



GETTING A HEAD OF STEAM

Apex paints the train

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SMILING THROUGH ADVERSITY

Fundraiser for Shannon

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MOVING MEANDER'S MILK

100,000 litres of it!

> BUSINESS PAGE 12

Meander Valley Gazette

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April 2016

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper

Photo by: Mike Moores



Who is the cutest of them all?

Miss Jillian's little angels

Tap dancing ballerinas from the Meander Valley area receive lessons in one of the graceful arts

Story on Page 5...

What will Council decide?

By Marguerite McNeill

MEANDER FOUND itself on the world stage last month when the global organisation Teen Challenge staged its bid to take over the old school site to establish a Rehabilitation Centre for Women and Children.

The crowd over-

flowed out of the Meander Hall when the Meander Valley Council hosted a community meeting to discuss a number of proposed options for the future use of the old Meander School site.

Two other proposals under consideration were Butterfly House

Rehabilitation and Recovery Centre and a bid by the Economic Renewal Action Group to establish a Centre for Digital Entertainment, Media Training and Production.

Around 200 people (including 80 Meander residents) poured into the meeting that attract-

ed so many unknown faces that even the locals were scouting around to find someone they knew.

Teen Challenge arrived with a group of supporters and presenters that included Tasmanian executive director Tanya Cavanagh, a couple of star graduates and a

tearful father whose statement was largely incomprehensible.

The presentation was polished and efficient and left no room for doubt about the group's desire to move into Meander where it began garnering acceptance many months ago.

Ms Cavanagh praised the welcoming community for its support for Teen Challenge and wishes to help.

Well prepared, she

fielded questions with skill of an A grade goal-keeper and only stumbled slightly when a couple of wing shots caught her unawares.

The meeting was advised that Teen Challenge had substantial financial backing but the source was not divulged.

Nor were names put to the several affiliated religious groups that form the global organisation Teen Challenge.

Story continues Page 2...

In My Opinion...

By Joanne Eisemann
Managing Editor

IT SEEMS the prevailing community attitude towards the unemployed is that they have somehow failed and are 'bludgers'.

Ask a politician and most of them will tell you they consider 5% unemployment is full employment.

So, from the beginning we write off 5% of our people as unemployable and therefore doomed to be 'bludgers' and failures.

For several years I worked in employment services.

For the most part my clients had multiple and often devastating life problems.

I worked with one young woman who, despite setbacks during her childhood and teenage years that would have sent most of us to a mental health facility, remained determined to work through her problems enough to get a job.

One day she called in a panic and asked if she could come to see me as she had a problem that she needed my help with.

Her sixteen-year-old son, under the instruction of his father (long estranged from her) had been caught stealing cars again and was heading for a stint in Ashley unless something drastic happened.

Her boy was not a client of mine, nor at his age, could he be, but her pleas were so desperate and so heartfelt, I had to give it a go.

I contacted a colleague who

was able to 'pull a few strings' with an employer he was working with to secure the lad a position in a local factory.

He lived remotely, so getting to work was an issue. A few phone calls were made and a lift with workmates was organised.

A curfew had been imposed so we applied to the courts to have it lifted as the work was shift work.

Within a few days he started work and a couple of weeks later his transformation was nothing short of incredible; he was a different person.

I think much of the change had to do with him receiving a proper wage.

He had had a few jobs before but they were always with relatives who didn't pay him properly.

Needless to say the court recognised this and was only too happy to give him a suspended sentence.

What struck me at the time was how we had managed to help this young fellow change the course of his life by the simple act of getting him a job.

My point here is that everybody deserves that effort and, for some, it will take a lot longer.

His mum took around five more years of support before she was ready to get a job. Most people would consider the job she got as menial, but the effort it took for her to get there from where she started, was in my view nothing short of extraordinary.

Everybody deserves a paying job!

Letters In...

AS THE number of teenage suicide victims grows – someone needs to say something.

You need two hands to count the number of people who have committed suicide in and around Deloraine over the past 30 years. I won-

der if such a high number of preventable deaths might be associated with the fact that there is "nowhere to go for help in and around Deloraine". While all the "referral services" (like Lifeline) do is "talk" – why isn't there anywhere a person can go for "real" help?

A R Trounson, Needles



The Taiko Oni Jima Drummers from Launceston entertained crowds at the Riverside Easter Festival in Deloraine recently.

What will Council decide?

Continued from Page 1...

Also obscure was how the Meander community would benefit from the proposed centre.

Unfortunately, the bonus crowd hailing from Launceston to Devonport overshadowed the easy camaraderie generally present at meetings in the small community hall and a wary silence followed the first presentation by Robert Crews on behalf of the Economic Renewal Action Group.

Although the presentation was rather slap dash, it did include the promise of long term economic benefits for the whole of the Meander Valley municipality, as well as greater social interaction locally and for the wider community. However, the proposal drew just a few pertinent questions.

The response to the proposal by Deloraine woman Jennie Wilson to establish the Butterfly House Rehabilitation and Recovery Centre at Meander attracted a larger but less enthusiastic reaction.

Although admiring of Ms Wilson's personal commitment to the cause it was not a crowd favourite.

Although empathetic to the proposal, Meander resident Christine Chilcott believes that Butterfly House was not a suitable option for the site.

"It (Butterfly House) needs to be in a more secure location," she said.

"Somewhere like Ashley

(Youth Detention Centre)."

Mrs Chilcott disputed the suggestion that the meeting was "stacked" with people who lived away from the Meander district.

"It was a public meeting," she said. "Anyone could go. People are interested in what is happening."

She had no reservations about the Teen Challenge proposal, saying that the movement was endorsed by many high ranked persons including former Prime Ministers.

"It is an ideal opportunity to have something unique in the Meander district," she said.

On the other hand, Bodhi McSweeney, who also lives in Meander, saw the meeting as a wasted opportunity for people to hear the proposals in a really balanced way.

"It was a shame that it was stacked," she said. "There was not enough time for questions and people were intimidated by all the cheering from the Teen Challenge supporters."

"I would have been pleased to have a more rigorous look (at all the proposals)."

Council will consider feedback from the community at a workshop prior to its 12th April meeting.

At the meeting, Council will formally confirm the process it will take to determine who will be offered use of the site and advise what additional information is required from each proponent to help to make a decision on the future of the Meander School site.

EST. 2013
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Labor



New livery for old loco

Photo by: Mike Moores

Apex Club and team of volunteers including (from left to right) Danny Saltmarsh of Red Hills and Roy Creswell of Deloraine get busy resurrecting Deloraine's famous train.

By Wendy Laing

AFTER TWELVE years, the steam train at the Deloraine train park has been repainted.

According to Mr Danny Saltmarsh, President of Apex Deloraine, it took 32 litres of paint and 20 volunteers 80 hours over two days to paint it.

Built by Beyer Peacock & Company, England in 1907 for the Tasmanian government railway at a cost of 5,370 pounds, the train weighs 72 tons and is an E class No 2 steam locomotive. It is the survivor of two locomotives that were built to handle

heavy freight.

Mr Saltmarsh added that it was last used by the railway in 1962. Following storage, it was donated to the Deloraine community in February 1971 and on the 24th July 1971 it was moved to its current position at the Deloraine train park.

"It took 32 litres of paint and 20 volunteers 80 hours over two days to paint it."

Thanks to the Apex Club and its volunteers this local landmark will shine for Deloraine's residents for years to come.

Happy Harvest Co-op

By Julie Hargreaves

Throughout history, in villages around the world, people have come together at harvest time to pick and process fruit, co-operatively.

The Meander Valley Harvest Co-op connects people who have backyard trees with abundant fruit with people who want to help pick them.

They work together to reduce wasted food, sharing the good fruit, turning the second grades into something useful, and having fun

or learning new skills in the process.

This new social enterprise, is under the auspice of Deloraine House.

The first harvest event took place in Westbury on the 16th March where some 70kg of fruit was harvested from just 3 trees! With the assistance of 7 volunteers and equipment from the MV Harvest Co-op – it took just 2 hours to pick and sort all of the fruit that was reachable and ripe.

In the coming weeks the group will be organising other

harvests as well as workshops on 'Preserves' to turn excess and second grade fruit into something useful.

The general principle of the social enterprise is to share the labour and share the bounty.

If you want to know more about the project, or want to get involved, contact Julie Hargreaves (email fsseproject@hotmail.com, 0409 936907) or visit Deloraine House.

You can register your interest as a volunteer picker or, if you have abundant fruit trees, to pick/share their produce.



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Sheila Stevenson of Carrick (r) and Nita Clarke of Westbury discuss their scanning project

Westbury Probus ladies scan their history

by Joanne Eisemann

THREE LOVELY ladies from Westbury Ladies Probus have embarked on a project to help preserve the club's history.

Nita Clarke, Sheila Stevenson and Eleanor Denton-Giles have been working at the Deloraine Online Access Centre to scan and digitalise the club's 23 years of handwritten minute books.

"When I became secretary, the past secretary handed all these minute books over to me... I looked at them and wondered what happens to those books when I pass

along?" explains Nita.

The club decided to apply for a Community Grant from Meander Valley Council to make a digital copy of the books.

At much larger expense they could have had the whole thing done for them by a print company, but instead opted to develop their computer and scanning skills with the assistance of their local online centre.

"At first it was a bit tricky, especially working out our filing system" says Sheila "but it got easier as we went along."

Originally an offshoot of Rotary, Probus is "all about companionship and friendship for people over 55.

It was formed for professional and business people but now the spectrum has been widened a bit," comments Nita.

They get together on the third Thursday of the month at the Westbury Town Hall Supper Room at 10.00am for morning tea and guest speaker.

"Anyone is welcome to come along and see what goes on," says Nita.

MEANDER VALLEY - GET INVOLVED

AN OCCUPATIONAL therapist from Independent Living Centre (ILC) Tasmania will visit Carers Tas at the SES Training Rooms, Landsdowne Place, Deloraine on Thursday 12th May, from 10.30 – 11.30 am.

The therapist will give a short talk and have a display

of assistive equipment that can help people who have difficulty with the everyday activities of life.

This meeting is open to any interested community members. All welcome, no charge. Please RSVP to ILC Tas on 1300 885 886.

IN THE GARDEN WITH NELL CARR

THE DAISY-FLOWERED Aster novi-angliae, and the Sedum autumn joy (pictured), have flourished in the hot dry summer, and are blooming prolifically.

The small flowered metre high daisies of the Aster are known by the general rubric of Michaelmas Daisies, but as St Michael's Mass falls in September, a more appropriate name in the Southern hemisphere is Easter Daisies.

The small mauve flowered variety of these is inclined to be invasive, but that pictured is easily propagated by root division after flowering.

The Sedums are very easily propagated by inserting a piece of stem into the soil.

Tomatoes. This very unusual summer - hot and dry, followed by torrential rain in late January, has resulted in a ruinous case of blossom end rot in Roma tomatoes.

These solid fleshy tomatoes are so useful for making pickles and chutneys.

Other varieties of tomato grown were not affected.

Later developing Romas escaped, although some were found to have shrivelled at the stalk end.

Zucchini's. These have a habit of hiding under the foliage until they grow huge and pulpy and inedible. Split lengthwise, they can be fed to the fowls.



Greens policies explained

by Wendy Laing

APPROXIMATELY 60 people recently attended a public meeting held by the Greens party in Deloraine House to discuss issues affecting the Meander Valley area.

The meeting was chaired by Ms Inger Visby, the Deloraine Lions Branch co-coordinator, who introduced Senator Peter Whish-Wilson and Senator

Nick McKim to the audience.

Senator Whish-Wilson spoke briefly about his views on the effects of climate change on the environment and how he felt that the proposed sacking of CSIRO scientists would have a devastating impact on the work being carried out in this area.

Senator McKim talked about global warming and

the effects and impacts this would have on Tasmania. He felt that more thought should be put into renewable energy.

Both Senators were in favour of changes to the voting system and a discussion was held regarding how this could affect Senate candidates in a double dissolution.

The main discussion was on the recent fires in Tasmania and their effect on the World Heritage listed forests.

A question was asked about whether heavy machinery from the private sector should have been allowed into the World Heritage area as soon as the fires had been reported, even though it would have, at this stage, been illegal.

Whether the response to the fires from the Tasmanian government could have been initiated more quickly was also questioned.

Senator Whish-Wilson was

asked about his stand regarding the billions being spent on the military instead of being invested in Australian communities.

He said that although we do need a defence force to protect Australia, he would continue to argue that it was appropriate that we gave thought to the costs of climate change, which has caused heatwaves, bushfires and droughts that cost lives and damaged the economy.

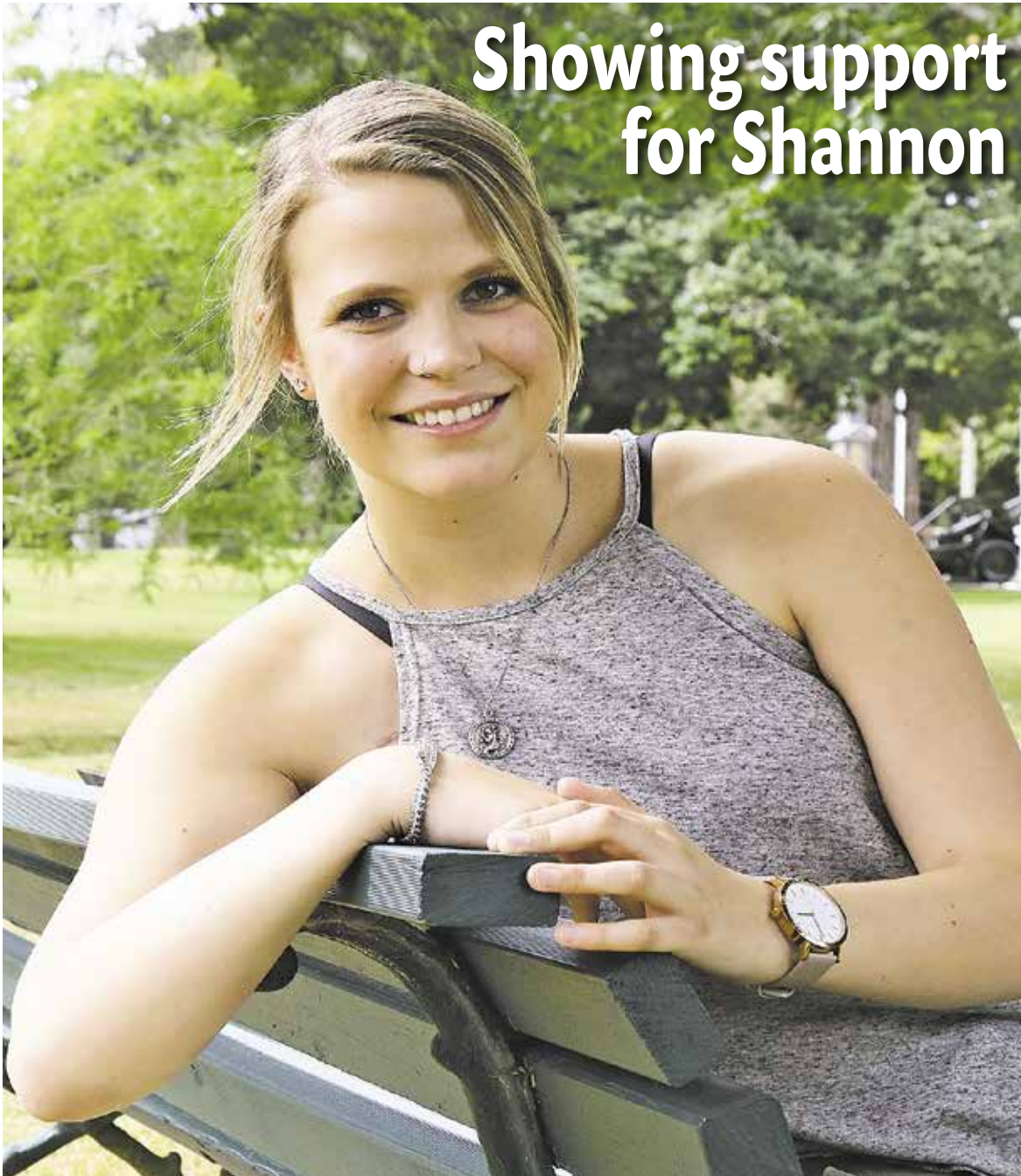
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Showing support for Shannon

18-year Shannon Vissor is facing a long medical battle.

Photo by: Mike Moores

By Chere Kenyon

WE HAVE all heard those stories where someone has a terrible disease yet time and again the patient is told it's something minor.

This nightmare became true for 18-year old Shannon Vissor when, in January, this brave young lady was finally diagnosed with Stage 3 (of 4) Hodgkin Lymphoma. It was frustrating for Shannon to go undiagnosed and untreated for so long.

This disease has drastic effects on the immune system, so Shannon has to be careful with whom she comes in contact.

"I was supposed to start a part-time apprenticeship as a hairdresser at a local salon. Unfortunately I had to put this offer on hold."

Shannon's words rang with positivity as she fully expects to be cured. And she has a message for others, "If there is one thing I can tell people, it is that I did not realise how common Lymphoma cancer was until I was diagnosed."

The symptoms are often misread and can go unnoticed for long periods of time. I would encourage anyone with symptoms to seek help."

Lucy Gilles, a family friend, is helping to run a dinner and auction night to assist with Shannon's treatment. Lucy said "this event is to

raise much needed funds for Shannon and her family as she begins her fight with Hodgkin Lymphoma. Please come and support this beautiful young lady who needs our help."

The evening is being held at 6.00pm on the 30th April at the Westbury Bowls Club.

Tickets are \$20.00 per head for a two course meal and can be purchased at the Westbury Pharmacy.

For further information, or if you wish to donate, please contact Lucy Gilles on 0417 024 760.

Shannon also has a message for her supporters, "I have received so much support already by my family, friends and the community with fundraisers."

"I am overwhelmed by the amount of people who genuinely care for my wellbeing. I can't thank everyone enough, who have donated to me, as the medical bills continue to pile up and with the ridiculous amount it will continue to cost in the future."

Rachel, Shannon's mum, also added, "I am so proud of my beautiful daughter, her courageous and positive attitude is inspirational."

"Although I was totally devastated when her cancer was first diagnosed, the love and support from family, friends and the community has been truly amazing."

Miss Jillian's little angels

By Chere Kenyon

Continued from picture on Page 1...

THERE IS something magical about little girls in pink tutus dancing with pointed feet.

Meander Valley Gazette recently had the pleasure of watching a group of fairy ballerinas at Dance Connection, Jillian Sargison's dance studio.

It was great to see the children learning to stretch, jump and move gracefully.

According to Jillian, dance is a "great opportunity for students to gain confidence, rhythm and deportment in a beautiful social and interactive environment."

Jillian firmly believes that learning dance in a nurturing environment teaches us important life skills.

"Allowing children "to express themselves along with learning good discipline and technique are skills that you carry through life."

Jillian is providing classes for young people in the Deloraine area. She covers ballet, tap and jazz in the one lesson.

Classes for tiny dancers (toddlers) and older students are on

Fridays and in-between ages run on Tuesday afternoons.

"Dance is a great opportunity for students to gain confidence, rhythm and deportment in a beautiful social and interactive environment"

While parents are not able to watch the classes, as it proves distracting to students, they are invited to an open class day at the end of each term.

The children also really enjoy the end of year performances which are generally held in Launceston. Some of Jillian's students even go on to enter dance competitions.

Children need to be provided with appropriate dancing shoes and clothes, but Jillian has tried to keep her prices affordable for the local community.

For further information, call Jillian on 0437 770 935.



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Photo by: Mike Moores

David Williams getting ready for the plaque installation at the new Cenotaph in Carrick.

Cenotaph for Carrick ANZACs

by David Claridge

LAST YEAR Carrick was given a cenotaph, a gift for a town that has always had a proud heritage of service for the armed forces.

Vice President of the Carrick Community Committee David Williams who has lived in Carrick for around fifteen years, was behind the efforts to get the cenotaph.

"My wife and I drove around the battlefields in Europe some time ago.

"We noticed that there were cenotaphs in all the little towns and villages," David said.

"When we moved to Carrick we noticed that it didn't have one.

"In the Carrick hall there is an honour roll for both World Wars. There are quite a lot of names there and many of those families are still around.

"We thought it would be appropriate to have a cenotaph in Carrick to recognise those who had served, including Basil Wilmer," he said.

David's research has discovered that about 40 people

served in each of the world wars from a town of about 300 people.

The cenotaph was built with the help of the Tasmanian Community Fund, Meander Valley Council, Westbury Lions, the Carrick Community Committee and the RSL.

"My wife and I drove around the battlefields in Europe some time ago. We noticed that there were cenotaphs in all the little towns and villages."

"We are inviting families of people who have served to have a plaque made which will be placed on a wall near the cenotaph."

Two walls of plaques will be ready in time for this year's Anzac Day service at 7.00am. There will be breakfast afterwards at the Carrick pub.

The Carrick Community Committee are also looking for connections with servicemen and women from Carrick who have served in other conflicts.

New, easier kits, test for Bowel Cancer

by Dr Marc Smith

BOWEL CANCER is a common illness which affects the large intestine. If diagnosed early it is curable, but if the diagnosis is delayed, the disease can cause severe morbidity or death.

More than fourteen thousand people are diagnosed each year and of these, a thousand are under the age of 50. It is equally spread between the sexes. The incidence increases with advancing age and it is the second most common cause of deaths from cancer, being responsible for more deaths than either breast or prostate cancer. The illness is more common in Tasmanians than in any other state as are many other diseases.

Early diagnosis and treatment can be curative. The diagnosis depends on finding

small amounts of blood in the bowel motion.

Bowel cancers bleed only a little in the beginning, and early diagnosis depends on the finding of blood in the early stages, where this can be detected with sensitive chemical testing, but if diagnosis is delayed until rectal bleeding is obvious, the cancer will be far more advanced and treatment more difficult.

It is the second most common cause of deaths from cancer

Once the tumour eats through the bowel wall, it may spread to other organs and treatment could involve radiation and chemotherapy.

Symptoms of bowel cancer may be blood in the motion, changing bowel habit for

example intermittent constipation and diarrhoea, and mucus discharge or leakage. Abdominal pain or discomfort and symptoms of anaemia may occur, causing tiredness or weight loss.

A family history of bowel cancer is important, especially affecting the under forties who may have an inherited cause, which increases the likelihood of the condition.

This year, we have a more acceptable test kit which is easier to use and more reliable in that there will be fewer false results. In earlier kits, it was necessary to exclude certain foods before the test and now this no longer applies. Also, formally, it was necessary to handle faeces which put many people off. Only about half of the kits purchased ended up being tested.

Only two samples are needed compared with the previous three. On completion, the test is posted directly to the pathology laboratory, who will contact the patient directly and their doctor, if that is requested.

If the test is positive, in that blood is present, it must be followed by a GP visit to exclude benign causes such as piles, irritable bowel syndrome or other lesions. Perhaps an X-ray or colonoscopy will be needed.

Buy a BOWELSCAN kit from your pharmacy and USE it. So long as it remains in the packet it will not diagnose anything. It could save your life.

Kits are available in May, which is Rotary Bowelscan month throughout Australia. Tests should be done once every two years, or more often if symptoms are present.

Scholarship

CONGRATULATIONS TO April Shepherd of Deloraine.

April has been announced as the recipient of the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank 2016 Tertiary Scholarship.

Beginning a Bachelor of Arts degree at Monash University in Melbourne this year, April intends to pursue a career in journalism.

The scholarship will help April with accommodation.



Deloraine Information Evening - Tuesday 10 May 2016



If you are interested in **learning** about Launceston Church Grammar's Academic programme, their extra-curricular activities, the Boarding House and the extensive range of scholarships offered, the Headmaster, Mr Stephen Norris the Registrar, Mrs Lisa Pretorius and the Heads of Boarding, Mr Craig Slavin and Mrs Nadine Slavin will be at **The Deloraine Deli** 81 Emu Bay Road Deloraine on **Tuesday 10 May** 5.30pm - 7.30pm.

RSVP to Mrs Lisa Pretorius, Registrar, on **6336 6052** or go to www.lcgs.tas.edu.au/events



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Photos by: Mike Moores



Going, going, not quite gone.

POWER SUPPLY to the residents of Deloraine and surrounding areas were affected on Easter Saturday as a power pole failed in Tower Hill Street, Deloraine.

The consequent power outage lasted for twelve hours and forty one minutes and left

many residents without power during this time.

A rotten pole fell causing the outage and the street was closed as emergency services attended to the situation.

There were no reports of injury and a new power pole was subsequently installed.



Flies perhaps not so pesky

By Sarah Lloyd

FLIES BELONG to the order Diptera (di = two; ptera = wing), one of four mega-diverse orders of insects.

The other mega-diverse orders are the Coleoptera (beetles) Lepidoptera (moths and butterflies) and Hymenoptera (wasps, ants and sawflies).

Insects with 'fly' in their name including dragonfly, mayfly and butterfly have two pairs of wings whereas most flies have only one. Their second pair is reduced to small club-shaped structures called halteres that are situated behind the wings.

The thorax of flies is simpler than the thorax of other insects.

When flies fly the halteres vibrate and act like tiny gyroscopes. This allows flies to hover, fly backwards, rotate on their own axis and fly through spaces a little wider than their wings.

The thorax of flies is simpler than the thorax of other insects. The first and last segments are almost non-existent, while the middle section is greatly enlarged and entirely made up of wing muscles. This feature permits



A Robber Fly feeds on a small insect

fast flying, a high degree of manoeuvrability and very fast wing beat frequencies (up to 1000 beats per minute in tiny midges). It also means that flies have great control over their direction and position of landing sites - not many insects can land upside down on ceilings!

Most adult flies have a liquid diet of water, nectar or blood. It is the blood feeders that give the group a bad name because they spread diseases such as malaria and zika virus - amongst others.

However, most flies go unnoticed as they play their important ecological roles of pollinating plants, cleaning up rotting vegetation, carcasses and dung, and preying on other insects. Furthermore, flies are an important food source for birds, frogs and reptiles. Without flies the world would be a very different place - may your flies be interesting and not pesky!

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Valleyviews

Mayor's Message

DEPUTY MAYOR, COUNCILLOR Michael Kelly acted as Mayor during March and writes this month's Mayor's Message.

I WOULD LIKE to take this opportunity to congratulate the organisers and all those who contributed to the Deloraine Street Car Show held on Sunday 21 February this year.

I feel incredibly proud to live in the municipality that produced such a tremendously successful event.

I must also acknowledge the part the owners played in the success of the event. Each vehicle on display looked outstanding. I can only imagine the hours of effort that must have gone into presenting them. I am already looking forward to next year's event and what that may look like!

The Car Show is a perfect example of how Council can help community organisations through our Community Grants program. Community groups can apply for grants of up to \$3000 for projects that benefit the Meander Valley community. The Grants Program runs all year round

and you can find out more by visiting Council's website or calling 6393 5300.

THE 34TH AGFEST Field Days Tasmania will be held over 3 days from Thursday 5th to Saturday 7th May.

The first Agfest held at the Meander Valley site was in 1987 and attracted 203 exhibitors and 23,000 patrons. This year organisers are looking at attracting over 60,000 patrons to view more than 700 quality exhibitors from across Tasmania and interstate.

The ongoing success of the event is no doubt due to the dedication of staff and volunteers from the Rural Youth Organisation of Tasmania who spend thousands of hours working to ensure that Agfest continues to be one of Tasmania's premier events. On behalf of Council, I would like to wish Agfest Chairperson, Kate Coad, and her hard working committee, all the very best with this year's event and fingers-crossed for fine weather!

**Councillor Michael Kelly
Deputy Mayor**

Council Updates



MAINTENANCE AND CONSERVATION of our built heritage revitalises local communities.

Council's Townscape Incentive Grant Scheme aims to encourage Meander Valley property owners to improve the external appearance of their main buildings through alteration, restoration in an authentic colour scheme and through sympathetic landscaping.

The Scheme is open to all residents and particularly lends itself to buildings classified by the National Trust; or registered on the National Estate or

Tasmanian Heritage Register, as well as other significant buildings within the municipality.

Grants, up to a maximum of \$1200, will be approved after the final inspection of the completed works.

All applications received will be considered against guidelines outlined in Council's Townscape Incentive Grant Scheme Policy.

The guidelines and application form are available on Council's website. Any enquiries can be directed to David Pyke on 6393 5316.

Westbury Sports Centre lights up



Mr Mark Shelton MP and Mayor Perkins get their eye in under the new lights at the Sports Centre. Photo: Mike Moores

MARK SHELTON, MEMBER for Lyons, together with Meander Valley Mayor, Craig Perkins, Councillor Bob Richardson and Council staff members inspected the new lighting system installed at the Westbury Sports Centre on Tuesday 22 March.

Council was successful in securing funding from the State Government's 2015-16 Minor Grants Program through the Communities, Sport and Recreation branch within the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

The grants are made available to increase opportunities for Tasmanians to participate in a wide range of sport and recreation activities.

The lights will give local sporting teams and recre-

ational groups a better lit and safer environment in which to train and play.

The old fluorescent lights were at the end of their life and did not provide adequate lighting for the space. The new lighting has the added benefit of being more energy-efficient and having lower maintenance and replacement costs.

The Westbury Sports Centre is regularly used by the Meander Valley Gymnastics Club, Westbury CHAT Play Gym, Darts Tasmania, the Van Diemen Rollers and Council youth programs.

If any groups or individuals are interested in hiring the venue, please contact Recreation Officer, Gino Fratangelo, at Council on 6393 5300.

Are you up for the challenge?

A STEPPING STONES leadership Camp is on in Meander Valley from 22 to 24 April.

The camp is for young people aged 18-25 years who want to share three

days of fun, activities and learning through 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.



Deloraine Development Plan

COUNCIL IS PREPARING an Outline Development Plan (ODP) that will guide development in Deloraine for Council and developers over the next twenty years.

Planning specialists, JMG Engineers and Planners, and Council, have consulted with the community and are working on the draft Plan.

Council will release the draft Plan for three weeks for comment later this month and will advertise ways to 'Have Your Say' on Council's website, via social media and Council's Community News and in the Examiner.

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

Meander School site

COUNCIL FACILITATED A community meeting on Monday 21 March at the Meander Hall about the future use of the former Meander Primary School.

The three organisations who lodged compliant expressions of interest in operating from the former school site presented to those who attended.

Council took note of the questions and answers put to the organisations by those present at the meeting. The notes will help Council to make a decision when it determines who it will offer use of the former school site to.

Council will formally ratify the process for decision making and identify what other information it needs from each proponent at its April meeting.

An update will be available after the April Council meeting.

Diary Dates

Volunteer Week Party

10 May 2016
Western Tiers Community Club, Deloraine

Markets



Deloraine Market Showgrounds

First Saturday of the month

Liffey Valley 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

ANZAC Day ceremonies



ANZAC DAY, MONDAY 25 April 2016, will be recognised with a number of ceremonies across Meander Valley.

It is a chance to remember the service and sacrifice by Australian service men and women in all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations.

Local services include:

Carrick
7.00am Morning Service
Memorial Park

Deloraine
6.00am Dawn Service
11.00am Mid-morning service
Deloraine Cenotaph

Hagley
9.45am Mid-morning service
Hagley Recreation Ground

Westbury
6.00am Dawn Service
11.00am Mid-morning service
Westbury Cenotaph



Don't let the smoke get in your eyes !

AS THE DAYS get cooler, it is important to remember that wood smoke, from wood heaters and backyard burning, can affect some peoples' health.

Wood smoke has fine particles, which, when inhaled, can affect both the lungs and the heart. Chil-

dren and older people are more susceptible to the harmful effects of smoke.

Follow these steps to reduce smoke by as much as 80% from a poorly operated wood heater:

- Check your heater complies with the relevant Australian Standards
- Use well-seasoned, dry fire wood
- Always burn with a bright flame
- Burn the fire on high for

Defibrillators are life savers



COUNCIL RECENTLY PURCHASED an Automatic External Defibrillator (known as AEDs) from the Deloraine Junior Football Club and re-located it to the Deloraine Community Complex.

AEDs assist in reducing the number of fatalities

resulting from cardiac arrest. No training is required to use the unit. Once turned on, the machine talks you through the process in simple steps.

The unit at the Deloraine Community Complex, housed in a secure cabinet in the foyer of the building, is serviced and St John Ambulance approved.

It is an important safety measure for the many sporting and community users of the complex and the broader community.

The decision to purchase the surplus unit from the Junior Football Club has given the club a timely boost

in funding in the lead up to the 2016 season. There is still a unit on the football site as the Senior Club was fortunate to receive one as part of an NTFA initiative.

There are a number of publicly-accessible defibrillators located in Meander Valley. In addition to the Community Complex and Football Club, AEDs are located at the Deloraine Bowls Club, TFS Deloraine and Westbury, the Westbury Post Office and Council's Office in Lyall Street, Westbury.

In the event of a cardiac arrest, call 000 for an ambulance.

Safer roads for all



Meander Valley Motorcycling

EVERYONE INTERESTED IN motorcycles will be aware that Meander Valley has many of Tasmania's favourite motorcycling roads—with the bonus of a central location to travel east or west to dodge the rain pattern.

Those interested in social riding are welcome to join a friendly rides group that leaves the Deloraine Train Park at 10am every Sunday. If you enjoy a chat about motorcycles they have a fortnightly counter meal too. Ring Malcolm on 0487 386 241 for details.

Those who would be more comfortable riding with experienced motorcyclists might like to know that Darren Morgan of Deloraine, an experienced riding

instructor, has been mentoring motorcyclists in the Meander Valley for years. Many riders, young and old, have expressed the view that such mentoring has improved both their skill and enjoyment level. This all helps to make motorcycling in Meander Valley a safer activity for riders and road users alike. Darren can be contacted on 0429 894 191.

Merging and roundabout maneuvering

POLICE INSPECTOR SCOTT Flude of the Deloraine Division responds to two common confusions:

Merging: 'If your marked lane ends and there are still dotted lines on the road you must indicate and give way to any traffic that you are merging into.'

The confusion with this rule often arises in lanes where the dotted lines cease prior to the end of the merg-

ing lane. In this case you must give way to the vehicle in front of you, commonly called the 'zipper rule'.

The short story is that merging traffic must give way to highway traffic, but it's not just a case of right and wrong. All drivers have a responsibility to make a safe merge possible. Poor driving by anyone is liable to a fine for not driving with due consideration of other road users.'

Indicating when entering or leaving roundabouts: 'On multi lane roundabouts you must indicate and give way when changing lanes.'

Generally, you must indicate left when leaving the roundabout and indicate right when travelling more than half way around the roundabout. When travelling straight ahead on a roundabout you only need to indicate (if practicable) when leaving the roundabout.'

Reference: Tasmanian Road Rules



Meander Valley Council

WORKING TOGETHER

Council Offices 8:30am-5:00pm
PO Box 102
26 Lyall Street, Westbury

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

Connect with us



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

Photo by: Mike Moores



Diana Stokes sketches folks

by Chere Kenyon

NEARLY EVERYONE covets the skill of an artist but very few of us actually have the talent and ability to accomplish something worthwhile.

For many years Diana felt exactly this way, even though she was inspired by her time in Argentina, Kenya and England as a girl.

"At school I used to try drawing, but I was always disappointed with my efforts."

Nevertheless, Diana persevered and completed several natural history art classes.

But it was an Adult Education course in Tasmania that finally unleashed Diana's natural talent.

She still felt embarrassed by her efforts and considered quitting but finally on her last class, as she was looking at a picture of a Tasmanian Devil,

"I looked and thought, I could do that." "I took my paper and it was like something took my hand and said get on with it."

It was like learning to ride a bike, it just clicked."

This was the beginning of a new chapter in Diana's life.

"It's like I'm on fire, it's very exciting. It's not like it used to be where I was struggling."

"I took my paper and it was like something took my hand and said get on with it."

Diana follows her own unique style and uses all the classes and tips she has learned along the way, as well as the advice of an artist friend who said, "If you want to draw, just draw."

Diana likes to be natural. She uses pastels, charcoal and

pencils, and draws sitting on the floor.

Her favourite subjects are portraits of Indigenous peoples in their traditional costumes from around the world and animals.

Diana feels a special bond with each and every picture and so she would like to provide her customers with a memento of a beloved family member that may have passed on.

Dianna added, "Having a drawing to cherish is really special."

If you would like a portrait of a beloved pet or a family member, clients are welcome to make appointments to view Diana's work and discuss arrangements.

To contact Diana please call Gil's mobile on 0412 770 169 or 6393 1893.

The art of giving



One of the Nepali kit recipients

OVER SIX hundred Hygiene Kits for girls made by Tasmanian 'Days for Girls' sewers were delivered in person to needy Nepalese young women earlier this year.

"The girls were delighted with the kits"

The girls were delighted with the kits which ensure that they no longer lose five days of school or employment each month due to lack of hygiene items.

While in Nepal a program was set up whereby earthquake affected Nepalese ladies can now earn a

modest living and assist others by sewing and selling Days for Girls (DfG) kits.

All this was possible thanks to the generous donations and practical assistance of Tasmanian DfG volunteers.

The Meander Valley branch of DfG is extending an invitation to attend a fundraising event at the Rotary Pavillion on Alveston Drive in Deloraine at 10:00am on Friday 15th of April.

There will be a presentation by Dr Lois Beckwith on her recent trip to Nepal and an auction of Nepalese silk, cashmere and jewellery.

People coming along are asked to bring items for a trade table and a plate of food to share.

The cost is \$10.00 per person. RSVP's to Christina: 6369 5491.

Poems commemorate Anzac

by Wai Lin Coultas

AS PART of its community involvement, Deloraine Creative Studios is holding two poetry exhibitions for a week each side of Anzac Day this year.

'Language of War' with poems by Tasmanians and 'Behind every war there are good women' with poems by Australian and New Zealand women come illustrated with images of war memorials across Australia and New Zealand.

The poetries have been selected from nearly 7000 generated from Graeme Lindsay's 100 Years from Gallipoli Poetry Project; presenting a variety of views about commemorating Anzac Day and other military commemorations.

The images on war memorials were chosen from Lindsay's collection of more than 4000.

All were first displayed last year, in conjunction with the Deloraine RSL, as a contribution to the centenary of the

Australian and New Zealand landing at Gallipoli.

The poems were selected to present the broadest range of views, many contrasting with messages 'popular' on Anzac Day in modern Australia.

And the second theme is limited to women poets as views about military commemorations tend to be dominated by men or male dominated organisations.

Launceston, Rosny, Devonport and Burnie LINC's, along with Coffs Harbour's Bunker Gallery, have displayed both exhibitions.

Lindsay's book, *When Anzac Day comes round* comprises poems by more than 200 Australians and New Zealanders, including ones literary-renowned globally.

Lindsay's ongoing project is self-funded and uses www.ozzywriters.com/index.php/exhibitions to call for poetry submissions.

Lindsay's exhibitions at the Deloraine Creative Studio run from 18 to 30 April.

Invitation to artists

HAEMOCHROMATOSIS 2016 Awareness Week runs from 6th to 15th August.

The annual Art Exhibition "OVERLOAD" opens on 29th July at the Deloraine Hospital Gallery.

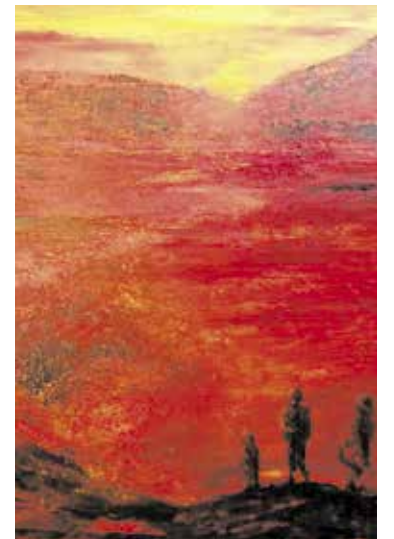
The exhibition will raise funds for Haemochromatosis Australia, an organisation raising awareness of the blood condition arising from organs overloaded with iron.

This inheritable genetic disorder causes serious health issues if undiagnosed.

The curators are calling for works of any medium, provided they can be hung and come with an iron overload theme.

30% of the proceeds of sold works will go to the non-profit organisation Haemochromatosis Australia (visit www.ha.org.au).

Artists wishing to contribute such artworks are asked to contact Sheila Stevenson



'Rose Coloured Glasses' Oil Painting by Sarah Weaver Curator of OVERLOAD

by email: stevos.bjs@bigpond.com or landline on 03 6393 7111 or via mobile on 0428 576 795.

All artworks will need to be delivered to Deloraine Hospital's Reception by 27th July.

ADVERTISEMENT

Mark Shelton MP

Liberal Member for Lyons

Working to strengthen regional communities

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



Wouter Sels shows off some of his organic produce.

Growing organically in Lorinna

THE FIELDS of Belgium are now a long way from Wouter Sel's new home in Tasmania's isolated community of Lorinna.

Since moving to the valley in 2013, Wouter has helped transform his partner's farm into a certified organic enterprise, having achieved ACO* and TOP** status in January 2016.

Elyse Acacia and Wouter grow a wide variety of vegetables which are currently available locally at the Farmers' Market in Launceston and at outlets around the state. He also operates an online shop

and delivers orders to pick-up points, statewide.

The distance to markets in Tasmania is a lot further than in Belgium. Wouter says there are climate similarities which dictate some of the practices and crops.

He believes the biggest advantage on Seven Springs Farm is that it has never been used for conventional agriculture, so there are no pesticide residues in the soil.

And the tyranny of distance is offset by chillers that are used to keep produce cool on-farm while refrig-

erated transport makes all the deliveries.

In a few short years, Wouter has built fences to reduce wildlife pressure; excavated access to the growing fields; remineralised the soil; built terraces to utilise the slope and capture solar heat; dug a well to ensure a reliable supply of water for washing produce and irrigating the fields, and constructed a large greenhouse.

Wouter uses both tried and tested methods of farming as well as some ancient techniques that nurture, maintain, protect and increase soil health.

His holistic approach includes the use of biochar, tree planting, a wide diversity of crops, and closed crop canopy with poly-farming and interplanted crops.

These methods improve the structure of the soil and its ability to hold water.

Seven Springs Farm's holistic approach is designed to generate the farm's own inputs.

This includes saving of

seeds and use of animals for grazing and manure and, ultimately, the production of organically-certified fleece.

Looking ahead, Wouter is planning regular open days so consumers can develop a relationship with the farm.

*ACO (Australian Certified Organic).

**TOP (Tasmanian Organic & Bio-Dynamic Produce).

New showground shed in Westbury

THE LONG running Westbury Agricultural Show has been delighting participants and show-goers for many a year.

This year, improvements have been made courtesy of grants from Bendigo Bank and the Tasmanian Community Fund.

The Westbury Agricultural Society Committee invested the extra funds into construction of a building to house vehicles belonging to

a number of Associations and Clubs from around the Meander Valley.

Currently, the new Community Services Shed is home to trucks, caravans and food vans belonging to Westbury Lions Club, Westbury Rotary Club, the Northern Hunt Club, the Tasmanian Mountain Cattlemen's Association and the Northern Tasmania Show Jumping Association.

Patrons are warmly invited

to attend the Official Opening Day of the Community Service Shed, to be held at Westbury Showgrounds on Saturday April 16th, 2016.

The event will commence at 2:00p.m., with afternoon tea to follow.

To confirm your attendance, or for further details, please RSVP by 11th April 2016 on 0438 636 149, or via email at shannon.barwick@rabo-bank.com



Get your Agfest tickets early!

TICKETS FOR Agfest will be available from Roberts stores during April and early May.

\$1.00 from every ticket sold will go to a scholarship fund for young Tasmanians studying agriculture or rural industries.

Or support your local rural youth club by buying a ticket from them, they will retain \$5.00 from each ticket sold.

Tickets \$15.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 5-15, under 5 go free.

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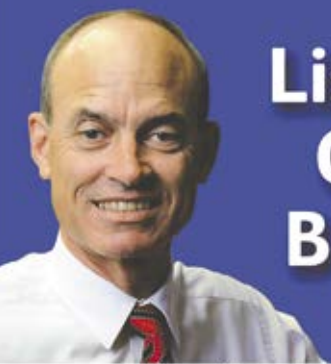
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State Liberal Member for Lyons




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



by Joanne Eisemann

A NOTORIOUSLY hard market to crack, Meander Valley's Ashgrove began selling fresh milk in 2008, selling just one crate per week.

Now, just a few years later, they distribute up to 100,000 litres of bottled milk each week.

"Each year grew hugely on the year before," comments Roy Thomas, Ashgrove's Milk Sales and Distribution manager. "That's why Ashgrove Farms partnership decided to buy another farm because we were stealing milk from the cheese makers!"

Ashgrove expanded from two to three dairy farms to meet the growing demand and now milk 1800 hundred 50% Jersey, 15% Brown Swiss and 35% Friesian Holstein cows.

The high percentage of Jersey in the herd genetics gives their milk the rich creamy flavour that consumers have come to enjoy.

As a 'boutique' product the level of fat content being a little higher than other brands is their main point of difference, that and their grass to glass assurance of quality.

The farms, along with some locally leased land, now cover around 2,000 hectares and employ 13 permanent staff as well as many local contractors working on site each day.

Ashgrove Cheese Pty Ltd 80+ employees work in the factory bottling milk and cream or making cheese and butter.

"There is not a lot of employment in this area" says Roy, "so people tend to stay in their jobs."

Like most rural businesses there is some seasonality to milk production with the fat content and volumes lower during winter and very little cheese is made during this time.

Ashgrove keep the majority of their workforce employed during this period recognising the high cost of training new staff. As a result, employee turnover is low.

Before coming to Ashgrove, Roy worked 15 years for Woolworths. "I enjoyed working at WW" he says, "but I prefer working for a small family business where I see the owner every day."

"the cost of getting it across that stretch of water. The numbers didn't stack up."

This 'family' ethos runs right through the business with much of the marketing being conducted at a local level using social media, attending events and speaking with people face to face as much as possible.



Milk Sales and Distribution Manager, Roy Thomas enjoys a glass of milk. Photo by Mike Moores

Rivers of Meander Valley Milk

The decision to bottle milk in plastic was a safety one. If just one bottle had broken in the factory every bit of produce (cheese and milk) would have had to have been thrown out to protect consumer safety, making glass bottles unviable.

Although Ashgrove Cheese is sold nationwide, all fresh milk is sold in Tasmania.

"We trialled getting it to the mainland," explains Roy. "It wasn't so much the time

factor as milk has a 15 day shelf life, its the cost getting it across that stretch of water. The numbers didn't stack up."

The Ashgrove farm store, part of the Tasmanian Tasting Trail is becoming an icon in itself.

Last year attracting 140,000 visitors, during *Meander Valley Gazette's* visit to the site, the buzz was palpable.

Marketing and Communications Manager, Anne

Bennett, provided this visitor breakdown:

"75% are Australian of which NSW, Vic and Qld dominate. International visitors fluctuate with the global economy.

"We have seen a 25% increase in Asian tourists from Hong Kong, Mainland China, Singapore and Malaysia, and are welcoming many Americans and Chileans this summer too."

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Renewal of memberships now due. Renew at Elemental Artspace

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artsdeloraine@gmail.com
 or join at Elemental Artspace

Rotary Bowelscan month is May

Bowel cancer is the second most common cause of death in Australians.

Early diagnosis can be curative.

Rotary Bowelscan is a simple test.

Available in pharmacies in May.

To join Rotary phone Marc 0438 131 440 or Ann 6362 3160
www.rotaryclubofdeloraine.org.au

Rotary Club of Deloraine

Meander Valley National Volunteer Week Party

Tuesday 10 May 2016
Western Tiers Community Club
 Ex Senior Citizen Club, 33A Parsonage St
 11am to 1pm

You are warmly invited to come and celebrate all things volunteering at the Meander Valley National Volunteer Week Party. View our photo display and enjoy some social time over lunch with other volunteers.

Entry by gold coin donation

The Annual General Meeting of the Deloraine Bowls Club

will be held on Tuesday, 10th May 2016 commencing at 7.00 pm

All members are invited to attend.

Wendy Laing, Secretary

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 |
|---|--|--|
| Friday 8th April 7.00pm | Pedalling Back | Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine \$25.00 Adults \$20.00 Concession. All cards must be shown. |
| Saturday 9th April 10.00am - 3.00pm | Arty Farty Crafty Market | Performing Arts Pavilion, 2 Meander Valley Road, Deloraine. Enquiries: Laura on 0437 075 266. |
| Tuesday 12th April 10.00am - 12 noon | Deloraine Community Garden Fun Day | Community Garden, Cnr Pultney & East Barrack Streets, Deloraine. Enjoy Morning Tea. RSVP 6362 2678. |
| Friday 15th April, 10.00am | Days for Girls Morning Tea Fundraiser | Rotary Pavilion, Alveston Drive, Deloraine. RSVP Christine 6369 5491. |
| Saturday 16th April | Westbury Agricultural Show Horse Committee | Freshmans Show Jumping Day, Westbury Showground. Information on Show Website or Ph: 0407 807 876. |
| Saturday 16th April 6.30pm | CORES Annual Fundraising Dinner | Best Western Plus Hotel, Launceston. \$95.00pp RSVP: emily@kentishrc.com.au by 11th April. |
| Saturday 16th April | Opening Community Services Shed | Westbury Agricultural Showgrounds. Ph: Shannon Barwick 0438 636 149 for information. |
| Saturday 16th April 5.30pm | Concert feat. Jimmy Watts & Brad Gillies | Marakoopa Café, Mayberry. Pre-booked tickets \$10.00 Door tickets \$15.00. Bookings 6363 5033. |
| Monday 18th April - 30th April 10.00am-4.00pm | Language of War Exhibition 1915-2015 | Creative Studios 59-61 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine. Showcases the works of Tasmanian poets. |
| Thursday 21st April | Blokes Day Out | Tamar Island Ph: 6362 2678 or Di Hamilton on 0418 786 104 to book. |
| Friday 22nd - Sunday 24th April | Stepping Stones Leadership Camp | For young people 18 - 25 years. Fun & activities. Contact Vicki Jordan 0400 155 690 to book. Cost \$25.00. |
| Saturday 30th April 6.30pm | Deloraine Amateur Basketball 50th Anniversary | Rotary Pavilion, Alveston Drive, Deloraine. RSVP by 20th April to Laura 0437 624 152 or Carmen 0400 551 940. |
| Saturday 30th April 6.00pm | Dinner & Auction Fundraiser -Shannon Visser | Westbury Bowls Club, 9 Franklin Street. Bookings essential. Contact Lucy Gilles 0417 024 760. |
| 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. |
| Friday 6th May 8.00pm - 11.45pm | Old Time Dance déjà vu band | Deloraine Bowls Club, 36 Meander Valley Rd. Couple \$18.00, Single \$9.00 Supper included. |
| Tuesday 10th May 11.00am - 1.00pm | Meander Valley Volunteer Party + Photo Display | Western Tiers Community Centre, Parsonage St., Del. 11.00am to 1.00pm. Gold coin donation Vicki 6362 5280. |
| Thursday 12th May 10.30am - 11.30am | ICL Tas -talk & display of assistive equipment | SES Training room, Lansdowne Place, Deloraine. Free. RSVP to ILC Tas on 1300 885 886. |
| Friday 13th May 8.00pm | Old Time Dance | Rosevale déjà vu Band. Ladies, plate of supper please. Ph: Gwen 6396 6151. |
| 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 |
| Saturday 21st May | Westbury Agricultural Show Horse Committee | Freshmans Show Jumping Day Westbury Showground Information on Show Website or Ph: 0407 807 876 |
| Sunday 22nd May 10.00am - 2.00pm | Car Boot Sale | Bracknell Primary School-To book a space or Enquire Ph 6397 3288 or Bracknell.Primary@education.tas.gov.au |
| 2nd Monday of each month 7.00pm- 9.00pm | Deloraine Writers Group | Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine. Ph: Sarah 0429 386 970. |
| Every Wednesday 1.30pm - 3.00pm | Memoir Writing Group | Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine. Ph: 6362 2678. Bookings essential. |
| Every Thursday 7.30pm | Alcoholics Anonymous | Westbury. For more information call Chris on 0437 355 401. |
| Every Friday 10.00am - 12 noon | Playgroup & Toy Library | Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine. Ph: 6362 2678. Bookings essential. Gold coin donation. |
| Every Sunday 10.00am - 11.00am | Dragon Boating. Exp or Beg. All welcome | Meander River, Deloraine (near Swim Pool). Peter 0409 234 061. |

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SPORT IN BRIEF

A League for Ladies

By David Claridge

THE FUTURE of football in Prospect is going to include males and females in a move to recruit girls for the Prospect Hawks Junior Football Club.

Girls with aspirations to become AFL players will soon have greater opportunity with the creation of a new competition.

Female football is on the rise in Tasmania, with female only or mixed competitions already happening in Auskick right through to senior competition.

"The Prospect Hawks will be conducting our first Youth Girls football team with the 13 to 17 year olds in the soon to be launched Northern Tasmanian Junior Football Association Youth Girls competition," Prospect Hawks President, Chris Ryan, said.

"We have had a strong response already but need some help to get more girls interested in being part of the first team."

"There is now a genuine talent pathway about to begin with the first national competition draft later this year in the lead up to the competition launch in 2017, so it is a great time for youth aged girls to be considering playing AFL at grass roots level here at Prospect," he said.

The football club is still registering girls to participate in the first competition beginning in April. New players are welcome to attend training each Tuesday from 6:15pm at Prospect Park (off Harley Parade).

To find out more, check the 'Prospect Hawks Football Club' Facebook page or contact team manager Bec Illingworth on 0417 377 216.



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SPORT

By Tony Imison

IN 1993 a small number of enthusiastic table tennis players would meet each Wednesday evening in the Deloraine Primary School Gymnasium and set up two tables for an evening of fun.

This was the beginning of the Deloraine Table Tennis League, and its popularity soon necessitated a move to a larger venue. In 1998 it moved to the Deloraine Performing Arts Centre, which is its current 'home'.

Tables are set up each Wednesday evening from 7.00 pm. to 9.30 pm for roster or individual games or simply for practice.

The club president, Andrew Lockwood, is an accredited coach with The Tasmanian Table Tennis Association (TTTA), and is keen to assist newcomers and aspiring champion alike.

The club is affiliated with the TTTA, and enters a team in the state league competition each year. Whether you seek this level, or just want to have some fun games, the club would welcome your participation.

Age is no barrier. A good

Everyone gets a serve



Anna Turner of Westbury enjoys playing table tennis with her friends in the local club.

Photo by: Mike Moores

number of the members are in their 70's, and some are under 10. There is still one active member, a previous Tasmanian champion, who is in his mid-80's.

Come along and give it a go. Bats and balls are all provided, but you should bring your sports shoes.

The cost per night is \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for

children. If you decide to join the club the annual fee is \$10.00, which gives you affiliation to the Tasmanian Table Tennis Association.

Come along and get fit, and

have fun while you are doing it.

For more information you can contact Andrew on 0418 523 495 or just turn up on a Wednesday evening and see for yourself.



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