorcher

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### FOLLOW THE FLAVOUR TRAIL

Tomato and Garlic Festival at Selbourne

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### THE TRICK IS IN THE KICK

Hadspen man struts his stuff

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# Meander Valley Gazette

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March 2016

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper



## LEADER OF THE PACK

Story on Page 7...

Photo by: Mike Moores

## Mole Creek, fires' HQ

by David Claridge

MOLE CREEK is a popular place to visit for the caves and the Tassie Tiger Bar, but recently it has been home to a large number of firefighters from across the country who have put their lives on hold to combat the Lake Mackenzie fires.

Lightning strikes had sparked several fires in

rugged terrain. And they were able to spread, with some even joining together and have burned around 25,000 hectares at the time this story is being written.

Now, almost two months into the incident, the fire is still active.

The Mole Creek Recreation Ground is being used as a base of oper-

ations for the fire effort. The football oval is a helicopter landing-pad and the adjacent ground is home to a sea of tents.

Forward Operations Officer, Michael Phillips, of the Tasmania Fire Service (TFS) was responsible for the base.

"It is not as simple as putting a dozer line in and getting a few tankers to put it out,"

Mr Phillips said. "It is a pretty hard slog in rough, inaccessible country."

"All of the firefighting agencies in Tasmania have been here - TFS, Parks and Wildlife, Forestry and contractors. (And), because of the sheer workload of fighting all these fires in Tasmania, we have had to call on our counterparts from the mainland," he added. "We have had people from Parks and Wildlife, and the Rural

Fire Service from New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory Parks, and Queensland Rural Fire Service."

Michael Saunders of Kempsey Area, New South Wales, has come to Tasmania for the first time to work with a Remote Area Team (RAT).

"We have been into a couple of remote pads and worked on hot spots and done some water bombing operations," Mr Saunders said.

On day five of his rotation, he is not long to return home for a break. However, "they are rotating people back through, (and he) would love to come back and help."

"The National Parks and Wildlife Service of New South Wales has done a fantastic job here in conjunction with the other inter-agency crews," he shared.

Story continues Page 2...



# In My Opinion...

By Joanne Eisemann  
Managing Editor

IN A BOLD move last year the new Canadian prime minister Justin Trudeau began his leadership by distributing positions in his cabinet equally amongst men and women, 15 men and 15 women.

When asked why he had done this, he said "Because it's 2015," and he wanted to "present to Canada a cabinet that looks like Canada."

Meanwhile, here in Australia, we continue to accept the fact that women are not equally represented in parliament, local councils, boards or even paid equally, as somehow OK.

It will be interesting to see whether the change in make-up of the Canadian ministry will have an effect on pay rates, board memberships and other areas of inequity.

I think one way we can assist to change the horrifically high incidence of domestic violence we have in this

country is to get serious about creating equal opportunity and equal remuneration for men and women. As we see in Canada, it's as easy as making a decision to do so.

While on the subject of domestic violence, I find myself unable to agree with the commonly held idea that violence is somehow a masculine trait.

Does that mean that when a woman feels violent (as we all do from time to time) that we are being male rather than female at that time? I don't think so.

Violence is a trait shared by all humans. It's just that women are generally more socialised out of expressing these feelings and, most often, are physically less able to dominate a man if they do so.

The sooner we accept violence as a human issue rather than a male problem the sooner we will begin to find ways to work together through our violent feelings rather than acting them out!

# Letters In...

MY FAMILY have a long background in the bush up on the Highlands.

The family huts are part of our history.

These fires are not good for anybody.

This is the wrong time of the year for a hard fire. We burnt off after winter.

There was plenty of water on the ground and trees.

The government has got to work with the people not against.

Don Steers

I'D LIKE to thank Seppenfelts and the Empire Hotel for providing the poetry space at the "Little Laneway Fringe Festival" on Australia Day.

As an amateur writer and performing artist, I felt extremely privileged to be given the opportunity to perform among some of the more professional acts. It is through such opportunities that I am able to learn something new each time I perform, or simply enjoy being part of the audience. Thank you Seppenfelts and the Empire Hotel.

A R Trounson - Needles

THERE HAS been a lot of talk and some complaining about the way the highland fires have been dealt with.

With 80 fires burning around the state we were fortunate that the weather was as good as it was.

If the wind had picked up as it was forecast to do on several occasions and with resources stretched to the limit we could have had a major catastrophe similar to '67 on our hands.

Peter, Deloraine

LOVED THE picture in the Feb edition of the main street of Deloraine without power lines and more green things.

The street looks heaps more cheery. Anything we can do to make our town more attractive is a plus.

Helen, Deloraine

FACING THE harsh reality of losing jobs in the manufacturing sector it was gratifying to see how well-attended the Deloraine Car Show was.

To see the town so alive bodes well for the growth of tourism and Deloraine's future as an events town.

James, Deloraine

# Council has eye in the sky

By Marguerite McNeill

SOMETIMES IT might appear that your every move is under scrutiny.

With today's technology it seems that Big Brother is looking over your shoulder whichever way you turn.

Cameras check your every movement in department stores, on pavements and roads, at public venues and, in some cases, even in and around private homes.

There's no doubt that most of those cameras, sited in the name of security, provide a safeguard to the welfare of communities and have proved to be of great assistance in the face of crime.

But how far does that surveillance of our private lives extend and who is watching?

At the local level that leads to the question of building codes and what council does to make sure it is meeting its obligations to check what is being built under the State Government legislation.

The Building Act 2000 requires Council to be aware of building works in its municipality to ensure all building and plumbing work is safe and built to regulation.

Meander Valley Council's Development Services Director, Martin Gill, said that information about building activities was gathered in a variety of ways.

In addition to the publicly available satellite imagery and maps on websites such as the state government

"the List", Council has its own satellite images that are renewed every five years. Changes to the historical images are quickly evident.

Reports of building works also came from planners speaking to building teams, neighbours and other community members.

Council's attention is also drawn to buildings and accompanying permits when properties are put up for sale.

"Council does not proactively spy on people," Mr Gill said.

"But we are obliged to keep track of new building and plumbing works. Government legislation demands it."

Although most building works do require a Council permit there are certain out-buildings that are exempt.

Currently exemptions include sheds less than 18sqm, with roof spans less than 3m and no higher than 2.4 m.

Decks and pergolas and garden arches are also exempt if they are less than 20 square metres in area, not covered, or only covered by an open-weave material and no more than 3 metres above the ground.

However, Government legislation is set to change later this year and in many cases it should become easier and less expensive to meet the standards.

Meantime, building regulations are complex and rural and urban rules can vary, so it is best to ask.



Firefighters board helicopter at Mole Creek. Photo David Claridge

# Mole Creek, fries' HQ (from Page 1)

by David Claridge

RAT TEAMS are crucial to keep the fire at bay. Mostly helicoptered into isolated areas, they bring all the equipment they need with them, as it is a physically tough and demanding job.

I followed a team of RAT-trained TFS Career Fire-fighters, and a New South Wales RAT Team who relied on local volunteer firefighters for water, as they travelled down a steep and dangerous feature to get to where they needed to work.

Staying with the volunteers I could not see how far

away the team was but could see they were using water from the hooked up tankers on top of the hill to extinguish hotspots.

A helicopter came over to scout the area, likely called in to attack a troublesome area. It filled up at the nearby dam and returned, circling a zone before slowly coming down and dropping its load of water.

There is still a lot of work to be done.

The Fire Service wants to pass on that they are grateful for the support of the local businesses and the community itself.

EST. 2013

# Meander Valley Gazette

This newspaper is published by Meander Valley Online Inc 21 West Parade, Deloraine 7304 ABN: 89090614412. 9,000 copies are printed each month on paper made in Tasmania. Delivered to all homes in Meander Valley.

**Editorial enquiries:** Contributions welcomed! Email: editor@meandervalleygazette.com Ph: 6286 8212 (leave a message, it will send an email).

Editorial closing date for April 2016 issue is 25th March.

**Advertising enquiries:** Email: advertising@meandervalleygazette.com Ph: 6286 8216 (leave a message, it will send an email).

Advertising closing date for April 2016 issue is: 21st March.

**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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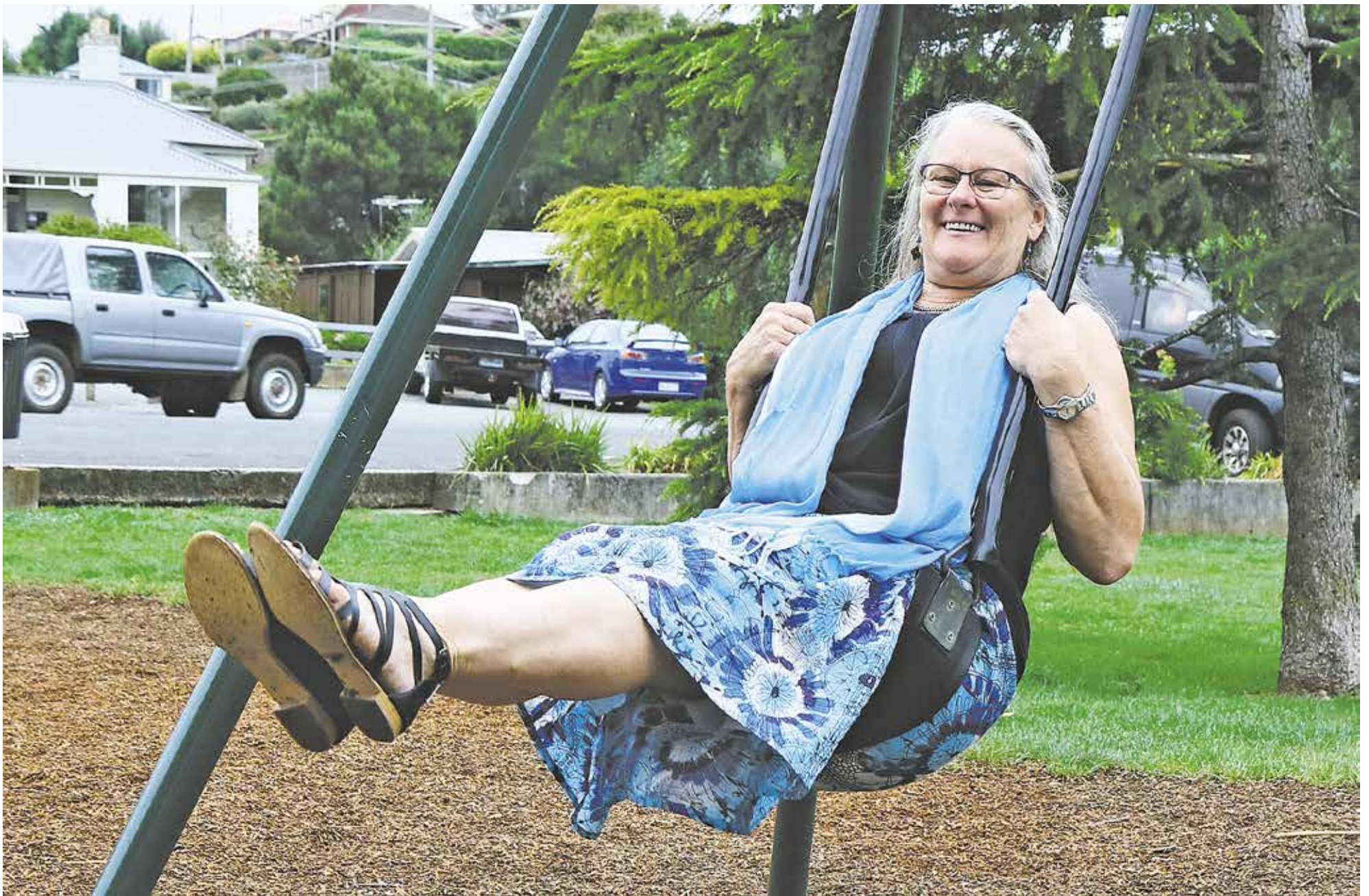
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Libby Beyerle says people can look forward to increasing their energy levels after completing the Butekyo breathing retraining in April.

Photo by: Mike Moores

# Breathe away your snores

YOU MAY HAVE heard that Butekyo breathing is an effective treatment for asthma, but did you know it is just as useful in treating sleep difficulties such as snoring, nasal congestion, sleep apnoea and insomnia?

Problems such as anxiety, panic disorders, stress and allergies have also been helped by this method.

Social Worker, Libby Beyerle is excited to be organising a series of Butekyo training sessions at the Deloraine Day Centre in April free of charge to those wanting to

learn more.

"It's great to be offering a drug free approach to these health issues" says Libby and adds, "in the UK doctors and nurses can offer Butekyo to people with asthma to improve their quality of life, reduce symptoms and reduce their need for reliever puffers."

### **Butekyo is suitable for people of all ages**

Trainer, Caroline Ash, from Wynyard is a registered veterinary surgeon; she trained as a Butekyo practitioner

after discovering the results for herself.

Once suffering with almost overwhelming fatigue and sleep apnoea that required a portable ventilator to keep her breathing at night, Caroline is now free from the disease and has a lot more energy during the day.

From her website 'The aim is to re-set the brain's autonomic, unconscious breathing controls to operate at the correct level at all times.'

Professor K. P. Butekyo developed the method in Russia during the 1950's

with funding from the soviet space program.

A range of instruction sessions will be offered in Deloraine. Choose from:

- Single 90-minute sessions to learn how Butekyo works.
- Butekyo breathing retraining course of one 90-minute session a day for 5 days.
- Children's (3yrs+) Butekyo breathing retraining of one hour a day for 5 days.

Suitable for people of all ages. Bookings required.

11th-15th April, Deloraine Day Centre.

Contact Isabelle or Libby on 6701 2111 at Deloraine District Hospital.

Article sponsored by Deloraine District Hospital.

# PC clean up

Following the success of the Windows 10 session, Alistair Carr will offer a '5 ways to clean up your PC' workshop.

"There are several simple maintenance procedures everyone can do to make sure their computer is running at its optimum" says Alistair, "like un-installing unnecessary software can make your computer run faster."

When: 6th April from 10:00am to 12 midday at the Deloraine Online Access Centre, 21 West Parade.

\$15.00, \$10.00 concession and \$5.00 registered users.

To book, call 6362 3537.

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

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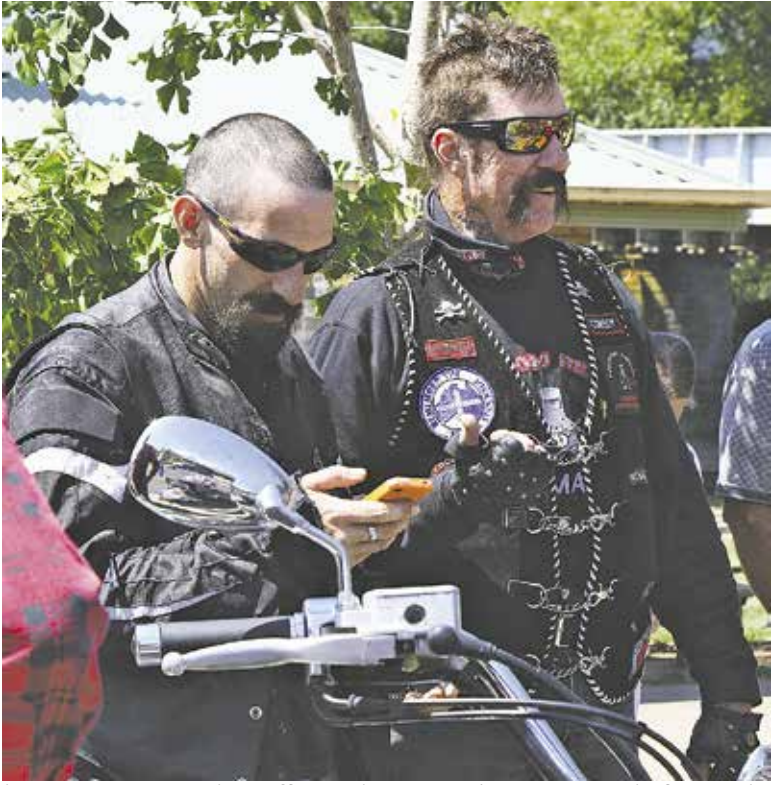


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I-r: Dirty Dave and Geoff 'Cowboy' Marsh getting ready for a ride

## Freedom Riders come to town

THE FREEDOM Riders Australia Association formed as a result of moves to bring in legislation preventing bikers from gathering together and riding in groups.

Local man Geoff 'Cowboy' Marsh heads up the Tasmanian Freedom Riders who get together regularly for rides and camp outs at various places around the state.

He said the group was interested in maintaining people's rights to be able to go riding

with their mates.

The association is a charitable one and raises money for various charities as part of its ethos.

They also go to the mainland to join with 'Freedom Riders' from other states for extended rides.

The association is open to new members.

For more information go to [freedomridersaustralia.net](http://freedomridersaustralia.net) or you can give Cowboy a call on 0498 492 183.

## 'Thanks' to fries

GUY BARNETT MP has joined together with the Mole Creek Progress Association, Chudleigh Hall Committee, Rapid Relief Team and Meander Valley Council to organise a thank you to fire fighters and emergency service personnel.

The community event will be held at the Mole Creek Hotel on Saturday 12th March from 3.00pm to 6.00pm

RSVP for catering (BBQ) purposes to Barnett. [Invitations@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Invitations@dpac.tas.gov.au) or call 6701 2170.

## Meet the Greens

COMMENTING ON the announcement of the latest Defence White Paper, Senator Peter Whish-Wilson said "The government has made a stark choice today, to spend hundreds of billions of tax payer dollars on weapons and military hardware, rather than investing in our communities."

Senator Whish-Wilson will speak together with Senator Nick McKim and Tasmanian Greens leader Cassy O'Connor MHA about issues affecting Tasmania and Australia at Deloraine House on Saturday 12th March. This is a free public meeting; all are welcome.

For more information phone Inger on 0401 533 023.

## MEANDER VALLEY - GET INVOLVED

ON EASTER Saturday, 26th March, the combined Christian Churches of Deloraine will be offering their 15th Family Festival.

The festival is held on the Meander river-bank between the swimming pool and caravan park.

Games, face-painting, crafts, and food will be available from 11.00am to 3.00pm as Deloraine Christians' gift to the community in celebration of Easter.

In previous years, 700 to

800 long-term residents, newcomers and visitors to Deloraine have thoroughly enjoyed a day of free family fun and food.

The festival provides a great opportunity to meet old friends, make new friends and celebrate our community ties.

The Festival will conclude with an Easter Sunday celebration at 11.00am.

Help with setting up the tents on Friday afternoon starting at 4.00pm would be appreciated.



Young ones enjoy the jumping castle at the free Family Festival

## IN THE GARDEN WITH LORRAINE CLARKE

THE NATURAL world teems with creepy-crawlies, most of which go about doing inestimable good.

But there are some little critters we don't want to share our lives with.

However, when the choice is between a pest and a toxic chemical, organic gardeners and pet owners have a problem.

There is an organic solution in the form of Derris (Rotenone) powder, which is a very effective insecticide, pesticide and piscicide.

This natural product, found in various plants, absolutely kills freeloaders such as cabbage caterpillars (also earthworms in the soil beneath

if you are too heavy-handed), aphids and beetles with malevolent intent (avoid sprinkling on flowers to spare benevolent bees), any six-legged lurkers in dog or cat fur, horse or cow coats, dare I whisper it in kids' hair, or poultry feathers, as well as your goldfish, should the treated cat go swimming.

Derris is safe to use topically on warm-blooded animals and people.

The effect on broccoli and pets lasts for several days in dry conditions. Sprinkle lightly and judiciously on affected plants, and ruffle through fur or feathers, for a guaranteed result.

## Velocipede reminiscences

TASMANIA PERFORMS is gearing up to bring their new play Pedalling Back to the Deloraine Little Theatre.

Written and performed by multi-skilled artist Jeff Michel, this captivating semi-autobiographical one-hander takes you on a comic and energetic ride through the pitfalls of his adolescence...without the Hollywood ending.

Jeff is pedalling back, back ... back to a time in his boyhood in Shaker Heights, Ohio.

For years he has packaged his life up into the idealised world of cinema. The most reliable constant in his life is his friend, Elle, who tries to keep him grounded.

A sudden and traumatic event shatters this idyllic youth and Jeff has to learn how to cope when the film of his life is not the one he wants to see.

Jeff offers an intimate feast of comedy and drama, hope and regret in this beautiful solo show. Incorporating physical comedy, storytelling, puppetry, music and singing, this is a show that delights in the raw possibility of theatre itself.

Friday 8th April, 7.00pm. Tickets will be available from Elemental Artspace \$25.00 adults/\$20.00 Arts Deloraine members or concession card holders. All cards must be shown.

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Authorised by Senator Carol Brown, NAB Building, Ground Floor, 27 Elizabeth Street, Hobart, 7000





# Up for the chop at Chudleigh

At the Chudleigh Show, cattle steamed, horses sweltered and axemen sweated. It was a glorious day in a picture book setting for the 127th show. Our rural youth were well represented in all aspects and classes during this historic festival of country life, and visitors from across the world were treated to the running of the Chudleigh Cup.

## Careful planning unlocks future of Hadspen

THE TASMANIAN Planning Commission has approved an amendment to the Meander Valley Interim Planning Scheme 2013 to rezone land for Hadspen's Urban Growth Area.

In 2011, Council and the community developed a 20 year Outline Development Plan for the Hadspen area.

The UGA land, located to the south of Meander Valley

Road, was identified as an area for significant development, and also as a key location to accommodate residential growth in Greater Launceston over the next 30 years.

**The population will double over the next 20-30 years**

For realisation of the planning vision, the area has been

rezoned from Rural Living and Rural Resource to six zones more appropriate for development.

Council developed a Master Plan for the UGA providing for residential development, a local business area, school site, new parks, pedestrian and cycle tracks.

The rezoning is another significant step in unlocking future development in

Meander Valley.

'Council welcomes the TPC decision to support the rezoning of the Hadspen Urban Growth Area that will see the population double over the next 20-30 years', said Mayor Craig Perkins.

Council will continue to work with landowners and utility service providers to design and build infrastructure to service the new community.

Enquiries: Mayor Craig Perkins on 0457 401 220.

## St Patrick's Day

ONSATURDAY 19th March the Combined Churches of Westbury will hold their Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

The celebration will be held at the Catholic Church from 9:30am to 7:30pm. The program includes several items of entertainment and features the Meander Valley Choir. A church service will be held on Sunday at 3:00pm. A large afternoon tea will follow.

## Flavour plus festival

**Tomato & Garlic Festival**  
**Sunday 20th March**  
**10:00am to 3:30pm**  
**338 Four Springs Road, Selbourne**

"THE THING I love most," says Annette Reed of Tasmanian Natural Garlic and Tomatoes, "is watching people's faces as they taste one of our tomatoes for the first time. They can hardly believe they've just eaten a tomato that tastes so good."

Top chefs agree. Although they began selling their heirloom tomatoes at Launceston's Harvest Market and Hobart's Farm Gate Market, their produce was soon noticed by local chefs and is now sold to top end restaurants and specialty stores throughout Tasmania.

Recently, their yield has begun making its way to Sydney to supply what is reputed to be the leading restaurant in the world, 'Noma'.

Noma set up a pop up restaurant in Sydney for summer and has a list of 27,000 people waiting to eat there.

Grown using organic methods the Reed's are also experimenting with biological preparations.

"As they are being planted

we inoculate all our tomato plants with different microorganisms. The theory is that the good bacteria multiply around the roots and make it harder for the bad bacteria to come in and take hold," explains Nevil.

The results speak for themselves. Despite the adverse conditions of this season the 2,000 tomato plants grown this year, some under plastic and some in the paddock, look surprisingly healthy and are laden with fruit.

The 50+ tomato varieties, every shape and colour imaginable, are interspersed with vegetable plantings all displaying vibrant health and vitality.

For your chance to experience a taste sensation and look at how top-class organic crops are grown, head along to the Tasmanian Garlic and Tomato Festival to be held on the Reed's property on the 20th March from 10:00am to 3:30pm. The idea for the festival was born as part of a project Annette completed during her role as 2014's Tasmanian Rural Woman of the Year.

The major beneficiary of the festival is Tasmanian charity 'Rural Help at Hand' who's volunteers also help run the festival.

"One of the features of the day is a big tomato and garlic tasting marquee," says Annette.



Annette Reed displays some of the varieties of tomatoes and garlic available to taste at the festival

People can taste test over 60 different types of tomato and vote for their favourite, then a winner is chosen.

The fun doesn't end there with all manner of activities, competitions and eating opportunities being made available on the day.

A small number of food and beverage providers will set up shop. "Our focus is on quality rather than quantity," explains Annette.

There will be farm tours, bush-

walks, an art competition, fun runs, kids activities and raffles.

Bring your own tomatoes or garlic along by 11:00am to enter the biggest, ugliest, tastiest or unusual competitions.

Listen to a wealth of knowledge from guest speakers such as Tino Carnevale from ABC's *Gardening Australia* program or get some tips on cooking from Sylvia Devlin from *Sylvia's Kitchen*.

Nevil says last year the Garlic eating competition was a

lot of fun. "There were people with tears streaming down their faces."

The festival will be held at the Reed's property 'Half-way', 338 Four Springs Road, Selbourne from 10:00am to 3:30pm on 20th March. Visit the website for more details <http://tasmaniangarlicandtomatofestival.weebly.com/>

Article sponsored by Corisa and Adam Boscoe, Hagley General Store.



# Recreation in the bush with U3A

By Chere Kenyon

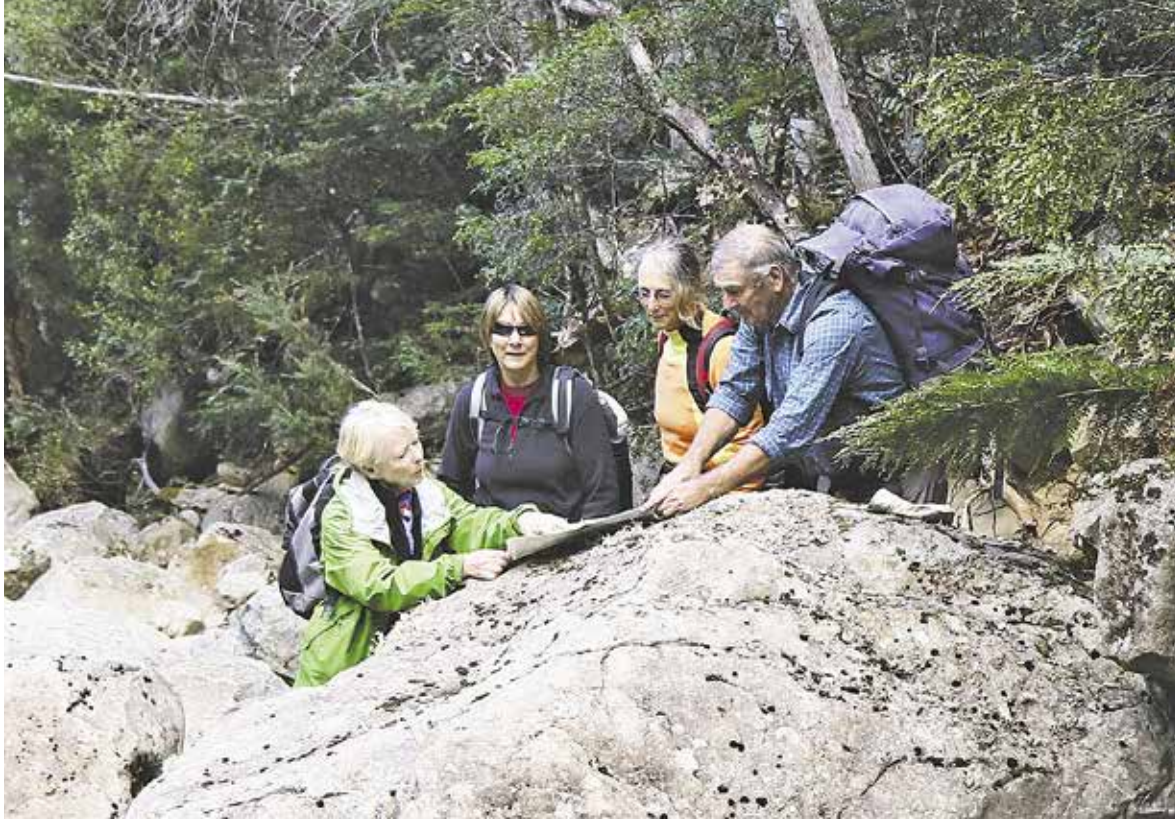
LOTS OF PEOPLE would love to go bushwalking but they often don't have any one to go with, or fear that it will be too

much for their fitness level.

Well, there is a way to enjoy the special places in Meander Valley while having the benefit of a local guide.

Meander Valley University of the Third Age (U3A) offers a special selection of bushwalks each term.

U3A is for older people to



L-R Carol Turner, Annie Reardon, Pauline Bushby and Peter Ashton enjoy a walk near Meander

learn new skills or update knowledge, from experts who are happy to pass along what they have learned.

Joining U3A is simple. A yearly membership fee lets you access U3A's many courses and you can join online at [www.mvu3a.org/](http://www.mvu3a.org/).

Peter Ashton is U3A's volunteer expert guide who shares his love of wilderness areas with his students.

**"You can learn a lot about yourself by being in the unique landscapes of Tasmania."**

Bushwalking for small groups in remote areas is an "effective wilderness experience not to be taken lightly and can influence values and how you view life.

It may even cause you to question your direction in life."

Peter believes that you can learn a lot about yourself by being in the unique landscapes of Tasmania.

Peter is available to advise his students about which walks they can handle based upon level of fitness and ability.

He meets with students at Deloraine House and they travel together to the tracks.

So, if you wish to get out there and experience what nature has to offer, you can do so in a safe and supported manner with U3A.

Upcoming walks for this term include Stone Hut and Bastian Cascades Circuit, Meander Falls and Quamby Bluff.

However, for the beginners Peter suggests signing up for the second term so that you can start on the shorter and easier walks and Peter can access your bushwalking skills to determine what would best suit you.

Peter views our local landscape as delicate and exceptional.

He stated, "The recent fires on the Plateau have highlighted and reinforced the fragility of the ancient plant types found in our Alpine regions."

If you wish to learn how to respect and protect our wilderness, while experiencing all the benefits of bushwalking, join U3A and Peter can show you how to connect with nature.

# Supporting charities to make real change

By Bianca Crocker

MANY PEOPLE believe that charities waste money.

As someone that has worked in the non-profit sector over the past decade, I can whole-heartedly say that this belief is senseless.

Non-profit organisations have some of the most frugal expense budgets around.

Every dollar spent is analysed and screened by management and Board members, and often new expense items go through strict proposal processes before they are considered and approved.

**"The question we, as socially-minded individuals, should be asking is 'What positive impact are you having?'"**

Charities work so hard to get the money in; they are certainly going to be cautious about spending it.

Naturally, there are costs involved in running a charity, so money needs to be spent.

Things like rent, office expenses, marketing and salaries are just a few of the administration costs of any organisation, whether for-profit or not.

Nowadays, when charities spend money on administration and fundraising costs, they are criticised.

People start asking questions about what percentage of their donation reaches the cause and judgements about the success of the charity are

made on the response.

This leaves non-profits trying to reduce their expenses rather than investing in their growth and future; minimising effectiveness, rather than improving efficiency.

As highlighted in a fact sheet produced by the Australian Charities and Non-Profit Commission, 'the main problem with using administrative costs to inform decisions about which charities to support (including how 'worthy' particular charities are) is that the information is an unreliable indicator of the extent to which actual donations make a difference in the community.'

The fact sheet goes on with the example of, 'a charity that spends money on evaluating its programs to improve them may make a bigger difference in the long run than a charity that does not assess its programs.'

Sure, we should be interested in how our donations are making a difference, but we cannot reasonably expect to have all monies go directly to the cause.

There need to be systems in place for the charity to operate and there needs to be people to run it.

Without these things, charities wouldn't be able to

make the slightest difference in the world.

For instance, investing in fundraising and marketing is a necessity for charities to be successful.

For the majority of chari-



ties, these are the only areas that actually make growth possible, so wouldn't it make sense to encourage spend there?

Passionate humanitarian activist, Dan Pallotta, emphasises this point in his iconic TED Talk, *The Way We Think About Charity Is Dead Wrong* (and if you haven't seen it, I highly advise you Google it and have a watch).

In the talk, Dan highlights the fact that people don't like to see their donations spent on advertising.

"Our attitude is, 'Well, look, if you can get the advertising donated, I'm okay with that.

But I don't want my donation spent on advertising, I want it to go to the needy.'

As if the money invested in advertising could not bring in dramatically greater sums of money to serve the needy."

So perhaps we need to stop asking our favourite charities 'How much of my donation goes to the cause?'

The question we, as socially-minded individuals, should be asking is "What positive impact are you having, or how are you investing to grow your impact?"

As a community, we need to be more supportive of our favourite charities.

We need to be encouraging them to scale their success.

That's how we'll be able to make a real difference in the world.

BIANCA CROCKER, aka The Fish Chick, is the woman behind Fish Community Solutions; a business that works with small or startup non-profit organisations to build sustainable funding models so they can create positive change in our world.

In 2012 Bianca was awarded FIA's Young Fundraiser of the Year and was a finalist in the Global Fundraiser of the Year. Please visit [www.fishcommunitysolutions.com.au](http://www.fishcommunitysolutions.com.au).

## Helping carers

ARE YOU caring for a family member or friend?

Would you like the support of others in similar situations?

A "carer" is a person who is providing or has provided unpaid care and support to a family member or friend who is living with a disability, mental illness, chronic condition or terminal illness, or who are frail and aged.

Many people can find assisting a loved one meaningful and rewarding, but it can also have many challenges including having limited time for tending to their own needs and, for many, it can be very isolating.

Carers Tasmania has a range of support groups facilitated by Carers themselves.

These groups provide friendship, fun, information and a sense of belonging. Support group members become a social support as well as a significant source of advice and information.

Carers Tasmania also runs a range of workshops and therapeutic groups.

Workshops include managing stress and carer fatigue, effective boundaries and communication, and groups include beyond frustration and anger and mindfulness.

These provide those who attend with a wealth of ideas and strategies, and the opportunity to hear from others in a supported environment.

Please call Carers Tasmania on 1800 242 636 or visit [www.carerstasmania.org.au](http://www.carerstasmania.org.au)



# Leader of the pack

(continued from Page 1)

By Chere Kenyon

WHAT DOES A pack of wolves hunting in Yellowstone National Park have to do with walking your pampered pooch in Meander Valley?

A lot according to local dog listener, Nan Tubb, as dog listening starts with the idea that all pet canines still have the mindset of wolves.

Nan says, "We need to control instinct otherwise they would be running wild as they still think like a wolf."

So what exactly is dog listening and how does it work? Nan declares, "Your dog thinks it is the leader (of the pack) and it just gets away with everything."

**With Jan Fennell's way there is no force, no intimidation, no shouting and no gadgets. It is communication to keep dogs calm.**

"So we go through the four elements of dog listening which are food, the hunt, reuniting after a separation and danger."

According to Nan, by understanding your dog's behaviour and expectations around food, walks (hunting) and relationships (separation and protection), you will be able to understand what it is thinking and why it is reacting a certain way.

With this knowledge you can adjust your behaviour to give it the correct signals.

Nan teaches her clients about becoming the leader in the dog-human relationship and believes that you need to have "respect for your pet's personal space and it, in turn, has to have respect for your personal space."

"Never will a subordinate go into the pack leader's personal space without permission".

Nan Tubb and Helen Cahalin of Devonport are the only two Tasmanians to hold dog listening accreditation from Jan Fennell, a dog listener from the United Kingdom.

Jan created the dog listening communication method after studying wolves all over the world.

**This method could help with dog behavioural problems**

Nan adds that Jan has a very good relationship with the wolves in Yellowstone and knows the wild dogs in Africa.

Jan takes a small group of dedicated dog listeners to Yellowstone to hone their skills by observing wolves in their wild state.

This year Nan is part of a select group of 14 who are visiting the park this winter.

When asked what she is most hoping to see, she shared that she is eager to catch a glimpse of a wolf pack on the hunt.

Dog listening is not about obedience. Nan says, "We just communicate with dogs in a language they understand and it is mostly about body language."

She adds that this method could help with dog behavioural problems such as attention seeking, running away, aggression, food problems and not coming when called.

In addition, "With Jan Fennell's way there is no force, no intimidation, no shouting and no gadgets. It is communication to keep dogs calm."

Nan is passionate about educating dog owners and giving them the skills to better communicate with their pooch.

Once she returns from the United States of America she would be pleased to listen to you and your dog.

For more information you can call 6363 5003. Alternatively, email nan@dogcomm.com.au.



Plover and chicks.

Photo by: Mike Moores

# Van Diemen's feathered tribes

A book review by Nell Carr

RATHER THAN a comprehensive catalogue of Tasmanian birds, Sarah Llyod's latest publication, *The Feathered Tribes of Van Diemen's Land* explores scientific facts about the anatomy, means of survival, and social lives of many of our native and introduced bird species.

With the exception of two, the text is lavishly illustrated with Sarah's photographs. How often have we fruitlessly peered up into the foliage of trees when we hear an intriguing bird song?

But Sarah and her camera seem to have captured with absolute clarity tiny honey eaters feeding in the high branches of a eucalypt "The Black-headed Honeyeater is often overlooked because it usually forages high in the canopy foliage of eucalypts."

This is one of three tiny Tas. endemic species 150-200mm in length. The others are the Yellow-throated and

Strong-billed Honeyeaters.

The three species have physical attribute differences in their bills, feet and wings enabling them to forage for invertebrates in different parts of the same tree thereby minimising competition for food.

European farming methods are usually considered to have an adverse effect on native birds.

**Endemic Native-hen prefers to graze on cropped grass.**

However, the endemic Native-hen prefers to graze on cropped grass.

Local farmers used to hold annual Native-hen shooting parties, partly for sport, partly economic, but numbers have been allowed to increase since it has been given protection.

Early visitors appear to have been uncaring of the dangers to the existence of native birds.

They shot vast numbers of them for collections and research. Apparently, without much compunction, Elizabeth Gould wrote in 1838 of her husband "...he has already shown himself a great enemy of the feathered tribe, having shot a great many beautiful birds."

On the other hand, Elizabeth Meredith in 1871 pleaded with farmers to rid the country of feral cats, as they posed such a danger to wild life, particularly birds.

Elizabeth also deplored the treatment of the black swans which were captured for their down and, in 1860, her Legislative Councillor husband, Charles, was able to have them protected in the first legislation to protect an endangered species in Tasmania.

*The Feathered Tribes of Van Diemen's Land* is the result of detailed research and dedicated observation, and a welcome addition to the growing number of Sarah Lloyd's publications.

**3 BEDROOM OPTION**

**2 BEDROOM OPTION**

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FOR DETAILS CONTACT DEVELOPER  
**GEOFF MORAN**  
**0419 539 139**



# Valleyviews

## Mayor's Message

COUNCIL, TOGETHER WITH consultants JMG Engineers and Planners have been working through a community consultation process for the Deloraine Outline Development Plan. It has been encouraging to see so many members of the community having their say about the future of the town—with over 400 people having already given feedback in some way, shape or form. The consultants will now consolidate the information and produce a draft report which will be available for public comment in early April.

IT'S BEEN A bumper summer for events and activities in Meander Valley. These local celebrations not only provide entertainment, they strengthen our communities, promote collaboration, boost the economy and create social connections.

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank all the organisers and supporters

of our local events. In February alone, there was something for everyone, with cars, trucks, flowers, animals, family fun and music featuring. We are very fortunate to have so many entertainment options available right on our doorstep—just take a look at the 'Events Diary in this month's Gazette or visit the Great Western Tiers' website Event Calendar and you'll see what I mean! Meander Valley really is the place to be!

SPEAKING OF THE place to be, in April, Rotarians from all over the State will be converging on Deloraine for the 2016 Rotary District Conference for Tasmania. Council is a proud sponsor of this year's event and looks forward to welcoming the delegates to Meander Valley and will be encouraging them to take the opportunity to experience all that we have to offer.

**Mayor Craig Perkins**

## Council Updates



### Enhancing Carrick

COUNCIL IS WORKING with the Carrick Community Committee to enhance the streetscape of the town.

'Enhancing Carrick' is a multiphase plan, the first phase being the planting of trees at the entrances to the township. The next step is a three stage plan that includes planting ornamental pear trees throughout the main street and a new footpath, kerb and channel; and underground stormwater services at the eastern entrance to the town.

The following has been taken into account when identifying the location of the trees:

- The safety of pedestrians and vehicles,
- The location of un-

derground and above ground assets, and

- The amenity of the street.

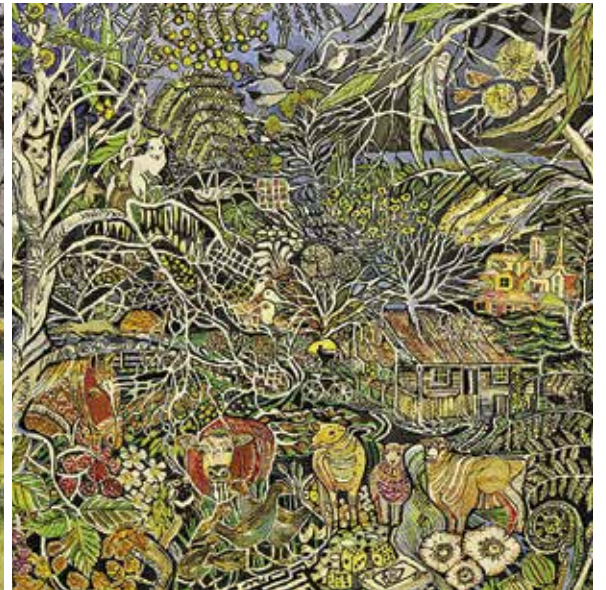
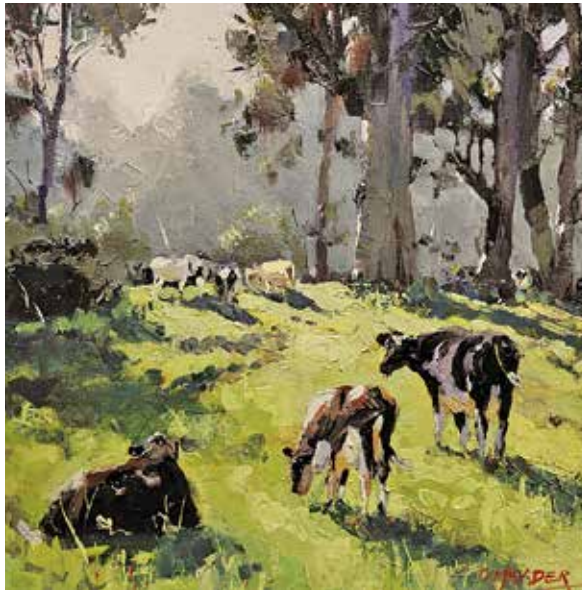
The pear tree produces small, inedible tan coloured fruit which will require minimal maintenance. Stage one is funded for in Council's 2015/2016 Capital Works Plan.

Council is encouraging the Carrick community to provide feedback on the Enhancing Carrick Streetscape Plan.

The plan can be viewed online at [www.meander.tas.gov.au](http://www.meander.tas.gov.au) and at the following locations: the Community Hall notice board and the Carrick Post Office.

You can provide feedback to Natasha Szczyglowska via email to [natasha.szczyglowska@mvc.tas.gov.au](mailto:natasha.szczyglowska@mvc.tas.gov.au) or call 6393 5300.

## Last chance to view Meandering 2015



Meandering 2015 on display at the Deloraine Creative Studios, including (clockwise), 'Our Valley' by Julie Wickham; 'Bound Together' by Kate Frankcombe; Extended Family' by Darren Meader.

THE ANNUAL ART exhibition is now on display at the Deloraine Creative Studios, Emu Bay Road until 31 March 2016.

Take the opportunity to see this special body of work, linked by the 2015 theme 'Ties that bind'. En-

try is free and artworks are available to buy - great original work at sensible prices.

The Meandering Art Exhibition is provided through a partnership between Meander Valley Council, Launceston Art Society and Country Club Tasmania and

the support of sponsors, Elemental Artspace, 6ty degrees, Tasplan Super, Lions Club of Hadspen South Esk, and Deloraine and Districts Community Bank.

Look out for entry forms for Meandering 2016 in August this year.

## Masterchef Cook off

THIRTY TWO YOUNG people produced some amazing dishes and served around 150 meals to family and friends during a two day *Masterchef Bootcamp* in January this year. Teams have been invited to go progress to the 'Masterchef Cook Off' in two age groups. In pairs, the young people will cook to impress judges from the Deloraine hospitality industry during *National Youth Week*

in April. Similar to the TV series *Masterchef*, the pairs will receive a mystery box of local fruit and vegetables and must create a main dish and dessert for six people using the ingredients provided.

This is an initiative supported by Deloraine Trade Training Centre, Meander Valley Harvest Co-Op and Meander Valley Council, to encourage good healthy eating and use of local produce.



Young people cooking up a storm at the Masterchef Bootcamp in January 2016.

## Diary Dates

**Westbury Irish Festival**  
19 March 2016  
[facebook.com/WestburyIrishFestival](http://facebook.com/WestburyIrishFestival)

**2016 Crop Maze**  
12-14, 19-20 March 2016  
[rupertswoodfarm.com](http://rupertswoodfarm.com)

**AGFEST**  
5-7 May 2016  
[www.agfest.com.au](http://www.agfest.com.au)

## Markets



**Deloraine Market Showgrounds**  
First Saturday of the month  
**Liffey Market Old Liffey School**  
Second Saturday of the month  
**Mole Creek Market Mole Creek Memorial Hall**  
Third Saturday of the month  
**Westbury Market, St Andrews Church**  
Third Saturday of the month



## Community News



### Library Story Time

VISIT YOUR LOCAL library for 30 minutes of sharing stories and singing rhymes and songs. These fun sessions are for babies and toddlers from birth to 4 years and their parents and carers. No need to book.

Come along on Monday 10am at Deloraine Library or Monday 1pm at Westbury Library. For information call Deloraine Library on 6701 2100, Westbury Library on 6393 1439 or the Literacy Coordinator on 0417 120 671

### Temporary signs

DID YOU KNOW that if you want to advertise a public event by placing a temporary sign(s) in the State Road Reservation you require approval from the Department of State Growth?

To gain approval for a temporary sign(s) you will need to fill in and submit an application.

Applications must be received a minimum of 21 days before the first date you want to display the sign, to allow sufficient time for the application to be assessed and for successful applicants to arrange for the manufacture of a sign.

Approval is granted in accordance with the Roads and Jetties Act 1935.

The Department of State Growth has guidelines for the use of temporary signs

for advertising community events and a list of pre-approved locations.

In the event that there are no suitable pre-approved locations in the area you want to display the sign, please indicate on your application. Alternate location(s) will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

Signs not displaying the Department of State Growth's current self-adhesive labels may be removed by its maintenance contractor.

For more information, including application forms, Community Event Signs - Policy and Guidelines and pre-approved locations lists visit [www.transport.tas.gov.au/road/permits/advertising](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/road/permits/advertising)

Questions? Please call the State Roads Division (03) 6166 3328.

### Future Use of the Meander School

THE FOLLOWING 'EXPRESSIONS of Interest' (EOI) to consider the future use of the Meander School site will be presented to the Meander Community at a meeting to be held at the Meander Hall on Monday 21 March 2016 at 7.30pm.

- Butterfly House – Rehabilitation and Recovery Centre
- Economic Renewal Action Group – Centre for Digital Entertainment, Media Training and Production
- Teen Challenge – Rehabilitation Centre for Women and Children

A printed copy of each EOI is available to view at the Meander Store or can be viewed online at [www.meander.tas.gov.au](http://www.meander.tas.gov.au)



## Celebrating Meander Valley's Volunteers



### Meander Valley National Volunteer Week Party

Tuesday 10 May 2016  
Western Tiers Community Club  
Ex Seniors Citizen Club  
33A Parsonage Street  
11:00am to 1:00pm

### Did you know Meander Valley has an award winning Visitor and Information Centre?

THE GREAT WESTERN Tiers Visitor Centre, located in Deloraine, has three Tasmanian Tourism Awards under its belt—having won the Visitor and Information Centre category in 2014 and picking up the silver at the 2013 and 2015 awards.

The Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre's awards are the result of more than just providing amazing information, itineraries, tour and accommodation bookings, after-hours services, and visitor services. They are the result



'DIVERSITY IS OUR strength' is the theme for national Harmony Day celebrated on 21 March. State-wide Harmony Week activities and events take place in Tasmania from 14-21 March. For details visit: [www.harmonytasmania.com](http://www.harmonytasmania.com)

### Are you up for the challenge?

STEPPING STONES LEADERSHIP Camp in Meander Valley is on from 22 to 24 April. The camp is for young people aged 18-25 years who want to share 3 days of fun, activities and learning, music, cooking, outdoor education, challenges, consultation, choices and more. The cost is just \$25 per person which is significantly subsidised by Council. Camps are led by Council staff and volunteers. Contact Vicki Jordan on 0400 155 690 to book your place.

YOU ARE WARMLY invited to come and celebrate all things volunteering at the Meander Valley National Volunteer Week Party.

View the 'Why I Volunteer' photo display and enjoy some social time over lunch with other volunteers. Entry by gold coin donation.

### 'Why I Volunteer' Photo Display

TAKE A PHOTO that shows why you volunteer.

All photos displayed go into a random draw prize.

Entry forms available at the Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre, the Deloraine

Online Access Centre and the Westbury Council Office.

### Nominations now open

COUNCIL RECOGNISES THE extraordinary contribution of individual volunteers through its annual Voluntary Service Recognition program. Nominations for these are open now.

The awards are presented at the Australia Day function held each year on 26 January.

For more information about Council's Volunteer Recognition awards visit the website or contact Patrick Gambles on 6393 5300.

of the tireless work of its staff and fiercely proud volunteers who have a wealth of experience to share with visitors and locals alike.

So why not tap into that wealth of experience and knowledge? If you're thinking of planning a Tassie break and need some advice, let the team at the Visitors Centre point you in the right direction. They can book your accommodation and while they're at it, they'll let you in on a few special places to visit to make your getaway even more memorable.

Don't forget to ask the team about the latest hot deals and last minute rates available from time to time to stretch your dollar further.

The Visitor Centre is also home to some of Meander Valley's best attractions. Bring your friends and family along to experience the region's pioneering heritage at the *Deloraine and Districts Folk Museum*, discover the story of the landscapes and lifestyles of the Meander Valley community depicted in the four panel art project, *YARNS Artwork in Silk* and hear the sounds of the water powered music machine, the *Aquaphonium*.

The Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre is open 7 days a week, 362 days a year at 98-100 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine. Visit the website [www.greatwesterntiers.net.au](http://www.greatwesterntiers.net.au) to find out more.

### Public Holiday notices

COUNCIL WILL BE closed on Monday 14 March for the Eight Hours Day public holiday and from Friday 25 March to Tuesday 29 March

inclusive for Easter.

For Council-related emergencies please phone 6393 5300. Kerbside waste collection operates as normal.



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](mailto:mail@mvc.tas.gov.au)  
Web [www.meander.tas.gov.au](http://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.





Hong Ma transforms a chunk of waste wood into a beautifully turned bowl. Photo by: Mike Moores

## Happy Hong sheds new light on timber

By Lorraine Clarke

"EVERY MAN needs a shed" was the motivating principle behind the national Men's Sheds program begun as a men's health initiative.

Deloraine Community Shed recognises that many ladies need a shed too, and Hong Ma has made the most of her opportunity to learn woodworking skills since her first timorous venture through its doors in 2009.

Hong was an obstetrician / gynaecologist at her home in China, until she immigrated to Australia in 1997. Although she enjoyed Sydney, Hong knew she had really "come home" to the place where she wants to spend the rest of her life, on discovering our lovely region of Tasmania.

She lives in Launceston where she now teaches Mandarin Chinese, and commutes several days every week to her "home from home" at the Deloraine Community Shed.

"I was doing pottery classes with some friends.

They told me about some-

one who was doing woodwork at a Men's Shed.

The thought of being able to make my own furniture seemed like an impossible dream."

Amidst the scream of power tools and the camaraderie at the Shed, Hong adds an Oriental flavour with offers of Chinese teas and treats.

**"I did not believe I could make something so beautiful"**

"At first I went to a different Shed, but they said it was only for men, so I came here. The woodwork part is good, but the people here make me very happy."

"On the first day, I made a cutting board. I did not believe I could make something so beautiful! In the first week I also learned how to use the lathe, and made a rolling pin. I was so happy! I had never touched any machinery before.

Next I made a long bench with shoe rack underneath. Later I made an entertainment centre and a sewing table.

My favourite piece is my bed and bedside table.

I never thought I would have the chance to do anything like this.

Now my dream is to make all the furniture in my house myself."

Hong puts heart and soul into everything she creates at the Shed. Never one to take the straightforward option, she spends many hours building precision and complexity into all her work, crafting intricate details to decorate her unique pieces.

"I'm just crazy about woodwork! It brings me a lot of happiness, the most important part of life. When I'm not feeling well, I go out and do some woodturning on my lathe at home, and that makes me feel better.

"This year I want to teach myself woodcarving. Right now I'm really excited about using resin to incorporate details into my work. I use leaves, seedpods, spices, sparkles, scraps of wood that others throw out.

"I think all timber is pretty. I love all timber and never want to throw a single piece away."

## The Originals Only Night invite your company

FOR TEN years, the Deloraine Dramatic Society has been holding *Originals Only Night*, a concept of the late Maggie Taylor's.

The event offers a safe and supportive performing arts space for local and intra-state artists to share their creative endeavors.

Showcasing original work is the

only criterion for participation by musicians, poets, short storytellers, songwriters, dancers and the occasional clown.

Some performers are on stage for the first time, sharing very personal art that is often close to their hearts.

Others return again and again to charm the audience with yet another new poem or piece of music they have been working on.

Then there are the surprising, delightful and unexpected participants who, on passing through the area, hear of this event and decide to drop in to perform.

Like the lady from Wales visiting her sister living in the Meander Valley - she

delighted us by beautifully singing one song in the native Welsh language.

Despite the diverse backgrounds, performances are always of a high quality.

The magical occasion typically runs for about 2.5 hours at the historically steeped Little Theatre in Deloraine, with a scrumptious supper in the middle.

Have an amazing night out supporting local and regional artists: tickets are only \$8.00 for the performance. \$2.00 extra includes supper.

The next *Originals Only Night* is on Saturday 2nd April, 7.00pm at the Little Theatre, Meander Valley Performing Arts Centre, Deloraine.



Jessica Smith. Photo by: FJ Death Photography

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Mrs Judith Kilby with her horse Ollie Photo by: Mike Moores

CONGRATULATIONS TO Meander Valley's Mrs Judith Kilby who made the Australia Day Honours List and was awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for her 'service to equestrian sports as a coach and administrator.'

"I'm still feeling a little bewildered by it all," said Mrs Kilby after being notified of the award.

The person who instigated Mrs Kilby's nomination had attended the first Tasmanian Mountain Cattlemen's Get Together in 1988.

The Tasmanian Mountain Cattlemen's Association (TMCA) had been formed in 1986 with its aims to maintain the rights and traditions of Tasmania's high country people.

# OAM for equine excellence

He identified the objectives of the TMCA as giving the people of the North West region the courage to fight for land access and land usage.

He observed the leadership of Mrs Kilby, a founding member of the TMCA and president for the first three years, as having a prominent role in the far-reaching political campaign which was successful in retaining the freehold status of Lees Paddocks.

As the Association plans for its 30th Anniversary next year Mrs Kilby is still actively involved, ready to support whatever issue arises.

Service to the TMCA is only a small fraction of Mrs Kilby's involvement with the equestrian world.

With an impressive list of 8 life memberships; 1998 Tas Pony & Riding Club, 1999 Westbury Agricultural Society Inc. 2002 Northern Zone Pony Club Association Tasmania, 2004 Pony Club Association of Tasmania, 2007 Tasmanian Mountain Cattlemen's Association Inc. 2008 Northern Hunt Club 2014 Show Jumping Tasmania - North, 2014 Northern Tasmanian Equestrian Club, you begin to understand the depth of Mrs Kilby's commitment to all things equine

throughout her life.

In the late 1970's Mrs Kilby was asked to coach the Tasmanian Pony and Riding Club (TPRC) team for the Pony Club Horse Trials. This began her long career in coaching. She coached the State Pony Club Eventing Teams at the National Pony Club Championships in 1995 and 1997.

In 1981 she was appointed Chief Instructor of the TPRC, a position she held for 16 years. She went on to become an Accredited Coach, Coach Educator and Assessor.

Cross-country course designing and building began for Mrs Kilby when Northern Tasmanian Eventing Club was formed in the 1970s.

For many years Senior Eventing and Pony Club ODEs were held each year on the Kilby family property, "Pine Lodge" at Westwood.

A member of the Northern Hunt Club since the 1950's when her father was it's 'master', the Kilby's have hosted hunts on their property for the past 30 years.

**"...giving the people of the North West region the courage to fight for land access and land usage."**

"It has been very rewarding to see many of the riders I mentored go on to excel in their riding and in their coaching and to now see them instructing and officiating in various capacities."

Experience as an Official Dressage Judge, Show-jumping and Hacking Judge, Show-jumping and Cross-Country Course Designer and Official gave Mrs Kilby a broad base of knowledge to pass on to riders.

**Alpacas on show**

ALPACAS ARE born with a need to guard their own from predators such as wild dogs and foxes.

This trait is put to good use by farmers on the mainland to assist in the protection of other stock by keeping Alpacas in the herd.

Deloriane is hosting an Alpaca Expo at the Deloriane Show Grounds on the 2nd April from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

Some alpacas will be for sale and various demonstrations held throughout the day.

A small fashion parade courtesy of the Alpaca Shoppe will also be a feature of the day. All welcome.

## Sorghum turns into maze at Hagley

AN ENORMOUS image of a cloud and rain falling over a wheat field has been etched into a crop by farmer, Rowan Clark, of Hagley, Tasmania.

The design, initially developed to highlight the plight of farmers battling drought-like conditions, was recently amended after heavy rain fell across northern Tasmania.

"It has been a tough season for farmers...one of 'droughts and flooding rains', so I thought this would be a good way to raise awareness of the difficult water challenges that face our food producers," Mr Clark said.



The Crop Maze image, designed by international

Maze specialists, Mazescape, took Mr Clark two days to mow into his three hectare sorghum crop.

This year, Rupertswood Farm is also delighted to support Right as Rain, a new health equity project from the Tasmanian Royal Flying Doctor Service.


A cloud 'mini-maze' has been cut for younger visitors.

The Crop Maze will open to the public to walk through from Saturday, 27th February for four weekends only.

Visitors are encouraged to go to [www.rupertswoodfarm.com](http://www.rupertswoodfarm.com) when planning their visit.

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# Travel comes to a home near you

By David Claridge

BELINDA VAN THOLEN is a travel consultant who takes her job seriously. Having travelled to 32 countries, she also goes to her clients as a mobile travel agent.

Even though she is based in Hadspen, Belinda travels around the north of Tasmania to meet clients in cafés and the like to plan their upcoming adventure.

"I worked for eight years as a traditional travel agent in a store.

But I was working with more and more groups and it was hard to get them to come in together and sit at my desk," Ms van Tholen said.

"I thought, 'How could I do this better and differently?' So I started looking into some options and decided to launch a franchise business through MTA – Mobile Travel Agents.

"MTA gives me all the backing I need to be able to run the business that I ran before but be fully mobile and able to meet my clients where it is convenient for them," she said.

MTA is an Australian company based in Queensland. It has been in business since 1991.

Their website states that they have 'revolutionised the

traditional Australian Travel Agency model in the '90s by bringing experienced mobile MTA Travel Experts to you.'

"I had to start the business from scratch but it has been growing organically.

"The main way that I deal with my client base and find new clientele is through referrals," she shared.

"I often base myself from a café. It is a great way to run into people.

**"MTA gives me all the backing I need to be able to run the business that I ran before but be fully mobile and able to meet my clients where it is convenient for them"**

"The job has now turned itself into a full time business," she added.

There are at least five MTA members in Tasmania.

"We do not tread on each others' toes because everyone has their own specialty. We know each other and we are all good friends," Ms van Tholen said.

"If we have a question, there is an online forum network

that we can use and everyone is very helpful and supportive," she enthused.

For those who wish to follow in her footsteps, Ms Tholen suggest a background of a minimum of 5 years as a traditional travel agent as a general requirement, with a passion for business and travel.

"This is my tenth year in travel now. And to combine the thing that I love the most with a business is a win-win as well," she said.

Last year, Belinda received the Avis Travel Agent Scholarship of Excellence as a testament to the hard work she has put into her new business.

Avis Travel Industry Manager, Russell Butler, said in a media release, "Belinda creates multiple opportunities to interact with her customers and uses the information she gathers to drill down further into what really makes them tick.

"Armed with that knowledge and insight, she then tailors experiences that exceed expectations."

Belinda can be contacted on 0438 949 122 and regularly updates her Facebook page 'Belinda van Tholen MTA – Mobile Travel Agents'.

She is also available for appointments in Deloraine.



Belinda van Tholen, mobile travel agent. Photo by: Mike Moores

## Mobile money saver app

COMPLETING TAX returns will soon be easier. A new myDeductions tool is set to be launched within the ATO's phone app.

Federal Member for Lyons Eric Hutchinson is encouraging taxpayers to tally work-related deductions using the myDeductions tool.

"The new financial year

will be the first time we can use the myDeductions tool to help complete tax returns," he said.

"Work-related expenses in the myDeductions tool can be uploaded when tax returns are being filled in, or sent directly to tax agents."

To get started visit [www.ato.gov.au/mydeductions](http://www.ato.gov.au/mydeductions).

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**Meander Valley National Volunteer Week**

**Why I Volunteer Photo Display**

Take a photo that shows why you volunteer. All photos displayed go into a random prize draw.

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Photos must be a jpg image (minimum 2mb in size).  
 Entries must be received by **3 May 2016**.

*Not sure how to email the photo or if the photo is the right size? Visit Deloraine Online Access Centre and they will give you a hand. For more information call Vicki at the Western Tiers Information Centre 6362 5280.*

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## Events Diary

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

Date and Time	Event	Details
Saturday 12th March 7.30pm	Western Tiers Film Society	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine "The Young and Prodigious TS Spivot" Rated M Drama
Saturday 12th - 14th March Weekend 3	Rupertswood Farm Crop Maze	Hagley Station Lane, Hagley Adults \$15.00, Children 4 - 16 \$10.00, Seniors \$10.00, Families \$55.00
Saturday 12th March 3.00pm - 6.00pm	Thank our Fire Fighters & Emergency Personnel	Mole Creek Hotel, 90 Pioneer Drive, Mole Creek. RSVP to 6701 2170 by 8th March for catering (BBQ)
Saturday 12th March 11.00am	St Marks Annual Parish Fair	St Marks Church, East Westbury Place, Deloraine Lunches from 12 noon
Saturday 12th March	Meet the Greens	Public meeting. Free for anyone to attend. Deloraine House. Call Inger on 0401 533 023 for more information
Monday 14th March 1.30pm - 2.30pm	Grandparents & Others support group	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine Ph: Jess 1800 171 233
Thursday 17th March 6.00pm	Mindfulness Program - Retrain your Brain	Deloraine Day Centre, Lansdowne Place, Deloraine. Free program. Bookings essential on 6701 2111
Thursday 17th March	Blokes Day Out	Waddamana Power Museum & Miena Ph: 6362 2678 or 0418 786 104 to book
Saturday 19th March 9.30am to 7.30pm	Westbury Irish Festival	Westbury Village Green, Lonsdale Promenade, Westbury
Saturday 19th - 20th March Weekend 4	Rupertswood Farm Crop Maze	Hagley Station Lane, Hagley Adults \$15.00, Children 4 - 16 \$10.00, Seniors \$10.00, Families \$55.00
Sunday 20th March 10.00am - 3.00pm	Tasmanian Garlic & Tomato Festival	338 Four Springs Rd, Selbourne Adults \$10.00, Children U16 Free
Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th March	St. Patrick's Day Celebration	The Combined Churches of Westbury at the Catholic Church Westbury
Saturday 26th March 11.00am - 3.00pm	Deloraine Easter Family Festival	On the banks of the Meander River at Deloraine between swimming pool & caravan park
Sunday 27th March 11.00am	Combined Christian Churches Easter Service	On the banks of the Meander River at Deloraine between swimming pool & caravan park
Saturday 2nd April 9.00am - 4.00pm	The Annual Alpaca Expo	Deloraine Show Grounds, Highland Lakes Road, Deloraine Free Entry
Saturday 2nd April 7.00pm	Deloraine Dramatic Society Originals Only Night	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine Tickets \$8.00 Gold Coin donation for Supper
Sunday 3rd April	The Western Tiers Cycle 9th annual Challenge	Starting from Prospect Park, Prospect Vale Varying rides \$40.00 entry, includes lunch.
Friday 8th of April 7.00pm	Pedalling Back	Little Theatre Tickets Elemental Artspace \$25 adults/\$20 Arts Deloraine members or concession card holders.
Saturday 9th April 7.30pm	Western Tiers Film Society	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine "Diplomacy" Rated M Drama 109 minutes
Saturday 9th April 10.00am - 3.00pm	Arty Farty Crafty Market	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine
Sunday 10th April 1.30pm	Westbury Sports Centre 40th Reunion	Westbury Sports Centre. All welcome. Free entertainment & afternoon tea. RSVP by 30th March 6393 1342
Monday 11th - 15th various times	Buteyko Breathing re-training	Deloraine Day Centre. Free program. For info call Libby or Isabelle. Bookings essential on 6701 2111
Saturday 16th April 6.30pm	CORES Annual Fundraising Dinner	Best Western Plus Hotel, Launceston \$95.00 pp RSVP: <a href="mailto:emily@kentishrc.com.au">emily@kentishrc.com.au</a> by 11 April
Thursday 21st April	Blokes Day Out	Tamar Island. Ph: 6362 2678 or Di Hamilton on 0418 786 104 to book
Thursday 5th May - 7th May 8.00am - 5.00pm	Agfest	Quercus Rural Youth Park, 415 Oaks Road, Carrick Adults \$15.00, Children 5-15 \$5.00, Under 5 Free
Saturday 14th May 7.30pm	Western Tiers Film Society	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine. "The Secret in their Eyes" Rated M Drama 129 minutes



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**SPORT IN BRIEF**

**Westbury Sports Centre 40 yrs old**

THE WESTBURY Sports Centre has reached a new milestone. In its 40th year since construction a reunion has been organised. Anyone interested is invited to the celebration on 10th April at 1:30pm. There will be free entertainment and afternoon tea. RSVP is by 30th March to Pat Poulton on 6393 1342.

**Deloraine footy**

THE DELORAINE Football Club is preparing for a big

season in 2016. They are once again offering Club Memberships for \$20.00. Club Membership provides entry into each Jackpot Draw held at the conclusion of home games. The cash prize jackpots each week if the member drawn is not in attendance. Members also receive special prices at the Club Bar. This year, the Committee have decided to reward one lucky member who signs up before or at the first home game on 9th April. Each new or returning member signed up by the conclusion of the first home game will go into the draw to win a Club jacket valued at \$70.00! You can sign up for mem-

bership at training nights which are currently held Monday and Thursday evenings, at the first home game, or by contacting Julian Frost on 0448 391 314.



**Westbury bowls**

THE WESTBURY Bowls Club is very proud of their member, Julian Frost; not only for becoming the club's singles champion, but for also winning the Northern Singles Champion of Champions. Gaylene McNabb, the Bowls North Secretary and member of the Westbury Bowls Club, said that in April Julian will travel to Hobart to compete against the Southern and North West Champions for the title of Tasmanian Singles Champion for 2016. With the pennant season coming to an end, both the Thursday Division two and Division three teams will be playing in the finals.

**Deloraine bowls**

FORTY SIX Atherton Tablelands, Queensland, bowlers had a great afternoon at the Deloraine Bowls Club on Friday, 26th February. Bradey Davis won the clubs novice competition and went on to become the Bowls North Novice Champion. There are three generations of the family playing bowls at Deloraine. This includes the Patron of the club, Graeme Davis OAM, his son Keith and his grandson Bradey. With two more games to play, the Thursday Division Three pennant team has a chance to make it into the top four and play in the finals this year.



# SPORT

## Muay Thai - A Test of Skills



Reuben Mallinson (R) attacks Todd Hodgson in a Muay Thai kickboxing bout. Photo by: Joshua Stebbings

By David Claridge

A PACKED house at St Ailbes Hall in Launceston were recently treated to a rare martial arts demonstration, Muay Thai kickboxing.

Muay Thai is the national sport of Thailand, a sport that can be traced back over thousands of years. It requires fighters to use knees, elbows, shins and hands to land crushing strikes.

Hadspen man, Reuben Mallinson, faced off in the first bout. Even though he fought hard he didn't come away with a win.

Reuben spent six nights a week training in preparation for the bout.

"I was happy I went the full three rounds, but the opponent was a tough fella," Mallinson said.

"It's not all about winning at the end of the day though, it's about everything leading up to the competition. To be proud of doing something that not everyone can do."

"We're not going in there to bash someone. It's about testing your skills and see how you've progressed. Muay Thai is about having respect for your opponent," he said.

The event held by Legion is the third such event in Launceston in recent years.

Launceston man, Jacob Gelston, won the State Title by knockout against Adam Trickey of Hobart in the first round.

Anyone interested in Muay Thai or would like to learn more is encouraged to visit the 'Abbadons Legion MT' Facebook page and leave a message.

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