

ROCKABILLY RETROS

Retro Rockers strut their stuff at the Italian Club

**NEWS PAGE 3** 



TASMANIA'S **BLACK GOLD** 

On the hunt with truffle dog Bundi

> RURAL PAGE 11



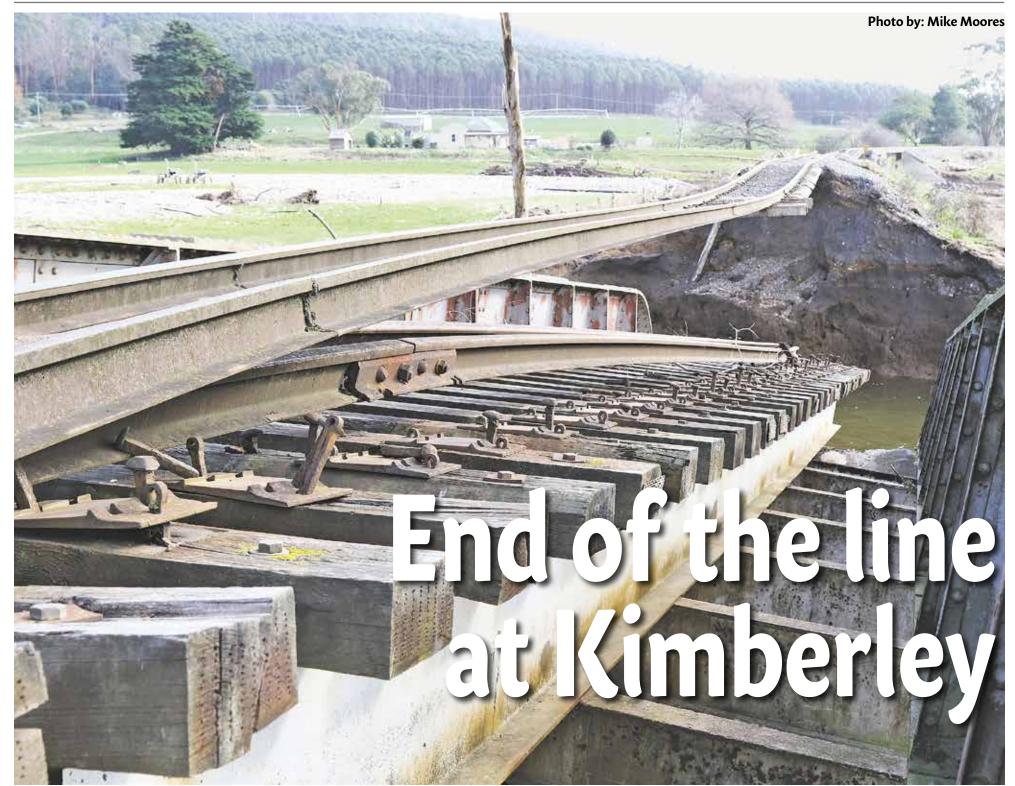
Hawks and Suns come away with a win

> SPORT PAGE 16

Meander Salley Gazette **FREE!** Every Month

#### July 2016

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper



berley Rail Bridge, first constructed ent heritage listing and is now undergoing sub

**By Marguerite McNeill** 

WE ALL KNEW there was a storm coming and that it was going to be big. We just didn't know how widespread and devastating it would be.

When the storm front hit early last month the rain kept coming andriverskeptrisinguntil deluge of flood а waters rose and swelled, leaving a massive wake

of destruction across Tasmania. Weeks later the

frightening scenes are still uppermost in many people's minds. Across the Meander Valley everyone has a story to tell about flooding in their area. Sorting through those experiences is almost as difficult as sifting through the huge amounts of debris the floods left behind.

The western end of the municipality was the hardest hit with six bridges washed away (3 at Liena, 2 at Mole Creek and 1 at Caveside), leaving some locals stranded with no road access out. Landslips cut roadways at Liena, Old Gad Hill and Oliver's Road. Floodwaters, laden with tonnes of timber, caused major damage to a span of the Kimberley Railway Bridge, severing

the link across the state's North West. Repair is underway and TasRail expects the bridge to re-open by mid-July. Flood waters have also forced the closure of Marakoopa Cave, one of the district's major attractions as it sustained significant damage to its infrastructure. The cave is currently being assessed but it is too early to know when it will again open.

The Walls of Jerusalem, a favourite walking track, also remains inaccessible. Road closures in the area have resulted in a sharp drop in visitor numbers to Mole Creek, a preferred stop on the tourist route to Cradle Mountain. The raging waters caused major devastation for beef farmer Denis Durham whose property "The Den" lies on the edge of the

Mersey River, west of Mole Creek.

As well as losing ninety head of Durham Shorthorn cattle, almost half his breeders, his land was wrecked.

"It was absolutely smashed, he said. The place was carved apart." Mr Durham who estimates his losses at around \$1million is angry at being caught so unawares.

Continued on Page 12...

# In My Opinion...

#### **By Joanne Eisemann** Managing Editor

According to research, laughter is not something we have conscious control over. The impulse apparently comes from the area of the brain responsible for primal behaviours such as breathing and reflexes.

This may explain why it is hard to suppress laughter even when it may be viewed as inappropriate.

All humans laugh and most of us enjoy it.

As to what makes us laugh, I think there are as many reasons for that as there are people on the planet.

Cultural groups tend to laugh at similar things, as do friendship groups and some (but not all) families.

It's pretty difficult to find Australian humour (apart from wordplay) that does not shame, humiliate or denigrate people or animals in some way.

Standups love to get up and tell you how weird their family members are, or how ridiculous they found the behaviour of someone they met at the airport.

The ever-popular, funniest home video shows are all about someone, often children, meeting misfortune.

So when Eddie McGuire says he is willing to pay sums of money to have journalist Caroline Wilson held under icy water and calls this a joke, it seems hardly surprising.

This was a 'joke' that portrayed a clear image of violence, and one that Eddie clearly had some emotional investment in, as he went on and on making the picture more vivid with every phrase.

Yes, it is obvious to me that Eddie would never carry out such a crime; he has way too much to lose, but he does think the idea is funny. I think the question is, why?

If we, as a nation, are serious about facing our shadow with regard to violence towards women, I think addressing the language of laughter is a useful step on the way.

If we all got to it and began asking why, every time we laughed at something violent, perhaps it would go some way to reducing the amount of violence on our screens, on our streets and in our homes.

**Feasting and friendship** 

CHRISTMAS IN July was the theme for this month's Eating With Friends (EWF) program at Deloraine House.

The halls were decked and carols played in the background as everyone ate a traditional Christmas meal followed by Christmas pudding.

'We haven't had a Christmas in July before and thought it would be a bit of fun for something different,' said Chris.

Chris, Elena and Charlie are volunteers at Deloraine House who get together to cook delicious food for EWF on the first Monday of the month.

Every month they come up with new and mouth-watering meals for those who attend.

EWF is a Tasmania-wide social eating program that has been running for 15 years.

It's all about enjoying a meal, bringing people together, making friends and delighting in new experiences.

The idea came from volunteers with the Meals On Wheels program who found that a lot of people accessing their service eat alone.

Deloraine House EWF is held on the first Monday of each month.

The cost is \$5.00 for a scrumptious two course meal and the friendly conversation is free. Everyone is welcome.

The next Eating With Friends will be held on Monday 1st August.



MOVED to the area from NSW in June and I am absolutely loving it.

Letters In...

The pace of life here is just one of the great features, but it's the people who really shine.

Compared to the 'Mainland' the people of the Meander Valley are far friendlier, more relaxed, have a better

angry individual.

In essence, you people are much happier than those I left behind.

And left behind I have, for I will never be going back.

Geoff Mooney, Westbury.

TO THE very caring pet owner of a white Labrador who reverses his ute up to a sort of loading ramp at the Deloraine Racecourse, to allow his elderly dog to get out without jumping, well done.

To another very caring pet owner (red dog) who made a wooden ramp for his elderly dog to get in and out of the car – well done.

There are pet owners, then there are those who really care.

A R Trounson – Needles

THE RECENT floods and extreme weather experienced across Tasmania have devastated many in the community.

In the midst of this tragedy the spirit of the Tasmanian community has remained strong. Tasmanians are a giving people, and are always lend a hand in times willing to

unteering CREW (Community Response to Extreme Weather) on the Volunteering Tasmania website, and may be called upon to help when and if required: www.volunteeringtas.org.au Helping others is part

of the DNA of the Tasman -ian people. Guy Barnett MP

THE DEBATE around medicinal cannabis includes the huge economic benefits that can arise from cannabis growing and processing in Tasmania, as well as discussions on the State Government's announcement of the proposed Controlled Access Scheme.

With around 91% of Australian's stating support for medicinal cannabis (Rov Morgan survey Oct 2015) and businesses itching to get started, our government should immediately pave the way to allow this industry to emerge and patients to access medicinal cannabis. The proposed Controlled Access Scheme is only token gesture of support from the Tasmanian Government. Community consultation on such an important health and economic matter is vital for it to be successful. Hannah Rubenach-Quinn, St Marys



This newspaper is published by Meander Valley Online Inc 21WestParade, Deloraine7304 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 August 2016 issue is 22nd July.

#### Advertising enquiries:

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

Advertising closing date for August 2016 issue is: 18th July.

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# ADVERTISEMENT Mark Shelton MP

perspective on life and simply smile much more than what I have been used to. I am yet to meet an

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.

10A Marlborough Street Longford TAS 7301 p: (03)6324 2080

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

Liberals

of need. will be many There Tasmanians ready and willing to help those affected by the floods, providing moral support and practical assistance to their friends, families and neighbours. The next best way to help is to donate time or money to help the work of our local charities and volunteer organisations. People interested in assisting with the clean-up can register with Emergency Vol-

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# **Retro Rockers** take a twirl

Retro Rockers Rock and Roll Dancing Social Club members meet Tuesday evenings at the Italian Club in Prospect Vale. Beginners are welcome. Photo by: Mike Moores

#### **By David Claridge**

TUESDAY NIGHTS at the Italian Club in Prospect Vale are very active with the Retro Rockers Rock and Roll Dancing Social Club bopping up a storm.

From fifty to eighty people come to have fun tearing up the dance floor each week to music people from the 1960s era would recognise.

Club President, Lorraine Colson, said that the group was created thirteen years ago to teach varied aspects of dance, mainly rock and roll.

"There is no limit on age here. The oldest dancers we have are in their seventies,"

JOIN TASMANIAN LABOR

she said. "Recently, a pair of eight-year-old twin girls came through to take part in a beginner's class.

"Sometimes we get people from mainland dance clubs come and join us for the evening," Lorraine added, as they welcome other clubs to their social events.

"We usually have a theme at big functions. It gives us a chance to wear our rock and roll gear," Lorraine explained. "A lot of them are open to the public too."

There is another seven week beginners course this year running from August to September. To find out more, visit www.retrorockers.net.au

Labor 🔛

# **Toddle Inn tackles tucker**

**By Sara Fawcett** 

TODDLE INN Childcare Centre has won two awards through programs run by Life Education and Move Well Eat Well (MWEW).

It is the Tasmanian recipient of Life Education's the national Magic of Being Me Preschool competition.

This program encourages children to talk about their favourite healthy food and : helps them learn how unique they and others are.

As well as this, Toddle Inn is one of 130 Tasmanian members of MWEW - a unique Tasmanian health promotion program developed in response to international evidence that community-wide interventions in early childhood settings can reduce childhood obesity and improve young peoples' lives.

In order to achieve the award, Toddle Inn has introduced healthy eating and physical activity into their everyday routines.

One such endeavour has been the provision of age-appropriate, active play opportunities that challenge and encourage children to explore, make mistakes and test limits.

Director of Toddle Inn, Julie Purdon, was pleased with the children's responses to these award programs, saying they "were enthusiastic about discussing sometimes foods and everyday foods" and "were encouraged to draw and paint their favourite healthy food to create a display board."

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From Left: Laurie Bird 74, Mac Kettle 73, Allan Torphey 82, all of Deloraine

# Golden oldies enjoy a cuppa

#### **By Marguerite McNeill**

IT'S RUMOURED that women are the chatterboxes in this world.

We don't know who started that rumour but it was most likely a man.

On the other hand, we do know that many women enjoy a chat over a cup of tea and across the country it's a time-honoured ritual that can occur almost any hour of the day.

Well, some of our menfolk have taken note and they now reckon that catching up over a cuppa is not a bad idea.

After all, it gives them a great excuse to sit down for a nice, long chat.

And no one would be rude enough to count the hours!

In recent months the Deloraine Bowls Club has become a hot spot once a month where such a group, who call themselves 'The Golden Oldies', meet to share time.

This group of men, aged from 60 to 90 years, are practising that craft of 'tea and gossip' to great effect. Their resonant chatter would rival the best of any women's gathering.

The idea was inspired by long-term Deloraine lad Kevin (Luke) Bowles who missed the mateship of his early years and decided to do something about it.

He spread the word and soon found others who felt the same.

"I'd see people in the street I knew but didn't get to talk," Luke said.

"As you get older you don't have as many outings and there's not much chance to chat about old times."

"I asked a few others and they thought it was a great idea (to meet up)."

The idea took hold and already Golden Oldies day is

marked as a date to remember in calendars around the community and beyond.

With tea and scones served up by Deloraine's Patsy Blair, the first two morning teas each attracted almost 20 people and about half as many apologies.

Three old mates even rolled up from Devonport to join in the chatter.

While politics and other less appealing subjects are mainly left out of the equation, there is plenty of talk about the 'old times' and possibly a few rather 'tall tales'.

"You can't believe it all," one old chappie winked.

Men aged 60+ years and more are welcome to share time with other Golden Oldies who currently meet at the Deloraine Bowls Club on the first Thursday of each month at 10.00am.

There is no agenda other than to enjoy yourselves and make a \$5.00 contribution for morning tea.



how to stay in your home, seeking assistance following family violence, information and advice on housing options, and can refer people to other support services they may be in need of.

### Housing unaffordability is one of the biggest issues

An outreach service is held in Deloraine every third Tuesday of the month by Housing Connect representative and trained social worker, Chris

## MEANDER VALLEY - GET INVOLVED

# Cover up and have a ball

THE DELORAINE Bowls Club will light up on 30th July at 7.00pm with the return of the 'Masqued Ball'.

"For many years, balls and dances were centrally important to our community," reflects organisers Megan Brinsmead and Sarah Sonata.

"They were meeting places for neighbours, family, new friends and new love. Waltzes, foxtrots and folk dances brought dancers together in mutual respect, allowed young folk to get to know each other, kept older folk active, and forged a strong sense of community in regional towns."

The new millennium brings a blending of old and new. You can learn to waltz, do the 'Pride of Erin' and 'Strip the Willow' to the Deloraine Folk Orchestra in a seasonal wonderland. You can also learn a traditional Maypole dance, win a raffle or perhaps be chosen as Belle or Beau of the Ball.

# Young friends celebrate

WESTBURY COMMUNITY Health Centre is holding a 'Friendship Festival' on Friday 29th July after postponing its original schedule on 24th June.

Young people will get to build on lessons they have learnt from participating in the experiential relationship education program Drumbeat, as they have fun working together, playing drums, participating in positive team building activities with students from schools throughout the North, who have learnt similar values of Listening, Respecting, Tolerating and Cooperating.

Twelve to twenty-five yearolds and community members are invited to watch, participate in, make suggestions or ask questions about the activities and Youth Health Service from 2:30 to 5:00 pm. There may even be pizza!

Contact Nate on 6701 2156, nathan.austen@ths.tas.gov.au.

# Hook into a new craft

HAPPY HOOKERS meet at The British Hotel in Deloraine in front of a cosy fire to make textiles and hook rugs together.

The Group is mainly comprised of new residents who have used the group as a means of settling into the Meander Valley Community.

It is a way of swapping ideas and materials with a cuppa available for \$2.00.

The Happy Hookers welcome visitors any Monday morning from 10.00am.

### IN THE GARDEN WITH NELL CARR

PLANTS WHICH flower in June and July are doubly welcome to brighten up the garden on dull days. *Narcissus* are the most prolific in Meander Valley at this time of year.

Those with the orange or yellow calyx and the corolla, (the outer petals) white or yellow, began flowering in early June, the daffodils in July.

These are so ubiquitous in our district, around deserted houses, in long neglected gardens, it is hardly necessary to mention them.

Some less common plants which flower bravely in frost or rain are .-

the Japanese quince, and the red and double white varieties help to brighten the winter garden

**Vegetables.** It might be difficult to find a dry enough spot to sow some vegie seeds.

At the Western end of the Valley, the historical June record of 217mm has by 24th June been topped by 8mm, but if a dry enough patch can be found the seeds of onions and spinach may be sown, and also 2-year asparagus crowns can be planted in enriched and limed soil.





# Habitat hunt

#### By Joanne Eisemann

FINDING APPROPRIATE housing can be a big challenge for people on low incomes, especially when you consider they may already be handling problems such as homelessness, drug dependency, physical or mental health issues.

Housing Connect helps people with: applying for social housing, support and advice with private rental (including bond and rent arrears), finding a bed for the night, support and advice on (pictured).

"We see a lot of people who are on the streets but also people who are in inappropriate accommodation or have housing instability where they are staying with friends short term," explains Chris.

"Housing unaffordability is one of the biggest issues facing people on low incomes. If you are on Newstart, trying to find a property that is affordable is very difficult."

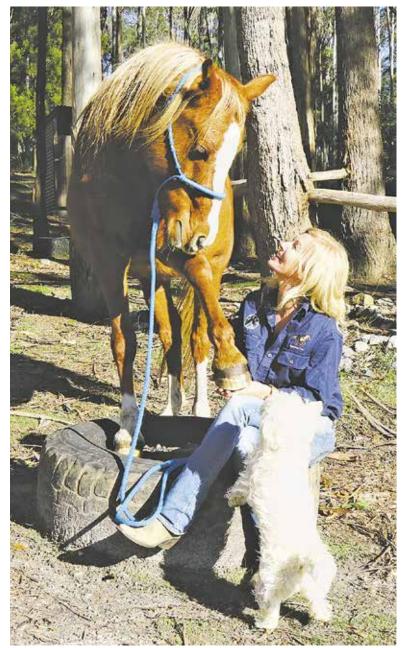
For Housing Connect appointments please phone Deloraine House on 6362 2678.

The red flowered *Cestrum* (pictured), attracts honey eaters, and flowers throughout winter.

It is reputed to be a little frost tender, so should be grown where it doesn't get the early morning winter sunshine.

*Chimonanthus praecox* is the scented Winter sweet, which is apt to be overlooked as its small flowers are in muted colours, but its strong spicy scent helps to locate the shrub in the garden.

Chaenomoles japonica is



Jen Clingly and Zamir who have completed 5000 km endurance together, barefoot. Dog, Daisy MacDuffy. Photo by: Mike Moores

# No friend of Imelda

#### By Joanne Eisemann

ZAMIR, AN eighteen year old Arab, picks his way without hesitation across a small yard covered with rocks towards his friend, Jen Clingly, co-proprietor of 'Wild About Hooves'.

I comment, "It's not your average horse-yard," Jen laughs and says "I know, everyone takes rocks out of paddocks, but if you want a horse to tackle that sort of terrain when you are out riding, you've got to provide some of that at home."

Riding barefoot became an interest for Jen in 2000. She purchased Zamir for endurance riding (an equestrian sport based on veterinary controlled long-distance races).

"He was travelling fine without shoes so I just kept riding and he had no issues," shares Jen.

At the time the sport did not allow barefoot horses to compete, so Jen either had to stop competing or lobby to have the rules changed.

She chose to lobby and, as a result, she and Zamir became the first to ride endurance barefoot, the first barefoot horse to win a ride outright (80km) and the first in Australia to complete 160km

course successfully without any hoof protection,

What started out as a quest to do her own thing has now become her life's work, regularly taking her and partner Jeremy Ford all over Australia.

Jeremy trained as a traditional farrier and worked this way for 12 years, before attending a workshop with leading American barefoot practitioner, hoof rehabilitation specialist, lecturer and author, Pete Ramey who came to Deloraine in 2005.

### A world first, Jeremy and Jen wrote an accredited 12 month training course

"It was a defining moment in his career that saw him go to study in America," says Jen and added "The biggest pathology horses face is laminitis, it's the second biggest killer of horses. He was working in the racing industry at the time and there were a lot of horses suffering. No special shoe was going to fix the problem."

"The inspiration for the barefoot movement is the wild horse. Their tough hooves and natural lifestyle provide a blueprint to improve quality of life in our domestic horses.

5

The correct trim, movement, nutrition, environment, knowledge are the keys to success."

A world first, Jeremy and Jen wrote an accredited 12 month training course in natural hoof care for practitioners, that's been running for 10 years.

They also run a busy trim practice, teach one-day Learn to Trim workshops, run adventure tours, make films, publish educational resources, design and develop trimming tools and in their spare time are both active endurance competitors.

"I love the fact that it has become so much more mainstream. When I first started I felt like a freak, people weren't shy in letting me know that I was an outcast," shares Jen.

Always eager to learn more, the two have secured another visit to Deloraine by world leader in hoof care and hoof rehabilitation, Pete Ramey.

Pete is running three, twoday workshops while in Australia - Canberra and Melbourne are already sold out.

The workshop will be held on 22nd an 23rd of October 2016 and is suitable for horse owners, farriers, hoof trimmers and veterinarians. The focus is on practical demonstrations with the latest science on the distal limb. Visit www.wildabouthooves.com. au or call Jen on 0408 838 198.

# Wood heater efficiency

THE ENVIRONMENT Protection Authority (EPA) and the Tasmanian Government, along with Clean Air Society of Australia and New Zealand (CASANZ) are hosting a workshop for air specialists, scientists, regulators and industry representatives from around Australia and New Zealand on wood smoke in the human environment this July.

The BISMITHE' Workshop is being held from 12th to 14th July in Deloraine, and a public forum is being offered in the evening on 12th July at the Deloraine Community Centre for interested members of the Meander Valley and surrounding communities.

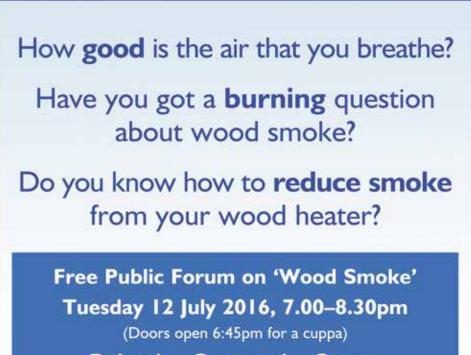
EPA Senior Air Scientist, Dr John Innis said that the Workshop is designed for experts in air monitoring, research and management, providing them with an opportunity to come together to discuss a range of issues relating to wood smoke pollution. "Wood smoke is the most significant air pollution in Tasmania," said Dr Innis. "This is the first time that we will hold a meeting in Tasmania of air specialists from around the country to discuss the issues." "The Workshop is designed with a local focus, giving

participants a taste of the wood smoke issues relating to Tasmanian communities, and also providing residents with information to assist them in reducing emissions from domestic wood heaters."

"All residents of Deloraine and the surrounding areas are warmly invited to attend the evening forum," he shared. "It will include two short talks on wood smoke followed by questions."

### Wood smoke is the most significant air pollution in Tasmania

"Weather permitting, the EPA will also showcase its mobile air monitoring station which won an Award for innovation from CASANZ in 2014 and has since been adopted by other State EPA's for mobile air quality testing," he elaborated. In addition, "the station will be taken around local areas to measure air quality and the results of wood smoke levels will be transmitted in real time back to the Community Centre for discussion." For further information contact Denice Barker, EPA Tasmania on 0427 373 342 or email denice.barker@environment.tas.gov.au.



**Deloraine Community Centre** 

Air Specialist experts from Tasmania's Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

and the Clean Air Society of Australia and New Zealand (CASANZ) will talk about wood smoke pollution, measure smoke emissions around Deloraine using the EPA's mobile air quality monitoring equipment, and transmit live data to the public forum for discussion.

Please RSVP by 12 July by texting your name and preferred mobile number and the words 'wood smoke forum' to Denice Barker on 0427 373 342, or emailing denice.barker@environment.tas.gov.au with your name, mobile number and the words 'wood smoke forum'.







Jerokee Ronan 15 and Finn Hilder 13 planting trees on Westbury Common.

# Common ground

#### **By Elizabeth Douglass**

WESTBURY TOWN Common is a popular recreation space for locals, but the area is shared with native fauna and flora needing safe habitats to thrive in.

Sitting on the natural flood plain of Quamby Brook, last month the Common was entirely underwater. Now the floodwaters are gone, Westbury Town Common Landcare Group continues to nurture and preserve a special environment for very special locals.

Di Robinson recently hosted children from the Northern Support School to help create homes for the Eastern Barred Bandicoot and the Tussock Skink. In a quiet, less-visited bend of Quamby Brook, new plantings will provide safe refuges from feral cats.

Assisted by Tom Matthews' Green Army team and Alison Hugo of NRM North, the children dug holes, then planted banksias and tussocks. The Northern Support School children also helped grow the seedlings for this and other plantings.

Di regularly invites local schools and kindergartens to environmental planting sessions, teaching kids about the local habitat and wildlife, encouraging them to get involved and fostering a sense of ownership.

With Barry the Bandicoot and Crazy Cat to show what the planting is for, the children happily got muddy in a good cause.

Sue Jacobs, from the Northern Support School, stressed how valuable it is for children with special educational needs to get out in the community and how much they enjoy different experiences.

Di explained that the educational plantings are part of a co-ordinated community effort with federal government funding and practical assistance from NRM North, Green Army (Manpower Australia) and the MV Council.

She emphasised that this network cannot function without local volunteers, but that not everyone in the local area even knows a Landcare group exists.

Now, nine years into a 20-year plan to establish the Common as a safe environment for endangered species and maintain it as flourishing recreational space, Di always welcomes helpers.

She continues to enjoy providing the next generation with the chance to get their hands dirty!



# **Birds: best flood survivors**

#### **By Sarah Lloyd**

SPIDERS HAVE an intriguing method of avoiding flood waters.

a process known In as 'ballooning', individuals release a thread of silk and are raised aloft into the atmosphere eventually to settle on vegetation.

Cobweb-covered shrubs and trees were observed around Hagley and Westbury during the recent floods. Sadly, many species of fauna are unable to escape rising waters and how they fared during and after the deluge is difficult to assess.

During strong winds and pouring rain mammals and birds seek shelter. Like us, they must eat regularly to maintain their bodies in robust health and are at risk of starvation or ill health if stormy weather persists.

Once waters recede grazing animals like pademelon and wallaby may find their food contaminated by silty flood waters; wombats, echidnas, snakes and other burrowing animals may be drowned or forced into unfamiliar territory if their burrows are inundated. Even aquatic animals like platypuses can be disadvantaged. They may be washed downstream in raging floodwaters or their burrows may

be subjected to strong flows which can scour the banks of rivers and streams leading to displacement or even death.

Birds have the advantage of being able to fly to higher ground if their territory is flooded. The species that feed on soil-dwelling invertebrates may find their food more easily once the ground dries out. This is because these invertebrates (insect larvae, worms, millipedes etc) would have retreated to moist layers deep in the soil during the prolonged drought and then migrated to nearer the surface once the soil becomes saturated.

Important habitat features such as old hollow-bearing trees are particularly vulnerable to gale-force winds especially when the soil around their roots has been softened by rain. These trees are becoming scarce and their loss threatens species such as Masked Owls and Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos that require large cavities for nesting.

The recent floods have been catastrophic for people and for fauna. If anyone has seen animals that havebeendisplacedorotherwise affected by the floods please let me know: sarahlloyd@iprimus. com.au.

# Meander artist recognised

## **By David Claridge**

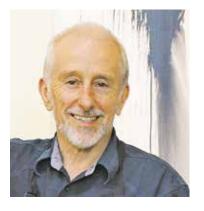
QUEEN'S Birthday THE weekend in June saw Deloraine local, Tony Smibert, appointed a Member of the Order of Australia.

This recognises his significant contributions to Aikido through a range of roles, and to the visual arts as a painter and water colourist.

As a recent commentator described it, "Smibert's affinity for Japanese culture is present throughout all his interests, and his art is deeply informed by the study in Aikido."

For more than 50 years, Tony Smibert has played a major role in establishing the Japanese defensive martial art of Aikido in Australia.

As the current president of Aiki-Kai Australia and the only



end of the year.

Mr Smibert and his wife, artist Carmel Burns, set up their studio-gallery in Deloraine over 30 years ago leading to over 50 solo exhibitions around Australia and overseas.

He's also a Visiting Researcher at Tate Gallery in London, an author and specialist in British watercolour method from 1750-1850's (particularly JMW Turner). Today, with an established international reputation for watercolour, Tony is focussing on larger acrylic abstracts towards exhibitions in Sydney, Hong Kong and Melbourne later this year.



# Australian of the Year Awards 201

NOMINATIONS CLOSE MIDNIGHT 7 AUGUST 2016 Ausofthe Year australianoftheyear.org.au

# ABC

non-Japanese member of the Senior Council of the International Aikido Federation in Japan, he teaches world-wide (May saw him leading seminars in the UAE, Belgium and St. Petersburg before travelling to Hong Kong) and he will return to London, Europe and Japan before the

# Census cafés

TWO CENSUS Cafés will be held at Deloraine House for the purpose of helping people fill in their Census forms. The Cafés will run on the 4th and 9th of August. If you would like someone to help you with the Census forms or feel you might be missed by the door knockers then come along to a Census Café. Call 6362 2678 to find out more.



# Take a walk on the wild side

#### By Chere Kenyon

MOST PEOPLE think that dogs have personality and cats are aloof creatures worshipped by ancient Egyptians. Nothing could be further

surprising, interesting and adorable animals.

from the truth.

It can be difficult to earn the trust of cats who have once been wild, dumped or abused.

But once you do, they In fact, cats can be reward you with their amazing personalities and loyalty.

On Australia Day 2012, my mom spotted a striped wild kitten running around her garden. She thought she Pictured: Tanya Rowe of Chudleigh with one of her tamed feral furbabies, Tiger Lily.

was going crazy when this kitty seemed to disappear and reappear somewhere else entirely.

She was relieved and surprised when two identical twins eventually popped out of the bushes.

## Don't imagine that you can 'walk' a cat though. It is more a case of following your cat around.

My sister Tayna and managed to catch them but they were wild little spitfires.

We named them Aussie and Tommy. Aussie became mine, and Tanya took Tommy.

Our method of training was simple. Every time we were sitting in the lounge we would hold a kitten on our lap and stroke them.

Initially, Aussie was a biter so I would hold him in a towel. Eventually he stopped biting as he learned to trust me. Gradually, he would allow me to stroke him on his legs and tummy as he slept on my lap, which has now become his favourite sleeping place.

Aussie and Tommy have such big personalities and we have now trained them to be indoor cats.

However, they still love to be outside at times so they have outdoor houses where they can enjoy the fresh air and sunshine.

We've also taught Aussie and Tommy to walk on a harness and lead. Initially both didn't like it. I'm sure Aussie believed his back legs were paralysed when we first put it on.

We found their love of being outside was the best training ground and they quickly got used to the harness when they realised that they could move around and explore the great outdoors.

Don't imagine that you can 'walk' a cat though. It is more a case of following your cat around, so it takes some patience.

Since rescuing Tommy and Aussie, my sister Tanya Rowe, has also rescued five other cats.

All have their own sad tale, including one that we picked up limp and almost dead and one that had been abused and now has a physical disability.

So if you want to adopt a cat, please consider getting a rescue.

It may take longer to bond with them, but they'll reward you amply for your time, love and patience.

Be sure to also get your cat de-sexed as that is the best line of defence to protect other animals.



beef, lamb, pork, Nichols Chicken, gourmet smallgoods, fresh seafood,



#### pies, parcels and more ...

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# Valleyviews Flood damage

Gads Hill Road (top) and Union Bridge Road

the floods

# Mayor's Message



THE LAST MONTH has cer-

ten and many photos have

been shared on the floods

of early June. Whilst there

was significant damage to

Council's assets, we recog-

Much has been writ-

tainly been a busy month.

nise that the hurt extends to members of our community. The recovery in some areas will take time; however, Council is committed to ensuring that much is done as soon as possible.

Council adopted its 2016/17 budget at the June Council meeting. Council was careful to limit any increase to CPI plus a small increase in the waste levy. Over the past three years, Council has been removing costs related specifically to waste management, which was hidden in the General Rate, to a more transparent waste levy.

Finally, I would like to congratulate 2016 Tasmanian Queen's Birthday Honours recipient, Tony Smibert AM, for being acknowledged for his community contribution as an Artist and Aikido Master. This is such a well-deserved recognition.

Craig Perkins, Mayor

# **Council Updates** Council adopts 2016-17 budget

COUNCIL HAS APPROVED a General Rate increase of 1.3% to keep pace with inflation and to support the sustainability of Council's longer term financial plan. The three year phase-in of a flat-rate waste management service charge for all properties for our tips and transfer stations is completed in 2016-2017. The increase to \$46 will see the service become selffunded.

On average, residential properties will see their annual Council bill increase within the range of around \$22 at Mole Creek to \$34 at Blackstone Heights. This includes the \$16 increase to the waste management charge.

.....

In summary, the total rates income in 2016-2017 equates to \$11.293 million, part of the total revenue of \$21.588 million. With an operating expenditure of \$18.85 million, a budget surplus of \$2.729 million is recorded. However, after adjustment for capital income items, the Underlying Operating Surplus is expected to be \$1.803 million. Funding for a capital works program amounting to \$10.297 million was approved at the May Council meeting.

Detailed copies of the 2016–2017 budget can be found at www.meander.tas. gov.au.

: Hadspen



#### Learning from bours and friends historical comparisons to previous floods. Old images, stories and even film may ONE OF THE ROLES Counhave emerged showing the cil's Planning team has is to extent of flooding during keep developing its underthese historical events. standing of the environ-Many of the flood maps ment around us and how Council's planners rely on, it impacts on the use and and the studies that genermanagement of land. The ate those maps, have their

origins in these stories and images. Council would like to hear your accounts of the impact of the flood on your land. We would like to know what was different

# **Early flood** recovery responses

1. Council's early priorities have been to assess damage, improve safety and re-establish connectivity. It has engaged professional expertise to assist with complex infrastructure failures. This will ensure full EARLY JUNE saw the worst floods to hit Tasmania in nearly a century. Key assets in Meander Valley were affected. Significantly, initial assessments show 6 bridges may need replacing at an estimated cost of \$2.5 million. Damage to a third of our road network has included pavement and shoulder erosion around waterways (bridge and culvert crossings), stripping of bitumen and asphalt seals, deep scouring of roadside drainage, and loss of gravel pavement and shoulder materials. Landslip failures have occurred on Gulf Road, Liffey, and on Old Gads Hill Road, Liena. The impact of flooding on our parks and reserves areas has included entrance road damage, waterway bank erosion, damage to footpaths, sand and gravel deposition and build-up of debris. The toll on our building assets has been minimal in comparison to other assets.

from previous floods. Did the water go to areas where it hasn't gone before?

The Planning team would welcome any information you think will help us get a better understanding of what happened on the ground. We are happy for you to send us words, pictures, film or drawings, anything you think will help us update the mapping and improve the public record.

Please send information by email to planning@mvc. tas.gov.au or by mail to Council's postal address.

- 3. Flood Relief information updates are being regularly posted on Council's website and Facebook page.
- 4. A Flood Relief information poster is being circulated in digital and hard form – available by calling 6393 5300.
- 5. Council is liaising with local service clubs to assist affected residents with small recovery tasks as required.

a natural event that we can learn from. During the recent flooding you would have heard and discussed with neigh-



recent flooding in Mean-

der Valley is an example of

# Drive carefully in winter

A Meander Valley **Community Safety** message

AS WINTER is now upon us we all need to take extra care when driving in Meander Valley and on other roads throughout the State. Winter means wet and slippery roads, often with frost and ice. The sun does not reach some sections of roads and highways, such as Travellers

Rest, until well into the day, and this can prove especially treacherous when there is ice on the road. Visibility can also be severely reduced due to fog.

In bad weather, slow down and allow extra time for your journey.

Pedestrians and cyclists can be hard to see and they are our most vulnerable road users. Cyclists should wear reflective clothing and ensure that they have both front and rear lights operating.

#### **Driving in adverse** weather conditions

- Be alert at all times and reduce your speed to match the conditions.
- Drive with headlights or park lights on at times of poor visibility.
- Increase the gap between you and the vehicle in front so that you have more time to stop if needed (at least a 4 second gap in the wet).

engineering solutions are provided that will accelerate the construction and recovery process. Council has been well-supported through by community this members in the affected areas.

2. An Emergency Evacuation Centre was established at the Deloraine Community Complex on Monday 6 June to support affected residents. Red Cross and DHHS staff assisted.

**6.** Council continues to coordinate community recovery responses to affected residents in collaboration with DHHS, recovery agencies and service clubs.

7. A waste-management free pick-up service has been established for residents of flood-affected properties. Please call Council to register.

8. Council is responding to public alerts regarding damage to roads, pathways and public spaces.

# Community News Seat treat at the Little Theatre

THANKS to the work of many willing volunteers, the Little Theatre now boasts 150 'new' seats purchased from the Princess Theatre, Launceston. This initiative has involved months of effort and ingenuity: fundraising, transporting and re-configuring the seats to best suit the needs of the facility.



It has been championed by the Deloraine Dramatic Society and Western Tiers Film Society supported by The Deloraine Community Shed and Meander Valley Council. Each seat bears a plaque honouring the generosity of a willing sponsor. A huge community effort, congratulations to everyone concerned.

# Junior Girls AFL Footy Program

THE PROSPECT HAWKS Junior Football Club has had an overwhelming response to the launch of their first ever Junior Girls football program. The Hawks have registered 38 girls aged from 9 to 12 years with 23 of those players from throughout Meander Valley.

The new 8-week program commenced with 2 introductory sessions where players were kitted up with guernseys, shorts and socks in Hawks colours and introduced to the basics of kicking, handballing and the rules of the game. The girls then gathered at Aurora Stadium on Sunday 26 June to participate in the AFL Half Time exhibition for the AFL fixture game between the ladder-topping Hawthorn and the Gold Coast Suns.

The AFL will launch their first women's national competition in early 2017 and,

in the lead up, interest in female football has surged in the last 18 months with competitions for senior, youth and juniors being formed.

The Junior Girls program has been provided by Prospect Hawks Junior Football Club and Hawthorn Football Club and the Meander Valley Council who subsidised registration fees for 10 players as part of its school holiday program.



# Meandering 2016

MEANDERING is our annual art exhibition where local artists present work based on images of Meander Valley. Council will award a \$3,000 first prize (acquisitive) and there will be seven additional prizes including a novice and encouragement award for developing artists. The 2016 theme is 'Vital Signs' and the exhibition will be held at Country Club Tasmania between 24 September and 30 October. Entry forms are now available from Council reception, website and www. artlas.org.au. The application deadline is 19 August, but works are not required until 20 September. The Meandering Art Exhibition,

now in its tenth year, is provided through a partnership between Meander Valley Council, Launceston Art Society and Country Club Tasmania.



THE MEANDER VALLEY

# **Dog Registrations**

DOG REGISTRATIONS for 2016-2017 are now due. Please register your dog before 31 July to receive a discounted rate.

Council is currently doing an audit of unregistered

dogs within the municipality. If you have a new dog that needs to be registered, please contact Council on 6393 5300 to obtain a new dog registration form, or visit Council's website.

FEES 2016-2017	REGULAR FEE	PAYMENT ON OR BEFORE 31ST JULY 2016
Domestic Dog Not Desexed	\$60.50	\$44.00
Domestic Dog Desexed	\$20.50	\$12.50
Working Dog	\$20.50	\$12.50
Greyhound	\$20.50	\$12.50
Purebred (for breeding)	\$20.50	\$12.50
Pensioners Dog (one per pension card)	\$20.50	\$12.50
Guide/Hearing Dog (on production of evidence by applicant)	Nil	Nil
Dangerous Dog	\$550.00	\$550.00
Guard Dog	\$60.50	\$44.00

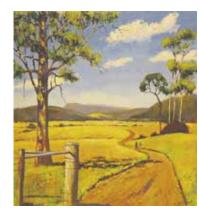
# New horizons for Greg Preece

COUNCIL'S General Manager, Greg Preece, will retire on 5 August after a career of over 30 years in local government. Greg took up his position in Meander Valley in 2005 following management roles at Dorset and Launceston Councils. Amongst his many achievements, he considers the mentoring of staff and the development of Council's award-winning health and wellbeing program as two most satisfying experiences. "I get a great deal of pleasure from helping people to develop themselves and their careers through local government. It is an area of great opportunity that is often overlooked." Greg extends his warmest wishes to all Meander Val-



ley residents and thanks them for their support throughout his tenure. He is now looking forward to more restful horizons with time to enjoy family, travel and catching up on all those interesting little jobs around home. Thanks Greg, for your dedicated service to our community.





Meandering 2015: 'Essence of the Valley' Category Winner, 'Where does it lead?' -artist David Scarborough Community Directory is an online site and a free information hub for all non-profit, voluntary–run community organisations that serve Meander Valley. Is your group there? Registration is simple, all you need is an email address to get started. Step by step registration guidelines are available from the Council website.

www.meandervalley communitydirectory. com.au

#### KK, CARD, RV, OB, CATHOLIKI, DR. 111, CARD, Phys. Rev. Lett. 19, 104 (1991).

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

<b>General Enquiries</b>	
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.



# **DNA lends drama to Diggers**

A WONDERFUL play, *Dig for the Diggers* will be presented at Deloraine High School at 6.00 pm on Saturday, 9th July.

It is based on the work being done to identify Australian soldiers who had died in the battlefields of Europe, especially at Fromelles. By matching DNA testing of their remains with presently living relatives', being mostly grandchildren, our heroes are at last recognised and their remains returned to their families and homeland.

The play has been per-

formed in Deloraine once by the Hobart-based Square Pegs before as the winning entry in the Deloraine Dramatic Society's Festival of One Act Plays, and having since been performed with great success in this festival for many years.

The play is very short, only 35 minutes, but it has amazing impact.

# John's temple of creativity

#### By Elizabeth Douglass

JOHN TEMPLE came to photography after his first successful incarnation as a farmer of angora goats.

His career in the world of wool production provided valuable experience in enabling him to create a successful business as a professional photographer.

And now, all these years later, John can stand in his Westbury gallery, surrounded by his amazingly beautiful images of Tasmania and the rest of the world.

His panoramic views show familiar townscapes as well as wilderness views that most people will never see for themselves, astonishing vistas of colour and form fixed with an artist's eye.

Behind the scenes at the gallery there is a well-coordinated workshop through which John markets his own images as well as providing a professional design and print business for other clients.

There is everything a photographer needs including a cherrypicker for those otherwise impossible vantage points! Time spent in the gallery is necessary for running a business, but after 20 years travelling the world and taking photographs, John still prefers the days when he is free to be outside, looking for landscape and light to capture through the lens.

Still using traditional film stock, John nevertheless welcomes the proliferation of digital photography rather than seeing it as an encroachment on his profession.

His optimistic view is that the sheer volume of digital photography disseminated through 'the Cloud' can produce memorably brilliant images also. And producing brilliant images will always be John's motivation for getting up in the morning.

He strongly believes that after all this time, he has still achieved only a small fraction of what he wants to photograph. The urge to be out there with his cameras remains stronger than ever.

John doesn't believe he has created his best image yet and intends to keep trying for a long time to come.

# A combined force of Celts in concert

YOU ARE invited to attend a wonderful performance bursting at the seams with pipes and drums, with the rich tones of brass and the light-footed steps of the Celtic Force Highland Dancers.

Experience the show's new look as it celebrates its 18th season on stage.

Strutting their stuff alongside the Force's dancers are the vibrant and lively Aileen Poynter Irish Dancers, who will grace the stage the at the two matinee performances.

Having for many years played a huge role with the theatrical stage in Launceston, Mrs Diane Summers' new directorship of the Force's dancers for 2016 includes Launceston Baritone Stephen Foster and local music teacher and singer, Meegan Hughes, new to this year's line-up.

They will perform along side the Force's pipe band's very own Sally-Anne Ralph.

The St Patrick's College Big Band will also make their debut at this event this year, demonstrating why they are one of the most advanced bands from the vibrant St Patrick's College Music Program. This will be one of their last performances before they head off on tour to the mainland in August. Band merchandise will also be available for sale at the event. Held at Country Club Tasmania on 23rd July, 2.00pm & 7.30pm and 24th July at 2.00pm. Tickets are on sale now through www.tixtas. com.au or phone 1300 795 257.

# **Richard Crabtree Exhibition**

ELEMENTAL ARTSPACE is pleased to announce the solo exhibition of Richard Crabtree.

His 'Recent Works' will be on show for the month of July at the Durham Gallery, 20 - 22 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine. Elemental Artspace is open

every day during July from 9:00 – 5:00 pm.

This is a free showing for all to enjoy.







Learn the **POWERFUL** art of self-defence Gain confidence, have FUN and get fit

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Deloraine High School Tuesdays 24 Lansdowne Place 6.30 pm-7.30 pm

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# Bundi, top truffle tracker

### by Lorraine Clarke

ON A CRISP sunny June morning, Mark Bowerman sets off with his most experienced truffle dog, golden Labrador Bundi, to search for hidden treasure.

Mark, along with Julie Philpott, five hunters, and a team of eager dogs hunt truffles from Sundays to Wednesdays, beginning after the frost until late afternoon. All trees are checked every week throughout the season from June till August or September.

The coveted fungus grows in

secret on the roots of inoculated oak or hazelnut trees, from about December until they reach optimum size in April.

They lie dormant till the frosts ripen them and turn them black. "They can ripen overnight if there is a cold hard frost.



Mark Bowerman inspects a newly dug truffle found by truffle tracker Bundi. Photo by: Mike Moores

A tree might produce one truffle or ten kilograms," explained Mark. Dogs can smell them as they are ripening, but truffles are only dug when the aroma is strong enough for a human to detect.

They are carefully scraped out of the soil and the dog is rewarded with a treat.

Bundi bounds about, enthusiastically revealing truffle after truffle. He is one of a team of dogs of various breeds that are used here. "I could train a chihuahua to hunt truffles, as long as it loves to retrieve a ball," said Mark.

I'd like to educate pig farmers to feed acorns to pigs. In Europe, Jamón ibérico, 'acorn ham,' is a prized delicacy, worth about \$30.00 per slice.

"So far this week, we've harvested a power of truffles. We sent out 21 mail orders yesterday and 2 big boxes to the airport, from two days' harvest. We struggle to cover all our orders."

Fresh truffles are sold all over Australia, with some international sales. Mail orders are sent Express Post, packed in ice.

The hilly 50 hectare site is one of Tasmania's largest. Rows run north south, with trees spaced at 3 by 9 metres. Mark collected and ger-

minated all the acorns, and planted the first trees in 2001.

Truffles of Tasmania grows only oaks, a mix of the deciduous Quercus robur, and the evergreen Quercus ilex, which can begin producing as early as two years after planting.

The biggest truffle found so far was 735 g.

Hunters vie for annual bonuses awarded for the largest truffle of the season, and the most truffles per year.

Mark has an idea for utilising the acorns that litter the ground in the orchard every season. "I'd like to educate pig farmers to feed acorns to pigs.

In Europe, Jamón ibérico, "acorn ham," is a prized delicacy, worth about \$30.00 per slice. 20,000 trees would produce 100 tons of acorns."

Julie spends many hours in the richly-fragrant packing room washing, grading and trimming the truffles to ensure they are of the highest quality.

An innovation is dried truffles marketed in vacuum-packed sachets that come with an elegant grinder.

The sachets last for 2 years after opening, extending the season for truffle afficionados. Another product being developed is truffle-studded risotto packs.

"We've had a lot of worldwide chef feedback. Tasmania produces some of the best truffles because of our climate, with excellent size, shape and presentation."

## Time to act on climate? **BlazeAid bridges the gap**

CLIMATE Change THE (State Action) Act 2008 (the Act) drives the Tasmanian Government's response to climate change, both in terms of emissions reduction and adaptation.

The Act requires that an independent review be undertaken every four years. The first review was completed in 2012, and the second is due to be completed this year.

The review is being undertaken by consulting firm Jacobs Australia and is looking at a number of matters, including:

• The extent to which the objects of the Act are being achieved:

• The extent to which additional legislative measures,

Jacobs has prepared a discussion paper that provides important context about the review, and asks a number of questions on how the Act might be amended to meet the challenges and opportunities climate change presents for Tasmania.

Comment is welcome on all questions raised.

The discussion paper has considered the views of those who submitted responses and attended forums during the consultation on the draft climate change action plan.

The independent reviewer is now seeking specific feedback about the future of the Act.

Submissions made in response to the discus**JUNE'S DEVASTATING** rains have left behind a massive amount of work for farmers to deal with. For instance, hundreds of kilometres of fencing need to be repaired.

BlazeAid is a volunteer-based organisation that works with families and individuals in rural Australia after

natural disasters such as fires and floods.

Working alongside the rural families, their volunteers help to rebuild fences and other structures that have been damaged or destroyed.

BlazeAid has arrived in Tasmania and will be setting up an operation in Mole Creek.

There will be a community meeting at 7.00pm on 14th July at the Mole Creek Community Hall.

To find out more about volunteering with, or receiving help from BlazeAid please come along to the meeting.

Visit ww.blazeaid.com/tasmole-creek-flood-2016, email blazeaid@gmail.com or phone the coordinator, Barry Thompson, on 0437 397 665.



if any, are considered necessary to achieve the targets set by the Act;

• The appropriateness of the 2050 emissions reduction target contained within the Act, given the target has been exceeded; and

Other legislative and policy measures that might be required for the Tasmanian Government to meet its commitments to address climate change.

To inform the review, public input is sought.

sion paper will be made publicly available online unless requested to be kept in confidence.

Download the specifications and the discussion paper for the review of the Act from the TCCO website.

Respond by 5.00pm Friday 22nd July 2016 via email to: climatechange@dpac.tas.gov. au or by mail to: Tasmanian Climate Change Office, GPO Box 123, HOBART TAS 7001. For info, call the Climate Change Office on 6232 7173.

A road without a bridge. For a few days, Lorinna was split in two by the swollen creek. Water levels have since dropped and a ford has been created as a temporary crossing. The main road into the valley, however, remains closed. Locals are using a 'ferry run' and emergency 4WD track to get in & out.

# End of the line ...From Page 1

He questioned the reason for cloud seeding in the face of the storm and why there was no warning at all. "Why was there no warning," he said. "I could have moved the cattle to higher ground. People's lives were in danger, big time."

Flooding led to some people losing road access for just a few days but others will have to wait much longer until bridges and roads are repaired. Mole Creek Online Access Centre manager, Todd Wilson, found a temporary fix to his travel problems by decamping to Deloraine from his home at Lorinna. Now, when he travels to and from work to Lorinna, his trip includes an emergency 4WD track and a trip over the Gog via Paradise.

Mole Creek publican Doug Westbrook was hard put with rising waters lapping the rear of the establishment as well as storm water gushing from across the road and through the front door. "It was like a river," he said. "Two private properties were flooded out as well."

In Deloraine, townsfolk have slept easy since the Meander Dam was completed several years ago and have experienced no major flood events for almost a decade. That changed on 6th June, when the river rose once again and burst its banks, damaging infrastructure in Deloraine and beyond to Carrick and Hadspen. Road damage also occurred at Liffey.

Meander Valley Infrastructure Services Director Dino De Paoli said that damage to Council owned infrastructure in the Meander Valley could reach \$4million, with an estimated \$2.5 million going towards bridge replacement and repairs. Council's Work Department crews are working with other bodies to repair an enormous amount of damage to roadways and make them safe.



Now in Deloraine at 3/58 Emu Bay Road 6331 5838 Also in Launceston at G1, 26 Elizabeth Street 6331 5838

# A family hive of activity

#### **By Lorraine Clarke**

MOLE CREEK is home base of renowned company, R. Stephens Tasmanian Honey.

Pre-World War One, Robert Stephens was a hobbyist beekeeper.

In 1920 he established his apiary business which has continued to grow, expand and innovate until today it produces about one third of Tasmania's annual honey from 2,400 hives.

Production varies depending on the season, with about 300 tons being harvested this year.

Two types of honey are produced. 'Golden Bee

Honey' is the clover-blackberry and ground flora type from pastures in the North and North-West of the state.

### They had to buy a lot of new equipment to replace me when I retired.

Tasmania's unique 'Golden Nectar Real Leatherwood Honey' is sourced only from the pristine West Coast areas where *Eucryphia lucida* grows.

The iconic Stephens Leatherwood Honey label has long been a guarantee of superb flavour and quality to connoisseurs who appreciate its

Third generation apiarist, Kenny Stephens, displays the full range of honeys available from the Mole Creek factory.

strong, distinctive taste.

Several trucks transport the bees between apiary sites, following the flowering season of various crops, and transfer filled supers of honey to the factory for extraction.

Stephens Honey pre-empted compulsory netting of beehive transport trucks by covering loads to prevent bees flying en route, before this was made mandatory.

In the factory, they exceeded the standards required for production of pure, organic honey by installing all stainless steel vats and machinery in advance of legislation.

Honey quality is main-

tained by warming it only to the temperature at which bees keep it in the hive, preserving essential nutrients and flavours.

Stephens have designed and fabricated their own modifications of the array of equipment needed to extract honey from frames and package it.

R. Stephens Tasmanian Honey is one of Meander Valley's success stories.

lan and Shirley Stephens carried on Robert's work, building it up into the impressive concern that it is today.

Shirley says, "They had to buy a lot of new equipment to replace me when I retired. People don't like to do everything by hand any more."

Their son, Kenny, has followed them into the business, and his son Joshua who looks after the 500 nucleus hives, is the 4th generation as they head towards a century of sweet success.

Breeding their own strain of bees is paramount.

Every spring, hundreds of new queen bees are bred, and meticulous records are kept to identify the best hives from these.

### The local market is our business. Our main aim is to keep them in honey.

Stephens Honey long ago resolved to concentrate on honey production.

Their high production is achieved by maintaining strong hives through not selling bee colonies overseas at the end of the leatherwood season as some other apiarists do.

"You need the old girls to keep the hives warm through winter," said Shirley.

Nor do they use their hives for paid pollination of agricultural crops. "You need to decide whether to be a pollinator or a honey producer.

We have the best honey production percentage of all apiaries. The local market is our business. Our main aim is to keep them in honey," she added.

A new shed is under construction beside the Mole Creek complex, which will house the trucks and empty boxes that are currently stored offsite.



Stephens Honey can be purchased directly from the Mole Creek factory, from selected outlets such as Health Food stores, the Tasmanian Honey Shop in Quadrant Mall, Salamanca Market, and from Woolworths supermarkets.

International honey sales to America, Asia, Europe and the Middle East are increasing, so the rest of the world is beginning to appreciate this unique Tasmanian delicacy.

# COMMUNITY DIRECTORY



To place a not-for-profit advertisement please phone 6286 8216

#### SPONSORED BY MEANDER VALLEY ONLINE INC



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

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

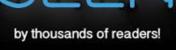


# **Events Diary**

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

Date and Time	Event	Details
Every day during July 9.00am - 5.00pm	Richard Crabtree Exhibition	Durham Gallery at Elemental Artspace 20 -22 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine. Free. For info ph Laura 0437 075 266
Saturday 9th July 7.30pm	Western Tiers Film Society	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine "Ex Machina" Rated PG Drama 108 minutes
Saturday 9th July 6.oopm	Dig for the Diggers (an award winning play)	Deloraine High School, 24 Lansdowne Pl. \$5.00 U12 - Free Bookings recommended Ph: 6232 7090
Tuesday 12th July 7.00 - 8.30pm	Free Public Forum on 'Wood Smoke'	Deloraine Community Centre, Alveston Drive. Doors open 6.45pm for a cuppa RSVP Denice 0427 373 342
Thursday 14th July 7:00pm	Blaze Aid Community Meeting Mole Creek Hall	Find out more about volunteering with, or receiving help from BlazeAid - Barry Thompson Ph: 0437 397 665
Saturday 16th July 9.00am - 1.00pm	Mole Creek Market	Mole Creek Memorial Hall \$10.00 per table – for bookings and enquiries call Leanne on 0409 713 240
Wednesday 20th July	Legal Literacy Volunteer Training program	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine Phone Beylara or Kris at LCLC on 6334 1577 for info
Thursday 21st July	Blokes Day Out	Marakoopa Cave Tour & Arm River \$15.00 To book Ph: 6362 2678 or Di Hamilton 0418 786 104
Saturday 23rd Juy 7.30pm	Western Tiers Film Society	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine 'The 100 year old Man' UK Rated M Comedy 114 mins
Saturday 23rd July 2.00pm and 7.00pm	Celtic Force	Country Club Tasmania, Prospect Vale Ph 1300 795 257 or www.tixtas.com.au Group Bookings available
Sunday 24th July 2.00pm	Celtic Force	Country Club Tasmania, Prospect Vale Tickets \$36.00 Concession \$32.00 U16 + Full Time student \$20.00
Sunday 24th July 2.00pm	Anglican Parish Organ Recital & Concert	St Marks Anglican Church, East Westbury Pl. Deloraine \$10.00 donation Afternoon Tea in Hall after
Monday 25th - 31st July	Christmas in July	The Pepperberry Café, 100 Pioneer Drv. Mole Creek \$35.00pp Bookings 6363 1399 Free champagne on arrival
Friday 29th July 9.30am - 5.00pm	MV Friendship Festival (rescheduled from June)	Rotary Pavillion, Alveston Drive, Deloraine RSVP to Nate 0427 543 365 or 6701 2156 Postponed on 24th June
Friday 29th July	Overload Exhibition	Deloraine Hospital Art Gallery, East Barrack Street, Deloraine Express interest to Sheila 0428 576 795
Saturday 30th July 7.00pm	2nd Annual Deloraine Winter Masque Ball	Deloraine Bowls Club, Bass Hwy. Prepaid Tickets \$10.00 from Elemental Artspace. Door \$12.00, \$5.00 child, \$30.00 family
Monday 1st August	Eating with Friends	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine \$5.00 12.00n00n - 2.00pm Great meal & good company
Thursday 4th August 11.00am - 2.00pm	Census Cafe	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Road. Have a cuppa and a chat while filling in the census forms
Tuesday 9th August 11.00am - 2.00pm	Census Cafe	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Road. Have a cuppa and a chat while filling in the census forms
Saturday 13th August 7.30pm	Western Tiers Film Society	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd. Deloraine "Teheran Taxi" Comedy/Doco Iran Rated M 81 mins
Tuesday 16th of August 12.00pm to 1.00pm	Reading Hour with poet Dit Briggs	Deloraine Library. A fun hour of sitting back and listening to some funny tales and having a good laugh
Wednesday 17th August 10.30am - 1.30pm	Sausage Making workshop (home-made)	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine \$10.00 Bookings essential Ph: 6362 2678
Thursday 18th August	Blokes Day Out	Inveresk Railyards, Museum & Glebe Gardens To book Ph 6362 2678 or Di Hamilton 0418 786 104
Friday 26th August	Windows on the Arts in Deloraine Entries close	Contact WOAD16 Curator, Bec Watson rebec.watson@gmail.com or Phone 0408 210 819 by 26th August
Saturday 27th August 4.30pm	Winterfire 2016 (rescheduled from 25th June)	Deloraine Showgrounds Entertainment starts 5.00pm Entry \$10.00 Adults, Children Free. To book 0428 237 078
Every Thursday 10.00am - 3.00pm	Laurel House Outreach Service	Deloraine House - Free confidential sexual assault counselling and support Ph: 6362 2678 for an appointment
Every Thursday 7.30pm	Alcoholics Anonymous	Westbury - For more information call Chris on 0437 355 401
	U8 Mini League 7 - 8 year olds	Prospect Vale Park Registration \$100.00 includes benefits. For more info Ph: Daniel Smedley on 0418 114 414





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um seating, the canteen, and toilet and shower facilities. Speakers at the launch were the President of the Senior Club, Shaun Donohue, President of the Junior Club, Tony Skipper; and Heath Butt, President of the Northern Tasmania Amateur Basketball Association. The Deputy Mayor, Michael Kelly, opened the launch and

young basket-baller, Caleb Atkins, made the first shot

in the new rings to great

applause.

# **Calling a service or retail business?**

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Photo by: Mike Moores

# SPORT

#### **By David Claridge**

A DOUBLE 'Clash of Meander Valley' was fought out with wins on both sides. The Meander Valley Suns played the Prospect Hawks in the Northern Tasmanian Football Association Division Two Seniors and Division Two Reserves in Westbury on 18th June.

The Prospect Hawks Seniors team won a nail biter by five points, kicking the winning goal on the siren, beating the Suns 13-19-97 to 14-8-92.

While the Suns got away to a 20-point lead by quarter time they fell behind by 10 points at the main break.

Poor kicking from the Hawks hampered their effort to take off and create a buffer, kicking five goals but eight behinds in the second quarter.

With a minute to go in the final quarter, the Suns hit the lead by a point. The Hawks were able to make up for it. It was the fifth time the seniors' teams faced

one another. Previously at two wins each, the

Hawks now with bragging rights. Both seniors' teams, at the time of printing, are sitting beside each other on the ladder. This season has been tough for both teams with Old season has been tough for both teams with Old season of a season of the top four all with high percentages. Kaleb Thomas starred for the Hawks, kicking

six goals, while Danny Bennett for the Suns also performed well, booting five majors. The win put the Hawks 6th on the ladder, now

above the Suns at 7th.

The Meander Valley Suns Reserves side, on the other hand, came away with a win by 27 points.

# **Beth Woods living 'legend'**

YOUNG BETH Woods of Deloraine has been kicking goals for the Deloraine 'Roos' for over thirty years.

Mrs Woods was among twenty one players and support people elevated to 'legend' status by the NTFA at a recent dinner held at Country Club Tasmania.

With her club involvement prompted by a desire for her two young boys to be involved in footy, Beth was on the committee that formed the Junior Football Club in 1983, working as treasurer, shop purchaser and shop worker. She received a Life membership in 1993.

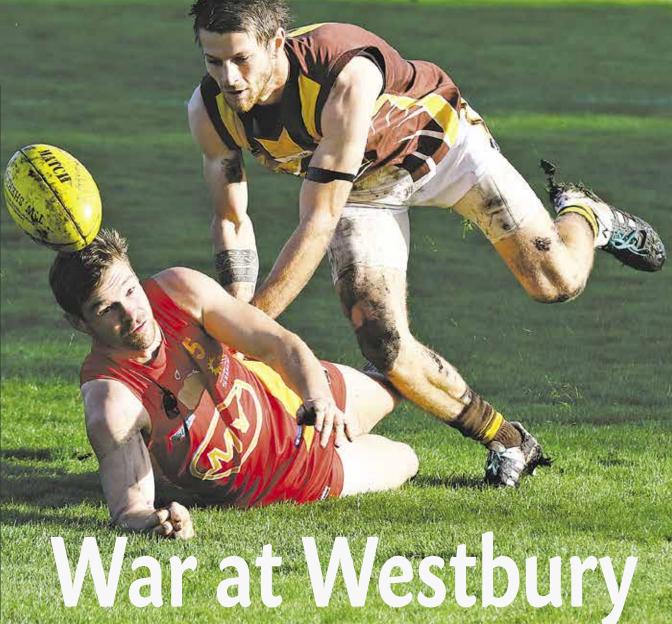
After her boys moved on

from playing, Beth joined the seniors social committee, worked in the shop, later becoming shop purchaser, treasurer and caterer for dinners and weddings. "I enjoy the friendships and helping out with fundraising and catering," explains Beth.

In 2004 she received a Life membership for the seniors club.

The club is obviously grateful for all her efforts as, apart from her 'legend' status, she received 'Volunteer of the Year' in 2015.

"I am very proud and honoured to receive this award," said Beth.



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THE NEW VIEW

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