



APPRENTICE ANGELS

Yuletide songsters gather by the river.

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MEAH'S GIFT AHEAD OF THE REST

6-year-old donates long locks for good cause

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HARVEST IN FULL SWING

Lorraine cuts hay the old fashioned way

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Meander Valley Gazette

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January 2017

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper

Well, Bless My Bonnet!



Entally House hosted a fundraising morning tea and 'Blessing of the Bonnets'. Dressing up and getting into the spirit of the occasion are L to R: Josie Johnston, 9, of Westwood, Gracie Hurst, 7, of Lilydale, Grace Ebbelaar, 8, of Bishopbourne and Lottie Johnston, 11, of Westwood. Story on page 3. Photo by: Mike Moores

Meander Valley health funding slashed

By Elizabeth Douglass

MEANDER VALLEY community health services have lost three full-time local health professionals, a social worker, a youth health and development worker, and a mental health worker under the new federal government-funded scheme administered by Primary Health Tasmania (PHT).

Meander Valley, Kentish, Tasman and

Southern Midlands communities have all lost funding for their current preventative health services beyond December 2016.

Local communities, their council representatives and local federal opposition members are all outraged at the services that will be lost.

A press release from PHT on 20th December 2016 can be found on their website (www.primaryhealthtas.com.au).

It lists the five successful tenders from a field of 40 applicants — The Royal Flying Doctors Service, Diabetes Tasmania, Rural Health Tasmania, Huon Regional Care and Corumbene Care.

The release shows the complete list of local government areas serviced by the new providers and the chronic conditions they will target. Most services commence in January.

Cuts to existing community health services are not listed.

No existing community health care providers were successful in tendering.

Diabetes Tasmania, a charity already active throughout Tasmania, is the only service provider listed for the Meander Valley, despite Westbury Health and Westbury Community Health Centre both submitting tenders.

The new services address the dire need for chronic ill-health management in rural Tasmania and will 'target conditions identified by local communities as priorities' (PHT press release, December 2016).

Meander Valley Mayor, Craig Perkins, in a 21st December media statement, points out that "discussions concerning the 'service gaps' will only be with communities that PHT

determine are high in chronic need."

As only Kentish and Glamorgan/Spring Bay are described thus in the PHT press release, it follows that Meander Valley will not have any service gaps addressed.

Many axed programs focused on preventative strategies for chronic illnesses, also tackling issues such as poor mental health and social isolation.

Continued on Page 6...

In My Opinion...

By Joanne Eisemann
Managing Editor

THREE DAYS before Christmas it was announced that Meander Valley and Kentish Council areas have lost \$700,000 of funding to their community health programs.

That's a blow to local economies, let alone the many positive health benefits the programs brought to our communities.

Isn't this silly, taking money from preventative health and putting it into chronic health? If we don't learn how to live a healthy life, it seems to me that the money needed to address chronic health problems is only going to increase. Surely it makes more sense to address the issue from both perspectives?

Quantifying the benefits of community health programs is a tricky issue. How do you count the number of people that didn't become unwell as a result of attending a course in mindfulness say, the number of people that changed their behaviour because they learnt something new from chatting with someone who attended

one of these programs, or the number of young people who changed their life by attending a timely youth initiative?

When the Chinese Communist Party came to power in 1949 they implemented a program of community health workers known as 'barefoot doctors' to provide basic public and personal health services to villages. They were paid according to how many people were healthy in their service area rather than the number of people they treated. This system was in place for 35 years with some remarkable results.

Although at first it does seem difficult to apply this idea to our complicated and cumbersome health system, the idea does deserve some contemplation. What if we found a way for medical establishment to be more concerned with people's health rather than their disease? That way, the public may think more about how to be well rather than placing undue pressure on their own bodies and the healthcare system due to the onset of what could have been a preventable chronic disease?

Letters In...

ONCE AGAIN Judy & Graham McKenzie have pulled off their annual miracle!

Each year they are assisted by a devoted team of volunteers who welcome guests into the decorated Uniting Church hall, as Christ is put back into 'Christmas' in the form of carols, provided by musicians, and a choir.

People who would otherwise be eating their Christmas meal alone: due to families either overseas or interstate, or anyone who may otherwise feel very lonely on this special day, recall Christmases embedded in their memories of fun times past.

Each year guests are served a generous piping hot roast meal, followed by fruit

salad & icecream, or pudding with trimmings.

Congratulations Judy & Graham for bringing out the best in Deloraine's community spirit once again.

Judith-Anne Tahir, Deloraine

The 2017 Diabetes Tasmania Pollie Pedal is scheduled for Friday 3rd, Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th March 2017. You can ride on all 3 days or just one or two.

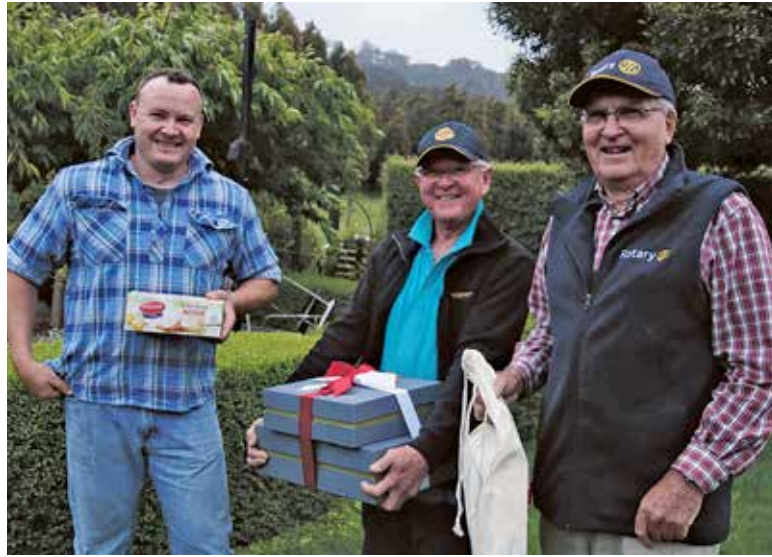
Since 2006, Diabetes Tasmania with my support as Senator for Tasmania and now as a State Minister, has raised over \$500,000 and cycled over 3,000 kilometres to support Tasmanians with diabetes, their families and those at risk. Having Type 1 diabetes

Christmas spirit visits Liena

ON SATURDAY 17th December, the Rotary Club of Deloraine working with the Rotary Australia Benevolent Society Flood Appeal delivered Christmas hampers to residents living in Liena affected by the floods.

In June this year, the bridge at Liena was destroyed by floods resulting in families living on the 'Gads Hill' side of the river being forced to drive on very rough roads and through farms to access shops, schools and work.

Duncan How of Liena, receives a Christmas hamper from Rotarians Bill Muldoon, centre, and John Dare, right. Photo supplied.



This has resulted in the small village feeling very isolated. A new bridge was promised by Christmas but the residents are still waiting. A ford has been built across the river recently providing Rotarians with easier access for delivery. Locals were overcome with emotion when they received their Christmas hamper.

During this festive season it was a wonderful opportunity to show the fourteen families that they had not been forgotten.

since January 1997 and as Diabetes Australia Ambassador, I am thrilled to continue the charge to help other Tasmanians with diabetes.

I encourage everyone to get behind this fantastic initiative and help support people living with diabetes.

For further information on the ride including rider registration details, see www.guybarnett.com.au or contact Diabetes Tasmania on 1300 136 588.

Guy Barnett,
Liberal Member for Lyons

THE THREAT to Tasmania of the Asian tiger mosquito.

The Asian tiger mosquito carries the major human pathogens dengue, yellow fever, chikungunya and Zika.

An infectious bite can transfer any of these closely related viruses to a person, causing feverish illness, typically characterised by flu-like symptoms, but sometimes more significant manifestations.

It lives around homes, feeds during daylight and prefers to bite humans. Currently, it is endemic across the Torres Strait from northern Queensland, a narrow gap of 150 Km. It is a question of not if but when this mosquito lands on our shores.

Of real concern, it can tolerate cooler climates than its 'sister', the yellow fever mosquito, which transmits sporadic, local outbreaks of dengue in our tropical north. While this species may expand slowly south due to global warming,

once the 'tiger' arrives it could spread rapidly to more southern states, even bridging the Bass Strait to reach northern Tasmania. Such is its ability to withstand cold, its eggs and larvae might also survive the Launceston winter, so enabling year round transmission.

While there is no need for immediate alarm, I urge increased awareness among individuals and communities in regions not historically affected by mosquito-transmitted viruses, such as the Meander Valley, and call for state and federal authorities to review public health strategies to provide for such an impending threat.

Prof. Andrew Taylor-Robinson
Infectious Diseases Research Group, Central Qld University

I URGE the Meander Valley Council to remove/cull the huge number of wild ducks along the Meander River in Deloraine. The males out-number the females ten-to-one and are gang raping them. Come on ladies (readers) support my letter with a quick phone call to the MVC.

The town folk feed the ducks and native swans that have become human friendly, much to their demise with some dog owners allowing their dogs to attack, injure and maim them. That's cruel, with some native swans now left wingless and unable to fly. Humanely cull the drakes and protect the native birds please.

A.R. Trounson, Needles

EST. 2013

Meander Valley Gazette

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Cold carolling in Deloraine

Just before Christmas, over 200 people attended the Deloraine Combined Christian Churches Carol Service by the river and were greeted with weather more suited to a northern hemisphere Christmas. Aside from the odd angel, people were attired in blankets and beanies as they sang their favourite carols. Photo by: Mike Moores

Well, Bless My Bonnet!

Continued from Photo on Page 1...
By Heather Summers

HADSPEN'S ENTALLY House held a fundraising morning tea recently. The event included the 'Roses From the Heart' Memorial, a symbolic tribute of cloth bonnets commemorating the lives of female convicts.

The blessing of the bonnets was conducted by Reverend Jo Pyecroft of the Anglican Parish of Quamby.

Of significance to the occasion was a bonnet tribute in memory of Mary Reibey,

created by relative Joyce Mackey, renowned lacemaker and Curator of Costumes at Narryna Heritage Museum. This beautiful lace bonnet will remain on permanent display at Entally House.

Mary Reibey was mother of Thomas Haydock Reibey who established Entally House in 1819. The historic homestead and its outbuildings, including the Chapel, were built by convict labour. Her grandson went on to become Premier of Tasmania later that century, indicating the new life that could be built by families of those

who had been transported. Many of these opportunities would not have been available to them in their homeland.

It was through Joyce that Tasmanian artist Christina Henri initially gained access to the Museum's Costume Collection, and first engaged with christening bonnets and later colonial bonnets. These inspired the choice of cloth bonnets as symbols of Australia's female convicts and their children.

The bonnets have gone on to receive international recognition. Christina

recently returned from Ireland, having exhibited the bonnets in county Derry. She will return in March to Dublin, hosting an event remembering the lives of women who spent time at Grangegorman Female Depot

before being transported. If you would like to know more about the 'Roses From the Heart' project, or contribute your bonnet-making skills, you can contact Christina through the Roses From the Heart page on Facebook.

Westbury market

The monthly market at Westbury has been running for well over 20 years and is held on the third Saturday of each month from 8.00am to 1.00pm.

The next markets are to be held on 21st January and 18th February. The market is held at Lonsdale Promenade, St. Andrew's Anglican Church.

There is a café inside the hall and a BBQ which starts cooking breakfast early. The Market likes to think of itself as the friendliest little market in Tasmania.

More stall holders are welcome. Contact Rob on 0417 931 619 or email robert.menzies7@bigpond.com.

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Photo by: Mike Moores



Generous Meah Steer, 6, of Westbury, donated her long locks to help make wigs for kids undergoing chemotherapy.

Meah shares her hair

By Heather Summers

THERE ARE people who have used the carbon in their hair to make diamonds. More disturbingly, in the past, hair has served as a

raising agent in bread.

When six year old Meah Steer of Westbury had her hair cut in December, she decided on a much better use.

Donating her hair to

children's charity Variety, it will be used to make wigs for kids undergoing chemotherapy.

Meah first heard about the possibility of hair donation when seeing a child who had undergone treatment on the internet, with her Mum, Debbie. "She's always had long hair," said Debbie, "and has never wanted it cut before now." But after seeing the need, Meah decided to do it.

As well as providing the raw material for the wigs, Meah has raised over a thousand dollars for the charity. And Meah's message for those who will benefit from her gift? "I hope you like it!"

Never having had her hair cut, it was quite long, but still needed to grow some more before cutting to the required length of 35 centimetres.

But last month, with Meah's family looking on, hairdresser Pip was able to follow the specifications provided by Variety in order to make the special bundles of hair.

As well as providing the raw material for the wigs, Meah has raised over a thousand dollars for the charity. And Meah's message for those who will benefit from her gift? "I hope you like it!"

MEANDER VALLEY - GET INVOLVED

Valley venue for vet cars

MEANDER VALLEY is the place to be on the 4th and 5th of February if you are a fan of old cars. The Veteran Car Club of Australia (Tasmania) will hold its annual Peter Waddle memorial tour for cars built prior to 1919.

Cars will be on public view at the Deloraine train park from about 9.30am leaving at 10.00 on Saturday morning, at Steamworld Westbury from about 1.00 till 2.00 on the same afternoon, and at

the Chudleigh show grounds from approximately 11.30 am to 12.30 pm on Sunday.

The club's tour is an annual event held in different areas of the state, featuring club eligible cars either of a particular age group or of any age up to the cut off date of thirty years. This year's entries include T model Fords, Overlands, Hupmobile, Itala, Berliet and Hillmans.

Contact Joe Clippingdale, for more info on 6396 1144.

Fruit and nuts for free

DELORAINÉ HOUSE is helping connect fruit and nut tree owners with volunteer pickers and everyone gets a share of the harvest. This will be done through their new project called Harvest Helpers.

Each year in the Meander Valley region, a lot of fruit and nuts drop from trees and rot on the ground, due to people being unable to harvest their trees. The project will work by people registering their fruit or nut trees through Deloraine House, then calling a harvest coordinator when their fruit or nuts are ready to be picked. A group of volunteers will then come in and pick the produce.

One third of the produce will be offered to the volun-

teer harvesters, one third will be offered to the fruit tree owners, and one third will go back into the project to be used through the community.

A small group of volunteers is ready to go, however many more hands are needed to make this project work. By being a harvest volunteer you get to help your community, share in the harvest, learn new skills, meet new people, get fresh air and sunshine, participate in preserving workshops and community dinners, and help create a quiet revolution in people's backyards.

To register your trees for harvesting or to volunteer, please contact Deloraine House on 6362 2678 or Catherine Smith on 0427 509 409.

Money for Youth Week

GRANTS OF up to \$2000 are available to organisations wanting to develop projects or activities to mark National Youth Week 2017.

"The 2017 Grants Program is open until 20 January 2017," Liberal Lyons MHA

Mark Shelton said.

"There are also three grants of \$5,000 for partner organisations in the region."

Mark Shelton's office would be happy to assist. Go to www.nationalyouthweek.tas.gov.au for information.

IN THE GARDEN WITH NELL CARR

SOME GROUND covers become invasive pests. The common Deadnettle, (*Lamium galeobdolin*) is one such. After it is thought to have been eradicated, a single opportunistic stem has been detected ready to begin a new and vigorous invasion to overwhelm smaller plants in moist shady sites.

There are however some species of *Lamium* that make very decorative non-invasive ground covers, and grow well in either deep or partial shade.

Lamium maculatum 'roseum' (pictured) has mauve tubular flowers, *L.album* has flowers of the purest white. Both have white stripes down the centres of the leaves, so are decorative even when not flowering. *Lamium* "White Nancy" is perhaps the most striking variety as it has silver foliage with green edges and pure white flowers.

Broad Beans. These are apt to mature all at once even if sown in different Autumn months. It is best to harvest them before they get too mature, when the skins become tough.

This avoids the labour of skinning them after cooking. Surplus beans are easily frozen and are welcome over the greater part of the year when they are not available fresh.



Going to Uni for the first time in 2017?

Scholarship now open.

Applications are invited from eligible students in the local district attending university for the first time in 2017.

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Raising the dust at Red Hills

A mini modified tractor raises the dust at Red Hills. More than 700 people attended the Tractor Pull event, with a strong contingent of Victorian Super Modifieds in these strongly contested events. Near perfect weather saw the two day event receive a significant boost in attendance figures from last year. Due to the excellent venue and friendly reception, Victorian entries are set to triple at next year's event and, in a new development, prize money will be on offer. Photo by: Mike Moores

Library fosters creative writing

By Heather Summers
WESTBURY LIBRARY recently hosted a creative writing workshop, taught by Tasmanian author Robyn Friend. In fact, it was so well attended that it was moved to the fire station for the extra space. A broad age range and diverse skill sets were represented by those taking part, with a vibrant, productive atmosphere. The aim was to encourage new and aspiring writers, expanding their knowledge of the craft, and enabling them to engage readers. Made possible by a grant from Meander Valley Council's community fund, the workshop grew out of a previous author visit from Deborah Benson. Interest was consolidated after a day-class for those wishing to learn how to generate content for blogging. Different motivations prompted those attending, from a desire to develop in writing fiction, to recording

family history for posterity. Janette Mitchelson, a familiar face behind the desk in the Westbury branch, also took part in the workshop. "It was a lot of fun," she said, "input from the others was fantastic... there were a variety of abilities there, from complete beginners to those who have done more." She noted that Robyn gave great advice for people wanting to write up their family history without it becoming boring, turning it into more of a narrative, rather than just following a timeline. The workshop generated a lot of positive feedback. As one participant commented, "It's great to have a local library that not only has books, but is also a community hub for learning and development." For more information on upcoming author visits and workshops, or January's school holiday program for kids, visit Westbury LINC, or phone 6393 1439.

Can barter break the banks?

By David Claridge
"WE LIVE in a troubled world. Through money and capitalism we have created a huge disparity in power and wealth, as well as devastation to the environment through pollution," said Catherine Smith, host of a sustainable fun day held in Deloraine in late November.

We can swap things and even skills and labour, without resorting to money

The fun day, at Deloraine Train Park, was created by amateur film makers Katarina Jade, Angeline Drury and Catherine Smith to provide local change-makers and the community to share food and local knowledge on creating sustainable lifestyles. People that went to the event got to participate in family-friendly games, a plant and produce swap as well as a competition

Never, Not Ever

TEEN CHALLENGE Tasmania headed a 'Not Even Once' Drug Demand Reduction Program at Deloraine High School last month. The organisation recently delivered the program to High Schools in the Hawkesbury region of NSW at the invitation of regional Police, and commenced the program in Tasmania in November, with encouraging results so far. "It is important to educate our future generations to make healthier decisions for their lives," said Teen Challenge CEO, Tanya Cavanagh. The Teen Challenge team has also been busy improving their new facility in Meander, 'House of Hope'. A community working bee, involving local volunteers and Deloraine Rotary Club was held to help bring the grounds and garden into order. A morning tea and BBQ lunch was shared by the 50 plus people who lent a hand.

that judged the 'best sustainable dish'. "I was inspired by the Community Exchange Network Tasmania's ability to create a system where we can swap things and even skills and labour, without resorting to money," Katarina Jade explained. The filmmaker trio are working on a web-series called Breaking the Money Monopoly that will showcase Tasmanian initiatives that support money-free resource exchanges and lifestyle advice that can help people break out of the gaol that the rising cost of living can become. "For me, breaking the money monopoly is about our communities supporting each other to have enough to thrive, not just survive," said Angeline Drury, director of the series. For more information, visit <http://breakingthemonopoly.weebly.com>.

Hon Rene Hidding MP
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Community garden needs helping hands



L to R: Ray Harvey of Caveside, Carol Turner and John Parkin of Deloraine, tending the artichokes in the community garden.

ON A beautiful summer's day there is nothing quite like getting out in the veggie patch and no better place to do that than the Deloraine community garden.

Run by Deloraine House volunteers, it has a pizza oven as well as a number of lovely shady seats to sit and enjoy some freshly picked produce.

Welcoming everyone, no

matter your age or gardening experience, its group of volunteers meet there twice a week throughout the harvest season to weed, plant, harvest, chat and get some fresh air.

"I have always loved gardening. And I love the look and feel of the community garden, it is therapeutic," said Elena Olah, one garden volunteer.

"Celery, gooseberries, white

onions, potatoes, artichokes and rhubarb are just a few of the fruit and veggies we are growing in the garden," says Ray Harvey, another volunteer doing amazing work there.

The volunteers make this a great opportunity for anyone wanting to learn more about growing fresh organic produce or for those without the room in their backyard for a veggie patch. So, if you are like Ray or Elena and can offer either your expertise or love of gardening, the Community Garden welcomes you.

I love the look and feel of the community garden, it is therapeutic.

Given its large space, with many garden beds, more hands are needed to keep the weeds down and harvest the crops. Getting involved for as little as once a week can see you not only getting a share of its seasonal fresh organic produce, but also the added benefits of being out in the fresh air while making friends and having a wonderful time.

With fresh new faces joining the volunteer group and lots of exciting gardening projects happening this year, it is a great time to jump on board.

For more information please call Deloraine House on 6362 2678.

Meander Valley health funding slashed

By Elizabeth Douglass

Continued from Page 1...

Chronic conditions such as arthritis, cancer, dementia, diabetes, heart disease and lung disease are now targeted, with the consequent shift away from youth-oriented issues.

Dinah Fitzgerald of Westbury Health has commented that the new system can be also construed as a move away from preventative health, because results are more difficult to quantify.

For example, Meander Valley/West Tamar had the lowest age-standardised rate of heart disease mortality

in the state from 2009–2012 (Heart Foundation Australian heart disease statistics 2015, published 2016). Current community preventative health services may have directly contributed to this, but statistical information is unavailable.

As reported by The Mercury earlier in December, Health Minister Michael Ferguson believes the PHT tender process short-changed regional communities, and he called on the Federal Health Minister Susan Ley to intervene.

Mayor Craig Perkins also expressed his disappointment: "...it is difficult to

understand how good health outcomes can be achieved from this approach."

Federal Labor member for Lyons, Brian Mitchell, criticises the federal government's 'top-down approach' and backs suggestions from Meander Valley and Kentish

communities that existing services be retained for at least 6 months, so that old and new services can be compared to identify gaps, duplications and efficacy of service.

Meander Valley Councillor Bob Richardson has com-

mented that the loss of federal government funding to aged care services, may have affected the decisions to redirect local health funding.

He also suggests that 'service gaps' could be best filled by existing local community health organisations re-tendering, rather than by PHT offering the new, as yet-unproven, service providers the opportunity to extend.

BACKGROUND

June 2015 – Primary Health Tasmania is the new state-wide organisation for 'primary care-focused health, supporting general practice and other community-based providers to deliver the best possible care for Tasmanians' (PHT website, June 2015).

April 2016 – Tasmania received \$54 million as a three-year funding boost to health from the federal government.

June 2016 – Primary Health Tasmania begins consultation with rural communities and local community health groups.

June 2016 – The federal government announces cuts to aged care funding by \$1.2 billion over four years in the 2016–17 budget.

September 2016 – PHT calls for tenders for services to 'improve the health of people living with chronic conditions in rural areas'.

December 2016 – PHT announces the organisations that will deliver rural health services across 21 local government areas in Tasmania from January 2017.

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650 Woolmers Lane, Longford, TAS 7301. Phone: (03) 6391 2230.
Open 9.30am to 4.00pm, 7 days a week. woolmers.com.au

Brickendon Estate
236 Wellington Street, Longford, TAS 7301. Phone: (03) 6391 1383.
Open 9.30am to 5pm, October to mid-May, 9.30am to 4pm, mid-May to September. brickendon.com.au

Fitzpatrick's Inn
56 Meander Valley Road Westbury TAS 7303. Ph: 6393 1153
Accommodation, Meals, Bar.

Quamby Estate
1145 Westwood Road, Hagley, TAS 7292. Phone: (03) 6392 2135.
Accommodation, not open to public.

Entally House
782 Meander Valley Road, Hadspen, TAS, 7290. Phone: (03) 6393 3200.
Open 10am to 4pm, Thursday to Monday only. entally.com.au

Family & Commercial Inn
(part of Deloraine Folk Museum)
Circa 1865, 98 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine. Ph: 6362 5280. Open 9.00am - 5.00pm 7 days a week. Facebook: Deloraine and Districts Folk Museum.

Hawthorn Villa Stables
1 Church Street, Carrick, TAS 7291. Phone: (03) 6393 6150.
Accommodation, Gardens not open to general public. hawthornvilla.com.au

Hazelbrae
127 Hagley Station Lane, Hagley, TAS 7292. Phone: 0438 506 988.
Open daily, 10.00am to 4.00pm. hazelbrae.com.au

Culzean Gardens
1 William Street, Westbury, TAS 7303. Phone: 6393 2648.
Private functions, not open to public.

Villaret
789 Railton Road, Kimberley, TAS 7304. Phone: (03) 6368 1214.
Closed Mondays and Fridays. villaret.com.au

Wychwood
80 Den Road, Mole Creek, TAS 7304. Phone: (03) 6363 1210.
Open Friday to Monday, 10.00am to 4.00pm (October to April inclusive).

Marakooa Cafe & Garden
186 Mayberry Road, Mayberry, TAS 7304. Phone: (03) 6363 5033.
Open Sundays, 11.00am to 4.00pm.

VALLEY VIEWS



Mayor's Message

Photo: Mike Moores

Above: Rosie Chugg of Westwood and Mayor Craig Perkins enjoy morning tea at the Blessing of the Bonnets at Entally House.

As we head into the new year, I hope all of you had an enjoyable Christmas break and are now ready for 2017.

Late last year I had the pleasure of attending the Blessing of the Bonnets at Entally House. This morning tea fundraiser recognises the significant contributions made by female convicts and their children to settlements in Tasmania and throughout Australia.

Thousands of women were transported to Australia and their labour helped shape our State. Providing a connection to the past, the aim of the Blessing of the Bonnets project is to engage with communities by making twenty six thousand bonnets to honour the female convicts and their children. By all accounts, there is not too far to go!

As Australia Day approaches, Council will be holding celebrations on Wednesday, 25 January at Country Club Tasmania from 6pm to 8pm. The event will include entertainment and the presentation of Australia Day Awards. I would like to invite you all to come and enjoy an evening of celebration. Seating is limited, so please contact Council if you wish to attend.

If you cannot make this event, there are a number of other Australia Day celebrations happening throughout the municipal area. Breakfasts will be held at the Westbury

RSL Club and the Chudleigh Hall on the 26 January. For the thrill-seekers, the Harveydale Rodeo will also be on again this year.

One of Tasmania's oldest running agricultural shows, the Chudleigh Show, will be held again on the 18 February. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience a traditional rural show and promises to be a great day out for the whole family.

For those of you who prefer four cylinders to four legs, don't miss the Deloraine Street Car Show, which will be held on the 19 February in the main street. Now in it's second year, the event includes live bands, a jumping castle and a myriad of beautifully maintained classic and custom vehicles.

As we are well into summer, I encourage you all to review your bushfire preparedness plans and assess your properties to ensure that vegetation, with the potential to fuel a fire, is well under control.

Visit Council's website for tips on managing pets during a bushfire and for useful links to information on bushfire survival plans, readiness and contacts for the Tasmania Fire Service.

As we embark on 2017, I would like to send you all my best wishes for the year ahead and, fingers crossed, this year the weather will be kinder to us.

Mayor, Craig Perkins



Council takes proactive approach to emergency management

Meander Valley Council's Recreation Co-ordinator, Daniel Smedley, and Facility Officer, Shelley Cole, along with Westbury Community Health Centre manager, Annette Barrett, and community volunteer, Angela Enright, recently completed a one-day training course in Evacuation Centre establishment and management.

Conducted at the University of Tasmania by Red Cross Emergency Services, the training program considered the establishment, management and operation of evacuation centres and was developed based on international best practices and aligned with the Tasmanian Emergency Management Plan (TEMP 8).



January School Holiday Programs

Wednesday 18 January

Paddle Safe Kayaking Free Session (11-18yrs)

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

Two Paddle Safe Programs will take place on the Meander River in Deloraine (near the swimming pool) on Wednesday 18 January 2017.

Session 1, from 2pm for 11-18 years olds and Session 2 from 4.30pm which is open-age. (Younger children may participate in this

Meander Valley Council supported the attendees to undertake the training so as to build the human resource capacity of the Council in the event that there is a need to establish and manage evacuation centres in the future.

In 2016 the Council twice established evacuation centres in January as fires raged in the western districts and then again in June in response to the flood emergency throughout Tasmania. The four attendees were involved in the establishment and management of those centres and this was a particularly useful experience to take along to the course.

Above: Shelley Cole, Angela Enright, Daniel Smedley and Annette Barrett undertake training with Eleanor Carter.

session with parental supervision). A limited number of boats, paddles and jackets will be available however, please bring your own boat and life jacket if you have them. Sessions are provided through a partnership between Marine and Safety Tasmania, Meander Valley Council and Surf Life Saving Tasmania.

To register, call MAST on 6235 8829.

Friday 20 January

Midnight Basketball Free Session (12-18yrs)

Westbury Sports Centre from 7pm to 12am. Barbecue at 7pm followed by 3v3 round robin. Open to all skill levels and abilities. Any young people who would like a game are welcome to register. This session is run in partnership with the Deloraine Junior Basketball Association.

Contact Vicki Jordan 0400 155 690 or email vicki.jordan@mvc.tas.gov.au or Ruth Saltmarsh 0417 158 009 or email ruthsaltmarsh2@bigpond.com



Celebrate Australia Day in Meander Valley

25 January

Country Club Tasmania
Country Club Avenue
Prospect Vale
Presentation of Australia Day Awards and entertainment from 6pm to 8pm. Seating is limited, so please contact Merrilyn on 6393 5317 if you wish to attend.

Australia Day Breakfast
26 January

Westbury RSL Club
7 Lonsdale Promenade
Breakfast from 7.30am.
\$12 per person, \$25 per family. Proceeds to support the New Horizons Club Inc.

Chudleigh Hall
Sorell Street
Breakfast from 8am.
\$15 per person, children under 10 years are free. Proceeds to support the Chudleigh Hall.

Tuesday 24 January

Basketball Skills plus 3v3 Slamboree Free Session (Grades 2-7)

All players are welcome regardless of skill level at the Deloraine Community Complex. Grades 2-3 from 10am-12.30pm, Grades 4-7 from 1pm - 4.30pm. All grades are invited to join us for the barbecue lunch at 12.30pm. This session is run in partnership with the Deloraine Junior Basketball Association.

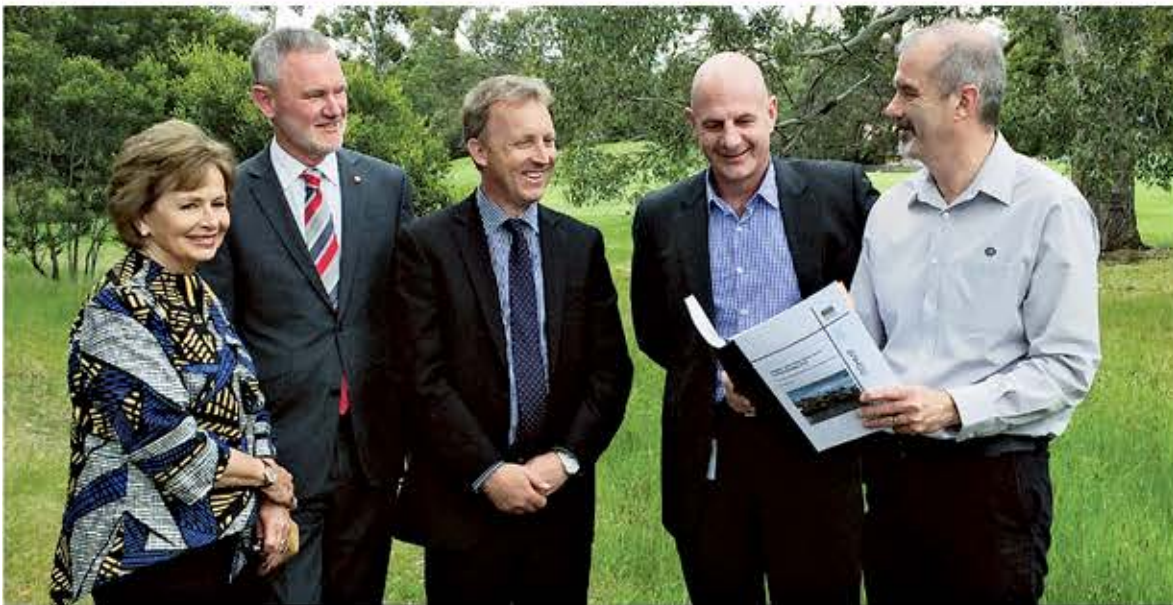
Contact Vicki Jordan 0400 155 690 or email vicki.jordan@mvc.tas.gov.au or Ruth Saltmarsh 0417 158 009 or email ruthsaltmarsh2@bigpond.com

Tuesday 31 January

The Art of Preserving \$10pp (11-18yrs)

Learn about preserving fruit and vegetables and save surplus produce this summer. Take a jar of preserved fruit home. Two-hour session at the Deloraine Trade Training Centre, limited spaces.

Contact Vicki Jordan 0400 155 690 or email: vicki.jordan@mvc.tas.gov.au



Above: West Tamar Mayor, Christina Holmdahl, City of Launceston Mayor, Albert van Zetten, Meander Valley Council Mayor, Craig Perkins, Treasurer, Peter Gutwein and Launceston Salinity Action Group Chair, Stuart Brownlea.

Collaborative approach leads to successful strategy

A collaborative approach has seen the successful development of a strategy that facilitates salinity management in the municipal area.

Meander Valley Council, City of Launceston and West Tamar Council have all contributed equally to the project that has been five years in the making.

The Greater Launceston Area Urban Salinity Strategy 2016 is set to be an invaluable reference and toolkit for both land and infrastructure managers that

before now, had difficulty quantifying the levels of risk associated with salinity.

The project was managed by the Launceston Salinity Action Group. Chair, Stuart Brownlea has described the new strategy as "evolutionary".

Whilst there had been isolated attempts to gain understanding of salinity contributors previously, the new strategy outlines accurate landscape models.

These enable a deeper and broader understanding of

affected areas and the management options available.

The Strategy puts science to work, exposing those factors below ground that predispose some locations to a heightened risk of salinity.

Salinity can have a long term adverse affect on infrastructure so training and advising professionals will be the next step forward.

Learning to identify the risks will allow those in the industry to consistently manage salinity hazards when assessing landscape impacts.



Repairs on track at the Deloraine Football Club

After the 2016 June flood, the Deloraine Football Club's function room floor was less than impressive with a significant amount of water damage being sustained.

Council and the Club have worked hard to repair the damage and the function room floor has been sanded and completely resealed.

Patrons will be able to utilise the facility early this year when the function room re-opens to the public.

Bushfire Season - a pet owners guide

If you live near bush or grassland your bushfire survival plan should include your pets.

Evacuating your pets early to a safe place offers them the best chance of protection. Organising a pet pal (a friend or relative) or a local boarding facility that can accommodate your pets in the short term is a good place to start. Your local Visitor Information Centre can also provide you with a list of pet-friendly accommodation options.

Ensure you have pet containers for all your small animals and prepare these before you need them, ensuring they are labelled with your contact details.

Put together a pet evacuation kit that includes sufficient food and water, medications for your pet, vaccination certificates and your vets' contact details. Make sure your pet is micro-chipped and the details on their tags are up to date.

Whether you decide to stay or leave yourself, do not shut your animals in sheds or stables or tether them, as this will not give them any chance to save themselves.

Adapt plans to suit your circumstances being mindful that instructions received from emergency service authorities will also need to be followed. For more information and contacts visit Council's website: www.meander.tas.gov.au

Located at West Parade, Deloraine, the facility houses a 20m solar heated outdoor pool and a smaller paddling pool for children. It's only \$2 for children under 16 years and \$3 for adult entry. For details visit Council's website: www.meander.tas.gov.au

Opening Hours: December and February: 11am to 5pm
Tuesday to Sunday, January: 11am to 6pm, Tuesday to Sunday.
The pool is closed on Mondays.

Deloraine Swimming Pool open for summer!

Monitoring underway to keep our recreational waterways safe

Council will sample the water quality at the four popular recreational swimming locations listed below between December and March.

Testing is to ensure the water is safe for public use.

Meander River:
Egmont Reserve, Birralea Road, Westbury

Liffey River – Bracknell River Reserve:
Off Louisa Street, Bracknell

South Esk River - Lions Park: Off Main Street at Hadspen

Lake Trevallyn - Blackstone Park: Off Kelsey Road, Blackstone



If required, public health warnings will be issued via signage at the site, as well as on Council's website and Facebook page.

If you have any enquiries regarding recreational water quality please contact Council's Environmental Health Officers on 6393 5300.

Putting up a pool this summer?

If you are lucky enough to have picked up a pool this Christmas, be aware that enjoying a dip does come with a responsibility to ensure everyone is safe.

From the blow up temporary variety to pre-formed fibreglass, any pool deeper than 300mm requires pool fencing. Including those pools purchased from your local department store.

By law, the minimum requirement is a certificate of likely compliance from your building surveyor and Council building approval to ensure that the fence com-

plies with the Building Code of Australia and the pool is safe.

Your local swimming pool supplier can advise you on the regulations and many have the relevant contacts to get your documentation in order. If you choose not to securely fence your pool, even if it's temporary, you run the risk of the unwanted grief associated with an accident.

If you're in doubt as to what you need to do, contact Council on 6393 5300.

Notice something missing?

If you have visited Molecombe Drive Reserve playground in Prospect Vale recently, you would not be mistaken for noticing that something is missing.

Unfortunately, two pieces of playground equipment have mysteriously disappeared.

Council believes the equipment was removed some time between mid-Septem-

ber and mid-October and would like to encourage anyone with information to contact us or the local police. You can remain anonymous and information received will be treated as confidential.

Help us ensure that all members of the community can enjoy our recreational facilities.

General Enquiries

Phone 6393 5300
Mail PO Box 102 Westbury Tasmania 7303
Email mail@mvc.tas.gov.au

Customer Service Office

Monday - Friday 8.30am - 5pm
26 Lyall Street Westbury Tasmania 7303

[meandervalleycouncil](https://www.facebook.com/meandervalleycouncil)
www.meander.tas.gov.au



Pam teaches glass

By Marguerite McNeill

DELORAINE HIGH School student Felicity Honner enjoys working with fragments of coloured glass to create something special.

The thirteen year old, who said the activity was "pretty good," has become so adept at the craft that a piece of her glassware won a first prize award at this year's Deloraine Show.

The simply fashioned vase with beautifully coordinated colours was created during art classes under the guidance of glass artist Pamela Tankard of Deloraine. Felicity is one of about 80 students to practise glasswork as part of their art program during the year.

Deloraine High art teacher Maria Lietzau said that the students were very lucky to experience glasswork, as very few schools would have such an opportunity. She said that it was a great addition to the whole art program.

A volunteer at the school for the past few years,

Ms Tankard works mainly with grade 7 students and enjoys the chance of working with the young people to share her love of creating with glass.

As well as using her own kiln to fire the glassware, she manages the school's larger kiln to fire ceramic works made by the students.

Delighted with the success of the classes, the 76-year-old is also feeling pretty chuffed about her own achievement of completing a Diploma of Visual Arts at Devonport TAFE. She is now looking forward to her first solo exhibition that opens in Deloraine this month.

The exhibition entitled 'Essence of Life' features contemporary porcelain vessels and pâte de verre leaves. The designs are inspired by the local environment, including the plateau and the Great Western Tiers.

The exhibition at Deloraine Creative Studios in Emu



Photo by: Mike Moores

Pamela Tankard instructs Felicity Honner (L) and Hayden Bramich-Rivet (R) in the art of glasswork.

Bay Road, Deloraine will be on show from 2nd to 30th January 2017.

The official opening by winner of the 2014 Fine Porcelain Design Award

Belinda Winkler will be on Friday 13th January 2017 at 6.00pm.

Photo by: Mike Moores



Ian Cleworth (founder) and Kerryn Joyce (tutor) from TaikoOz.

Festival of drums

By David Claridge

DELORAINE WILL be wowed with the beat of drums as members of Australia's Premier Professional Taiko Group, TaikoOz will teach and perform at Tasmanian Taiko Fest 2017.

Held at the Meander Valley Performing Arts Centre on the 14th and 15th of January, local Taiko Teacher and Tutor, Yyan Ng, explained that this will be the first ever event in Tasmania bringing groups from all around Australia together.

"Hopefully there will be more workshops to come over the next few years and put Deloraine on the map," he said.

"TaikoOz founder, Ian Cleworth and esteemed tutor, Kerryn Joyce will teach the two-day intensive workshop and help give an energising performance on the Sunday.

Taiko is Japanese for drums, a part of Japanese culture for over a thousand years. Originally used in warfare, they have been adapted to entertainment in the past seventy years where drummers wear traditional style clothing and concentrate on their posture and movement to follow a certain code.

In Tasmania, there are three Taiko groups located in Launceston, Hobart, and Burnie who perform regularly around the state.

The event is not only for people interested in having a go at Taiko, those who want to see what it is all about can watch the public performance on Sunday 15th January at 4.00pm.

For more information visit the Tasmanian Taiko Fest 2017 Facebook page.

Hot job going



WINTERFIRE 2017 needs a new co-ordinator.

Are you community minded and do you have some time and energy to run this fantastic event in June?

Some funding is already in place. All the necessary equipment such as fire drums, road signs, star pickets and solar lights are in storage. The contact details of all the groups involved are listed and Arts Deloraine will provide you with lots of support.

Here's a chance to give back to the Deloraine community, work with some great people and have fun. On the downside, this is not a paid position.

For any enquiries call Jaqui on 6362 4335 or email: arts-deloraine@gmail.com.

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By Heather Summers

IF YOU DRIVE around the back roads of the Meander Valley, it's easy to see it has been a good season for making hay. While you may see a lot of heavy machinery around manufacturing bales in industrial quantities in half a day, you can still find a quiet corner of the neighbourhood where you are more likely to hear the soft swish of a scythe cutting an even swathe through the long grass.

Pausing to hone her blade, Lorraine Clarke is happy to chat about the virtues of scything. "It's a heavy duty ditch-blade," she says, "I have to hone it every few minutes when cutting grass like this."

The grass is thick due to the good growing season, and has to be cut with a narrow swathe, rather than the wider arc she would usually make.

This time of year, Lorraine can cut it in the morning, rake it into rows, let it cure in the breeze and then stack it in a relatively short amount of time.

"You really can make hay in a day," she says, "if the weather is favourable."

Lorraine finds it is better to make the hay herself, in small quantities. "You can get the best quality." The grass is stacked rather than placed in stooks, which works best when cutting grains with sturdier stalks, such as oats.

In this instance, she is using her Italian scythe, with

Making hay while the sun shines



Lorraine Clarke of Parkham, cuts her hay by hand using a scythe with a handle she fashioned herself.

Photo by: Mike Moores

a snaith she made herself from the branch of a tree on her property. She finds the balance and movement of the lightweight Italian model, of which she has several, preferable to the others at her disposal, which includes an Austrian scythe, as well as a couple of English ones that are a little more cumbersome to use.

"They can be difficult to manoeuvre, due to their weight. They also require a different posture, where ease of movement is not as good."

Even in this day of modern design that focuses on efficiency, a scythe is still high-tech when it comes to versatility. "You can mow the lawn, cut an acre of thistles, get through

the blackberries."

Scything has a long history of continuous use. It was at the forefront of agricultural technology for the ancient Romans, and has relatively recently overtaken the sickle in other parts of the world.

In the past, if you ate rye bread or had a thatched roof, a scythe was a necessity.

Social scything has become

a community-building exercise in many places, including Tasmania, and scything championships are still relatively common in Europe, with some experts able to wield the blade faster than a brush cutter.

Lorraine appreciates the simplicity and universality of the scythe. "Anyone, anywhere can learn."

Review: A Place in the Stockyard

By Nell Carr

*A Place in the Stockyard
The story of Tasmanian
Women in Agriculture (TWiA)
Fiona Stocker
Forty South Publishing Pty Ltd*

A PLACE in the stockyard tells the story of organising and bringing to fruition the group known as the Tasmanian Women in Agriculture.

They have involved themselves in all matters which concern rural families - finance, health and well being, education, climate change and politics. Now they are a force to be reckoned with whenever a matter of rural concern comes to the fore. And when one of the regular downturns in their particular industry occurs they embark on sideline businesses, or return to their previous employment in nearby towns.

While still a full time farmer and mother of young children, Emma Pinner - from NW Tasmania - researched the soy candle making industry, and had developed a thriving business, but when her partner suffered a massive stroke, with a dire prognosis, she had

to take over the running of the dairy business. He began helping with the candle making to improve his motor skills, and Emma has given that the credit for his rehabilitation.

Women in the Meander Valley are well represented in the groups working to get the organisation going. Their professions before farming are useful in various ways.

Women in the Meander Valley are well represented in the groups working to get the organisation (TWiA) going.

Maureen Holland, (Dunorlan), had previously worked in banking. She helped members to become familiar with computer use and Internet access, and was able to secure a Federal Government grant to set up a website for TWiA. The Internet has become an indispensable tool in running rural businesses. Maureen has also been given the credit for helping the organisation to survive after withdrawal of Govt. funding in 2009. She

became the first President after the group's re-structuring to become an incorporated body in 2014.

Joan Field (Weegen) was one of the original movers and shakers who had grown up on a farm, and was a former State President of Rural Youth where many of the members met their partners. She is the winner of several awards for her endeavours in the agricultural industry, including an Australia Day award.

Many of the founding members of the group had been city based, and their abrupt initiation into rural living came as a rude awakening. Maureen Cameron (Chudleigh) had to learn to milk cows. At the 4th gathering of members at Poatina in 2000, she helped to organise accommodation for 200 delegates, and in 2012 with 4 other members managed catering for the gathering in Deloraine.

All contributors to the book, no matter what their background, love the rural life. Anne McCormack (Kimberley), has the last word. "We live in a perfect place, between

Sheffield and Deloraine, and have a perfect view of Mt. Roland, the Western Tiers, and Quamby, and can see the sea."

A Place in the Stockyard is on sale in Deloraine at the Great Western Tiers Visitor Information Centre, the Newsagent and Seppenfelts.

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By David Claridge

AFTER STARTING out with a small cropping business in the North West, Michael Delphin and Christie McLeod tried a new challenge in 2014 by becoming the new owners of Hazelbrae - the largest hazelnut orchard in Tasmania; with a speciality café attached.

Located in Hagley on an estate with a lovingly restored and expanded original home-stead dating back to the late 1800s, Hazelbrae is home to almost 5000 hazelnut trees across 18 hectares, planted by its previous French owners in 2005.

It has been a huge challenge learning about hazelnut growing and developing the business, but Michael and Christie have enjoyed every minute of it; even when they "go a bit nutty trying to keep up" during the really busy periods of autumn harvest, and from spring to Christmas.

"But when we finally get a chance to breathe, we are extremely proud of what we have achieved," Christie shared.

The grove currently produces more than ten tonnes of product each year, and they are expecting another record crop this season - although it will be later than usual due to the long, cold spring.

Once the trees reach full maturity it is believed the output will reach fifty tonnes a year.

"Being the largest producing farm in Tasmania, most visitors are keen to see what that looks like and how we manage it," she added. "And our 6-year-old son, Jack has even started taking some around the farm on impromptu tours."

The hazelnuts are available in many different shapes and sizes, and come raw, roasted and even covered in chocolate. You can purchase



Photo by: Mike Moores

Christie McLeod of Hazelbrae enjoying a Hazelnut Brie Melt.

hazelnut oil too.

Hoping to begin developing an export market into Asia over the next 12 months, Michael and Christie will remain committed "to keeping enough premium product in Tasmania to service local supporters as they value their contribution to building the Hazelbrae business".

Its café food is also becoming popular, as it has "a great deck with an incredible view over the orchard and Great Western Tiers", and uses the area's best ingredients to put together delicious hazelnut inspired dishes; with its

new cook, Kylie, dreaming up some very special additions like the Hazelnut Brie Melt on the new Sunday breakfast menu.

And visitors to the estate, usually locals and tourists on the Cradle to Coast Tasting trail map, have something else to look forward to this New Year. Michael and Christie plan to organise casual, as well as formal, sunset dinner events on Fridays throughout the summer and autumn.

Closed only in the winter, Hazelbrae opens from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm daily, with Sunday breakfast from 8.00am.

Business Association calls it quits

By Wendy Laing

AT A SPECIAL meeting held on the 30th November, 2016, the Meander Valley Business Association committee and members met to decide on the future of the organisation in its present form.

The business people at the meeting discussed either continuing or disbanding the association. The core focus of the association being to represent retailers in the Deloraine area.

A vote was taken and the chairperson for the meeting, Mr John Phelps, declared that the result was to wind up the association. He advised that it would be wound up by the current committee.

In the past, a number of

projects were completed by both Deloraine on the Move and the Meander Valley Business Association. These included numerous 'Great Days Out' and 'Crazy Days' involving the whole town.

There was also a project called the 'Butt Out' campaign to help reduce cigarette butts on the street. Printed tear off maps called 'Find yourself in Deloraine' were produced showing all business listings.

Monthly newsletter and network meetings were held to introduce new businesses into the town. Many projects such as training groups were held at a reduced cost to help retailers and their staff and there was a shop locally campaign. Most were organised

by volunteers from the MVBA committee and members.

Meander Valley Business Association committee member, Ms Vicki Pryer, explained that a local artist, Lucinda Hunnam, had been commissioned to produce two signs to be sited at the boundaries leading into the town. These signs, called 'Discover Deloraine, Town of Sculptures', are a special project that will hopefully become a reality before the Meander Valley Business Association is wound up.

All the members who attended the meeting said that they are confident that sometime in the future an association in a new format could become a reality.

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 Ph: 6362 2678 | 112 Emu Bay Road | open Mon-Fri 10am-4pm |



Connecting Fruit and Nut tree owners with volunteer harvesters.



Deloraine House is seeking volunteers for its Harvest Helpers project. By being a harvest volunteer you get to help your community, share in the harvest, learn new skills, meet new people, get fresh air and sunshine, participate in preserving workshops and community dinners, and help create a quiet revolution in people's backyards.

For more information contact Deloraine House on **6362 2678** or Catherine Smith on **0427 509 409**.

Hadspen Playgroup

Come and join us for lots of play and learning, make new friends, share ideas and most of all have FUN!!!

Where: Uniting Church Community Centre, Cnr Claire and Main Street, Hadspen

When: Every Tuesday from 10.00am to 12 noon during school terms

Who: Children 0 to 5 years & their parents or carers

Cost: Membership to Playgroup Tasmania \$30.00 year (\$20.00 conc.) then \$3.50 per week per family.

For more information, please call Anna Danziger on 0423 939 304.

www.playgrouptas.org.au

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

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



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 13th January	Rotary Tertiary Scholarship Applications close	Written applications to Rotary Club of Deloraine Att: John Dare PO Box 85, Deloraine Info: 0410 557 598
Saturday 14th January 4.00pm for 4.30pm	An evening of World Music at Marakoopa Café	186 Mayberry Rd, nr Mole Creek - No BYO - Food & drink avail. Bring sunnies, hat and rug/chair Ph: 6363 5033
Sunday 15th January 4.00pm	Tasmanian Taiko Fest, Community Concert	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Road, Deloraine Tickets \$10.00 no conc Ph: Suzanne 0403 271 241 for tickets
Wednesday 18th Jan 2.00pm + 4.30pm	Paddle Safe Program for recreational kayaks	Meander Riverbank, Deloraine Bring own canoes & life jackets Free To register call MAST on 6235 8829
Friday 20th January 7.00pm onwards	Midnight Basketball	Deloraine Community Complex BBQ at 7.00pm To register Ph: Vicki 0400 155 690 or Ruth 01417 158 009
Saturday 21st January 6.00pm	Dinner & Trivia Fundraiser	Westbury Bowls Club, 9 Franklin Street, Westbury \$25.00pp 2 course meal For Tickets Ph: Lucy 0417 024 760
Tuesday 24th January	Basketball Skills & 3 on 3 Slamboree	Deloraine Community Complex All skill levels welcome Register Ph: Vicki 0400 155 690 Ruth 01417 158 009
Wednesday 25th January 6.00pm - 8.00pm	Australia Day Celebrations/Awards	Country Club Casino, Prospect Vale RSVP Merrilyn 6393 5317 by Friday 20th January
Tuesday 26th January 8.00am - 10.30am	Australia Day Breakfast	Chudleigh Memorial Hall \$15.00 per person. Children under 10 years old go Free. Free "Bubble"s on arrival.
Thursday 26th January 7.30am	Australia Day Breakfast (West. Rotary Club)	Westbury RSL Club Entry \$12.00 per person or \$25.00 Family - All welcome (Gluten free available)
Tuesday 31st January	U3A	Enrolments for Term 1
Tuesday 31st January 10.00am + 1.00pm	Learn the Art of Preserving (2 sessions)	Del. Trade Training Centre, Lansdowne Place 11-18 year olds \$10.00. To register: Vicki Jordan 0400 155 690
Sat & Sun 4th & 5th of Feb	Memorial tour for cars built prior to 1919	Del Train Park 9:30am 4th, Steamworld Westbury 1:00pm 4th, Chudleigh Showgrounds 11:30am 5th. See Page 4
Monday 6th February 2.30pm-4.30pm	Alleviating Chronic Pain & Arthritis Session	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Road, Free information & Kinesiology balances
Monday 6th February 12.00pm - 2.00pm	Eating with Friends	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Road \$5.00 Great meal & good company
Monday 10th February 9.00am - 5.00pm	CORES Suicide prevention training	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Road Free Bookings essential Ph: 6362 2678
Saturday 11th February 1.30pm - 4.00pm	Westbury Garden Club Summer Flower Show	Westbury Town Hall, Lyall Street \$2.00 Afternoon Tea \$5.00 Convenor: Ros Groom 0417 568 804
Monday 13th February 6.00pm - 8.00pm	Alleviating Chronic Pain & Arthritis Session	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Road, Free information & Kinesiology balances
Wednesday 15th February 6.30pm	Game On (Board Games night)	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Road, \$5.00 includes Supper
Saturday 18th February 6.00am - 6.00pm	Chudleigh Show	Chudleigh Showgrounds, Sorell Street Ph: 6363 2047 www.chudleighshow.com.au
Saturday 18th February 3.00pm - midnight	Carrick Park Pacing Club Carrick Cup	Carrick Park Pacing Club, East Street, Carrick Fashions on the Field, live band, celebrity guests
Thursday 23rd - 25th February 1.00pm	Junior Beef Expo	Deloraine Showgrounds, Highland Lakes Rd more info www.facebook.com/events/269130723429768/
Saturday 25th February 12.00 till late	A Day at the Creek Music Festival	Mole Creek Hotel Tickets available www adayatthecreek.com.au/tickets/ or at the Hotel 6363 1102
Monday 27th February	Expressive Art Workshop	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Road Facilitated by Sally Williams
Various days in March	Ten Days on the Island	To purchase tickets - Book online at www.tendays.org.au #ontheisland or phone: 6210 5777
Every Tuesday 10.00am - 12.00pm	Hadspen Playgroup (during School Terms)	Uniting Church Community Centre, cnr Claire & Main Sts Hadspen Call Anna on 0423 939 304 for info

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Gallipoli rose for RSL garden

WESTBURY RSL was proud to celebrate the opening of a new rose garden early in December, a continuation of the Gallipoli Centenary Rose Project.

As commemoration of the 1914-1918 Centenary of ANZAC continues, new projects have taken place around the country in order to commemorate this significant event in our nation's history.

This project was initiated in 2010 by the ANZAC Day Commemoration Committee (Qld) Inc. with an aim to create gardens of remembrance to be enjoyed by

the whole community.

The Gallipoli Centenary rose (Kortutu) was carefully selected by the committee for this project, and produces large, elegant, deep red blooms.

Westbury Garden Club contributed the addition of rosemary planted around the roses, and a Huon pine plaque made by Mr Col Churchill of Latrobe was made to honour the occasion.



Meander Valley Council partnered with the Westbury branch in order to bring the garden into being. The Council's Work Department team, Colin Lockhart, Stephen Harris and Ricky Hibbs, were present at the opening.

The event was officiated by President of the Westbury RSL Sub Branch Inc., Mr Robert Sackley, and the dedication Blessing was given by Reverend Jo Pycroft of the Anglican Parish of Quamby.

The garden is dedicated to the War Widows of the Westbury region.

Recognising volunteers

Volunteering Tasmania has launched the 2017 Tasmanian Volunteering Awards.

The awards aim to recognise and reward the contribution of those who exhibit excellence in volunteering.

There are a wide range of categories of Awards to vote for including tourism, arts, heritage, sport and recreation, emergency volunteering and disaster relief, community care, education, science, animal care and conservation.

Individuals can also nominate their favourite Volunteer Manager or Corporate Volunteering program; in 2017 there is also a new category which

allows people to vote for their favourite volunteering group.

Tasmanians are invited to nominate through the Volunteer Tasmania website: www.volunteeringtas.org.au.

Nominations open at 10.00am on Monday 5th December, and close at 5.00pm Friday 3rd March 2017.

Awards and prizes will be presented at the beginning of National Volunteer Week, 8th May 2017; in a ceremony at Government House, hosted by Volunteering Tasmania's Patron, Her Excellency Professor the Hon. Kate Warner, Governor of Tasmania.

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SPORT

League of Nations



Photo by: Mike Moores

The Women's race at the Westbury Criterium was strongly contested; Japanese team pictured Right.

ONCE AGAIN, cyclists descended upon Westbury for the Criterium. Held on Boxing Day, the Westbury Criterium forms part of the Christmas Carnival Series held annually across Northern Tasmania.

This year saw a veteran's and women's criterium as well as the traditional men's elite races.

Riders from nine different countries competed in the women's race which, at 18 laps around Westbury, covered 23.4 km before ending at the Village Green. Strongly contested, the race was eventually won by Japanese representative Miho Yoshikawa with Nicola McDonald of NSW second and Yumi Kajihara third,

also from Japan.

Adam Hartley from Burnie took out the veterans race leading Jason Rigg of Western Australia in second place with Launceston's Andrew Margison third.

West Australian Sam Welsford won the elite race from Germany's Christian Grasmann with Swiss competitor Gael Suter placing third.



Shamrocks show their consistency

By David Claridge

WESTBURY HOSTED the semi-finals of the Great Northern Cup on 8th January with a win guaranteeing a home grand final.

We've just been able to win the close games. Winning is contagious

After an impressive start to the season, the Westbury Shamrocks first grade and the Great Northern Cup team were safe on top of their ladders going into the short Christmas break.

The club has fought hard overall with the second-grade team second on their ladder; the fourth grade is also on top

with the u15 team also first.

Club Coach Dane Anderson is pleased with the Club's progress.

"We've have a good start to the season at the halfway point. Now the boys can have a break," he said.

"The first grade is on top for both competitions, the Great Northern Cup and the NTCA. It's a really good start for us, we've had really good numbers in the rest.

"We've just been able to win the close games. Winning is contagious and we are hoping to stay there for the business end of the finals.

Shamrocks win over Riverside. Photo by: Mike Moores

