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A fist full of medals for Meander master

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# Meander Valley Gazette

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December 2017

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper



## Show-stopping smiles

Wonderful weather helped attract 3,500 people to the Westbury Show. A record numbers of horses were on display, and despite dog numbers being down compared to other years, they were up compared to dog entries for similar shows around the state. Secretary of Westbury Show Society, Shannon Barwick, says the future looks bright for the Westbury Show and the committee have many ideas for improvements next year. Pictured: Part of the ever-popular pet lamb competition, Sophie Marston 12yrs with her lamb Luna, and Charlotte Bussey 11yrs with lamb Ariel, all of Westbury. Photo by: Mike Moores

## 5 million dollar dust-up

By Sharon Webb

A ROW is brewing over Meander Valley Council proposals for a \$5m function centre at the Westbury Recreation Ground.

Nearly 500 people want a public meeting on the issue, according to a petition presented to council at its 16th November meeting.

And council itself is divided into factions for and against the proposal, which got up in the October meeting with a five to three vote.

The project has grown from a \$12,000 change room upgrade in 2012 to a \$5m fully-fledged function centre in 2017, with projected operating costs of \$145,000 a year.

Councillors Deb White, Tanya King and Mayor Craig Perkins are against it, citing cost as the major factor.

But Councillors Rodney Synfield, Ian Mackenzie, Bob Richardson, John Temple and Andrew Connor support the major building project – even though a \$15,000 business plan

requested by council says it is not feasible.

The five councillors want the facility to cater for all of Westbury's sports teams and groups rather than simply upgrading football and cricket change rooms.

In addition, a newspaper report in *The Examiner* has quoted Meander Valley Suns

Football Club president, Leigh Watts, denouncing the project.

"If the centre has a function room and somebody wanted to book it, we'd be kicked out for the night. It's important we have a club room leased to the football club to run functions for us to be financially viable," Mr Watts told *The Examiner*.

Westbury's recreation ground building development has been an

ongoing saga since 2013 when council approved a \$12,000 clubroom upgrade design.

In 2014 the project expanded when council allocated \$300,000, incorporating a \$150,000 State grant.

Then, in 2015, a review of concept designs and cost estimates saw council increase the budget to \$500,000 then approve an additional \$636,781.

Continued on Page 2...

# In My Opinion...

By Joanne Eisemann  
Managing Editor

WHAT I really want for Christmas is a world where everyone gets a chance at winning.

Imagine that, a world where everyone you meet is happy and fully engaged in what they are doing.

Is it possible? I think it is, but it would take a fairly radical shift from what is happening currently.

At the moment what seems to predominate is the religion of economics, almost anything is OK as long as there is some financial payoff.

And while I am very happy to be living in a prosperous country I would prefer if it wasn't at the expense of people or the environment.

I see companies trying to address this issue by being more 'socially responsible' and giving assistance to the communities in which they operate.

This is a wonderful thing but doesn't in my opinion get anywhere near the root of the problem.

In my view, what we need to be doing more work on is relationships; we are not very good at relating to each other.

In my time working with unemployed I noticed that behind every antisocial behaviour a client displayed, there was a story so sad that I often didn't want to hear it. I knew I didn't have the time or space to deal with the pain I felt from listening.

I now see this pain coming a little more into the light through the exposure of institutional paedophilia, violence in the home, schools, nursing homes and sexual harassment at work. Why do we treat each other so badly?

Maybe it's because its always been this way and we don't know how to change. Sadly, I don't see much effort by society to construct a concept of what a functional marriage, family or workplace ought to be like. Perhaps that's because we are always so busy trying to clean up the ever-present mess that is before us.

I reckon it's time to dream up a new way and make the vision accessible to everyone. How enjoyable could our relationships be? What do functional relationships look like and what things do we need to focus on to achieve them?

Dear Santa...

# 5 million dollar dust-up

Continued from Page 1...

IN 2016 council added funding for a building extension and in September this year when faced with a motion approving funds of \$50,000 or \$100,000 on the project, a majority of councillors supported spending \$5m.

In May 2017 Council commissioned a business case according to a design brief prepared by Cllr Richardson, well-known for strong support of his home-town Westbury.

The building was to service a population within 20km of Westbury, provide dinner seating for 200+ people, areas for performance, a kitchen/kiosk to cater for 600-800 people, office space, meeting/board room and design to allow for future extensions.

MG Engineers and Planners looked at population projections and spoke to 20 community groups, finding that:

- A new function centre is likely to be cost prohibitive for local community and sporting clubs most likely to use the facility;

- Existing (large) venues in the area readily meet the apparent demand for larger scale venues with better on-site facilities such as accommodation;

- There is a high demand for a function space from local community and sporting groups who are likely to use such a space on a regular basis for both small and large events but potential users expect that the cost of hire is

minimal if not zero.

The business case report says demand could be met by investing in the refurbishment of existing facilities such as Westbury Community Hall and Supper Room rather than constructing a new function centre.

The report was accepted by council but not endorsed.

Cllr Synfield said workers attracted to live in the area by the council-approved industrial zone would want such a facility.

"This would be a game-changer for Westbury," he argued.

"The town's just lost its last bank. Are we just going to sit back and watch its decline or get on the front foot and make it an attractive place for people to live?"

Cllr White said she has serious misgivings about the proposal, including paying for the ongoing costs of \$5 million facility and its projected rate of usage.

And Mayor Craig Perkins admitted that as a group, councillors had never considered what they wanted for the recreation ground site.

## Westbury carols

THE VILLAGE green at Westbury will come alive again, with the sound of music, on Sunday 10th December to celebrate Christmas.

Bring along a rug or chair and picnic from 6 o'clock. Traditional Christmas carols by various guest artists commences at 7 o'clock.

All are welcome and people are advised to bring a portable seat or picnic blanket.

We thank the local community for their patience in completing the Trail and will be working diligently to install the remaining components before the opening.

We look forward to seeing the community there on the day to share in the official launch of a Tasmanian Aboriginal Cultural experience and a great addition to the riverside walkway.

Martin Hay

IT IS with great pleasure that we would like to announce the opening date for the Kooparoona Niara Cultural Trail.

The day of ceremony and celebration is Saturday the 16th of December. We encourage attendees to gather at the Train Park near the rail bridge at 11.00 a.m. for proceedings to start from 11:30 a.m.

The opening day will include traditional Aboriginal ceremonies, speeches and a procession to the Yarning Circle where lunch and refreshments will be available.



L to R: Steve Shayler, Martin Hay and Niocy Brown put the finishing touches to the Kooparoona Niara Cultural Trail due to be opened on the 16th of December. Photo by: Mike Moores

EST. 2013

# Meander Valley Gazette

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The background photo on Page 6 is by Anita Austvika

## Letters In...

"CONGRATULATIONS ARE in order to all the Deloraine groups whose representatives have placed floral displays on the altar and both sides of the central aisle of St Mark's, for the Tasmanian Craft Fair.

It was a delight to, once again, walk amongst the flowers & read the names of all the groups which have kept Deloraine alive and well over many years."

Judith-Anne Tahir, Deloraine

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# Fairground Foxtrot

THE VOLUNTEERS at Pearn's Steam World were thrilled to host a display of Fairground organs at their recent 'Steam Up'. The organs were imported to Tasmania by Richard Hill, who, having been involved with steam engines and fairground organs since he was a small child, brought his extensive collection with him when he recently returned to live in Tasmania. Pictured are Pearn's Steam World volunteers Ruth Paterson of Oaks and Anne Heazlewood of Whitemore enjoying the music of one of the fair organs on display. Photo by: Mike Moores

## The Blackstone billboard : Wellness website

By David Claridge

BLACKSTONE HEIGHTS residents have reached a new level of communication with the rise of a passionate and dedicated local group.

The Blackstone Heights Community News Association was established around early October and already has a 13-member committee hard at work to identify what the area needs and how they can best give back to the community.

Secretary, Lyn Westlake, explained how they formed because they wanted to make

Blackstone Heights a better place and to bring the community together.

"Some of us already knew each other, but we put on Facebook if other people wanted to join and the committee quickly grew," she said.

"We then sent out a newsletter in a letterbox drop about who we were and what we were doing,

For their first major event, the group has planned a Christmas fun and market day at Blackstone Park on Sunday the 10th December from 10:30am to 2:30pm.

There will be Zorb balls, mini jeeps, face painting, snake handlers, a balloon artist, craft stalls, kites, carboot sales, hot food, ice cream and a coffee van.

"It's going to be a huge day for the family and it's a good way for getting Blackstone Heights together," Ms Westlake said.

The group plans to distribute quarterly newsletters, start a neighbourhood watch in the area, put a basketball area in the park and a noticeboard for the area with more plans in the works.

By Wendy Laing

FEELING BLUE or a bit anxious? Deloraine House's new Health and Wellness Portal is a new website where health services available to Meander Valley residents are gathered in one place.

Ms Narelle Whatley, the Coordinator of Deloraine House welcomed Greg Hall MLC, Deputy Mayor Michael Kelly and Allan Johnson from Wellways to the official launch of the Meander Valley Health and Wellness Portal.

Ms Whatley spoke of how, in late 2015, stakeholders

came together from Westbury, Deloraine and the surrounding areas with the commitment to consult with the Meander Valley community on ways to address issues such as coping with any sort of mental illness.

The website designer, Mr Alan Blackmore, gave a demonstration of the portal, <https://mvhwp.org>. He explained that the design was easy to access with an uncomplicated layout.

The Deputy Mayor, Michael Kelly, then officially launched the portal.

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# Lions donate a Linet

A LARGE part of Deloraine Lions Club activities revolve around raising funds to assist the community in the Meander Valley.

Lions members can be seen outside the Supermarket or at Saturday markets selling raffle tickets or in the Lions Club food van at the Craft Fair, Tasmanian Truck Show or at farm clearance sales and various other events throughout the year.

Club fundraising assists individual community members with mobility issues or emergencies, organisations

such as Giant Steps, BlazeAid with flood relief, and various other non-profit organisations in and around Deloraine.

The Lions Club has recently assisted Deloraine Hospital to fund the purchase of an electronic, fully adjustable hospital bed.

The Linet bed can be raised and lowered to allow nurses to tend to bedridden patients at a comfortable height.

Height adjustment also allows patients to get in and out of the bed without the risk of falling and breaking

a hip or leg.

The bed also raises in the centre to provide a much more comfortable sleeping position for patients with breathing difficulties.

Club members were thrilled to be able to assist and recently presented the new bed to Lester Jones, Director of Nursing at the Deloraine Hospital.

Eric Richardson, club president, explained that "this is the perfect investment for the Deloraine Lions Club, as it fits the club's mandate of serving the local Meander Valley community and will benefit hundreds of community members for years to come."



*CISTUS X PURPUREUS* (pictured) is one of the most striking plants in the early summer garden.

It is one of the largest of the *Cistaceae*, a sun loving family of plants from the Mediterranean countries. They range from the ground hugging *Helianthemum*, Sun Roses, to shrubs of more than 2metres in height.

*Cistus incanus* growing in the Commonwealth Bank garden in Deloraine has commercial value in its native country because of the aromatic gum in its leaf tips.

This is used as a fixative for perfumes in the manufacture of cosmetics. According to a 1972 gardening book, "lowers of the World, the method of collection was to drive goats through the shrubs to collect



the gum from the leaf tips in their hair. The animals' hair was then clipped, and boiled in water. The gum was skimmed from the cooled liquid. It is possible that a more sophisticated method of collection is employed nowadays.

### In the vegie garden

Some frost, strong winds, and lack of rainfall have not made the planting season easy. If dwarf beans i.e., French or butter beans, are sown in very moist soil, they should not require watering until germination, around 10 days. Picked while still tender, 8 weeks from sowing beans are a nutritious addition to the menu in late summer. Any surplus can be frozen.

# Making a stand for comfort

EXTENDED PERIODS of sitting have been linked to several degenerative diseases from cancer to depression.

It was with this in mind that Deloraine Online Access centre purchased a retrofit standing desk for patrons to try out.

Purchased as part of a project funded by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal, the standing desk easily converts from a sitting to a standing position and can be adjusted to suit people of all heights.

For some centre users, the standing desk has provided a welcome change to sitting down.

Brook Groombridge was severely injured when hit by an inattentive driver while working on the Tasman Hwy in 1982.

Since then, sitting has been difficult for him, "Even if I sit for short periods of time I can't walk properly," says Brook.

To make matters worse, pain killers don't work for him. "I was run over 35 years ago, and I've never been prescribed with a pain killer that worked.

"It makes a big difference. Before the standing desk was here, I had to walk up to the

angle parking (approx 150m) before I could actually walk properly."

For those wishing to try out the standing desk Deloraine Online Access Centre is open from 10.00am to 4.00pm on weekdays and from 10.00am to 1.00pm on weekends. The Centre is at 21 West Parade, Deloraine.



Brook Groombridge finds the standing desk to be a comfortable option.

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# Western Creek track

Photo by Jade Hallam

Western Creek track provides some breathtaking views.

By Tara Ulbrich

SITTING ON a slope of scree, viewing the angled faces of the Great Western Tiers with their crag peaks and forest that defies impossibly thin soil and steep gradient.

Way below is a living map of farmland in shades of verdant green, all marked out into grids and punctuated with dams. My ten-year-old walking companion looks at the giant rubble around us and asks "did someone put this here?" I smile as I think of what human endeavour could (or would) do that.

Our young friend is making the transition from a human-altered landscape into one where humanity's hand has had little impact. Isn't that why we walk places like the Western Creek track?

To find this two-hour return trek, head to Western Creek and take the dirt side road marked Westrope. Continue past the Higgs Track turn off, over a bridge and finally turn right at the sign for Western Creek Track.

From your parked car proceed back down the vehicle access to the triangle indicated start point. The walk is considered medium to hard because of the steep sections.

After about an hour's climbing through wet forest including glimpses of the creek, the path moves into

the open air. Further on, large rock deposits make a pleasing spot to rest. In fact, these are remnants of the imposing pillars above. The jagged edges of the Tiers are the artistic work of our weather systems over hundreds of thousands of years.

There is no place more appropriate to consider time and landscape than right here.

The natural forces of slightly acid rainfall, and time, have eroded scree off in huge blocks.

During the ice ages, the plateau was covered in frozen rivers of ice. These glaciers flowed from the plateau to the sea. The movement of ice severed and pushed chunks of dolerite down to this sitting spot and beyond. Nobody put it there.

The Western Creek track continues on up to the plateau for a longer walk, but the loop path folds back in a hairpin from just beyond the rocks. If you come to the small waterfall you've gone past the turn. The descent involves some more scree-scrambling but soon returns to gentler footfall in rainforest. Look out for the magic spring that gurgles out of the ground, offering a refreshing splash for a sweaty face.

On the drive back, time resumes its regular pace passing through scenery that's busy with farming activity.

# Carols by the river

ONCE AGAIN, the sounds of traditional Christmas carols will be wafting around the banks of the Meander River in Deloraine as the annual Carols by the River unfolds.

The event will be at the rotunda on Saturday, 16th December.

The Meander Men will be singing rollicking songs such as Lord of the Dance and Good King Wenceslas. There will be items from a Deloraine Primary School choir, Charlotte and Cecilia Wickham and Hannah Beck. The Blast Kids' Club will also make their presence heard.

The Community Christmas Choir, with instruments, will perform and lead the community singing. Josh Skeat will also make an appearance and Tony Parsons will be master of ceremonies.

A sausage sizzle starts at 6.30pm with the main program commencing at 7 o'clock finishing at about 8.30pm. Candles will be available for sale. The event is free, but donations to help defray costs is appreciated.

As for the past 30 years, the evening is presented by the Combined Churches of Deloraine. Contact John Phelps on 6362 4488.

# Cllr's concern over property sale

By Sharon Webb

A MOLE Creek property valued in 2012 at \$320,000 was sold by Meander Valley Council for \$120,000 with a reserve price of around \$20,000.

Cllr Rodney Synfield has signaled he will take further action on the issue.

The Mayor of Meander Valley, Cllr Craig Perkins, said the auction reserve price was calculated to cover the Beerepoort family's debt to the council of \$3,500 in rates and costs associated with the auction, which he estimated

at \$10,000-\$15,000.

The remaining \$100,000 will be returned to the Beerepoorts.

The property, comprising 2.4 hectares of land and a 250 square metre house with open verandah and garage, was sold on 1st September to Mr Geoffrey Oscar Styles for \$120,000. Bidding started at \$20,000 and Mr Styles' bid was the only one, by telephone.

Four Meander Valley councillors are critical of the process of selling the house according to the Local Government Act, although five

councillors support it.

Cllr Rodney Synfield said council should have taken the matter to court and plans future action, although he would not detail that action.

"We have a duty of care to these people and I'd hate to think this is allowed to be the end of it all," he said.

"It's one thing to require the family to pay rates and another for it to cost them so dearly.

"It's absurd to think that if you went to court for a debt of \$3,000 there would be a penalty of \$100,000."

Continued on Page 7...

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## Guy Barnett MP

State Liberal Member for Lyons  
Minister for Resources  
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Warm wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

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joyous season

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Authorised by Brian Mitchell MP 53B Main Road Perth

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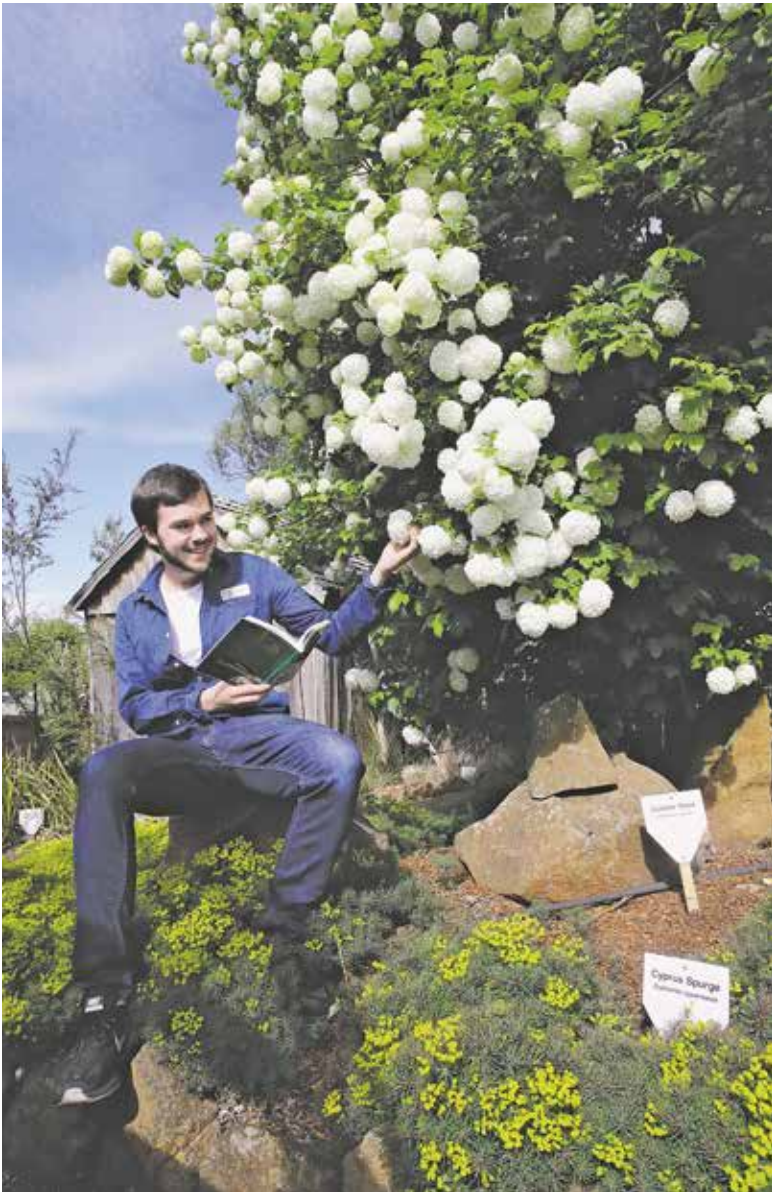


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Authorised by Rene Hidding MP, 21 Gordon Street, Launceston

# Botanical quandry nears resolution



Great Western Tiers Visitor Information Centre volunteer, Jake Pederson of Deloraine, enjoys the newly-labelled *Viburnum opulus*, common name Guelder Rose. Photo by: Mike Moores

By Joanne Eisemann

A LONG TERM project to label plants in the extensive garden at the Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre is almost complete.

"The garden is a big component of the overall site," says centre manager Vicki Pryer, adding "visitors were always asking us what the names of the plants are, so labelling seemed like a good thing to do."

Many of the plants are now labelled with attractive easy to read labels, providing genus and specific latin names as well as common names.

Garden volunteer Nell Carr was the consultant for the labelling project.

While Council workers mow grass, whipper snip and spray, the 'Garden Girls' do all other garden maintenance and have been doing so at the visitor centre for years.

Elizabeth Ranicar, Sue Bowman, Rae Close, Julie Henson and Nell Carr are affectionately know as the 'Garden Girls' and spend a day each week carefully tending the Native Tasmanian, European and Vegetable sections of the garden.

Located at 98- 100 Emu Bay Rd, the Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre and Folk Museum is open 9.00am to 5.00pm daily.

# Cllr's concern over property sale

Continued from Page 5...

Cllr John Temple said he would also have preferred the matter to go to court. "It was a disproportionate use of power, a sledgehammer to crack an acorn," he said.

"With the benefit of hindsight I believe a far better reserve should have been set, at least at government valuation.

"I believe that when selling a family home, as opposed to a vacant block of land, the Local Government Act should be changed through the reserve price to protect the interests of the owner.

"For the Beerepoots, who I understand now live in rented accommodation, it's very sad.

It takes most of a lifetime to cobble together enough money to buy a house."

Mayor Perkins said the council tried to get the highest price possible for the property but was hamstrung by the inability for prospective buyers and the real estate agent to view it.

"A lot of people are wondering about the fairness of the price but any purchaser would have been taking a risk because of that," he said.

Mr Styles, who has changed his electoral roll address to 36 South Mole Creek Rd, said he had no comment to make on his purchase.

## Are you satisfied with the council's processes in selling the Beerepoot family's property at Mole Creek?

**Mayor Craig Perkins:** Yes. Over several years council followed the legislation and gave the Beerepoots every opportunity to pay rates according to the law. They couldn't have done more.

**Cllr Andrew Connor:** Yes. We took all the steps required by the Local Government Act.

**Cllr Michael Kelly:** No. There are some serious issues around it. Given the poor outcome it would be good to look at the processes we had to follow.

**Cllr Tanya King:** Yes. Council followed due process. The outcome was undesirable but council's process was transparent.

**Cllr Ian Mackenzie:** No. I would have liked to see it go through the court process. To me selling was a last resort – even though the outcome may have been the same.

**Cllr Bob Richardson:** Yes. Everything was done to the dot. They had lots of time to pay.

**Cllr Rodney Synfield:** No. I believe we have a duty of care to those people. It's one thing to require them to pay rates and it's another for it to cost them so dearly. It should have gone to court.

**Cllr John Temple:** No. They were not paying rates on religious grounds and we are a caring community. It was a disproportionate use of power and I would have liked it to go to court.

**Cllr Deb White:** Yes. It was the Beerepoot's decision. Council was not able to say, "Don't pay your rates" because everyone else has to pay them.

Going to Uni or TAFE for the first time in 2018?

## Scholarship now open.

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# VALLEY VIEWS



## Mayor's Message

Above: Mayor Craig Perkins joins Show president Kevin Latin ahead of a big day in Westbury.

With such a number of events on the calendar this time of year, it's been wonderful to see so many people in attendance showing their support.

Once again, the Tasmanian Craft Fair was well attended and visitors to the region were welcomed by great weather. A big thank you to the Rotary Club of Deloraine for another successful event.

Speaking of success, well done to both the Deloraine and Westbury Show Societies for their excellent community events. With recent media indicating that some of the larger urban shows struggling at the moment, it is nice to see the rural shows continuing to offer great family value and attracting good numbers of patrons through the gate.

On Remembrance Day in Westbury, the community was presented with a Lone Pine seedling by Minister Guy Barnett. The seedling, which was planted on the Village Green was grown from seeds collected by Lance Corporal Benjamin Charles Smith at Gallipoli in 1915. A touching tribute, the Lone Pine will be a living memorial to all those who lost their lives fighting for our freedoms. Thank you to the Westbury RSL for organising this special event and for the wonderful refreshments after the ceremony.

On the 16 December, the Kooparoona Niara Cultural Trail will be officially opened. The Trail follows the northern bank of the Meander River in Deloraine. Supported by Council, this initiative of not-for-profit organisation Colony 47 will provide visi-

tors with a valuable cultural and educational experience. Incorporating native plantings, public art and featuring a traditional Yarning Circle, the Trail is celebration of Tasmanian Aboriginal culture.

Traditional cultural ceremonies, including a fire-stick procession will commence at 11am at the Deloraine Apex Train Park. Bring a chair and a blanket and enjoy a barbecue on the riverbank after the official opening. All are welcome.

Congratulations to the Westbury Town Common Landcare Group, who are finalists for the Fairfax Landcare Community Group Award. This award recognises community groups that work to protect, enhance or restore an area on behalf of the community. This recognition is well deserved.

The Festival of Small Halls will be in the municipality in January, this time at the Rosevale Hall. This community concert is subsidised by Council and features some headline musicians. It will be a great evening out so if you have not secured your ticket, visit [www.festivalofsmallhalls.com.au](http://www.festivalofsmallhalls.com.au) to buy yours on line or contact Council's office.

As we head into summer, I urge those in our rural areas to make sure you have a bushfire safety plan in place for yourselves as well as your pets. If you are taking some time off, be sure to take care on the roads, find time to relax, and explore our wonderful Meander Valley. I wish all of you a safe and happy Christmas.

Mayor, Craig Perkins

## Discover Meander Valley - online, anytime

Council has launched a new, local mapping platform so you can access property and community facility information online, anytime.

Featuring property development search functions you can perform property enquiries and, at the click of a button generate a printable report that describes the land zoning and planning rules that apply to that property.

The Development tab shows the location of applications currently advertised and by clicking on the locator icon you can access the relevant application documentation.

More than just a property search database, Discover Meander Valley also provides you with quick access to information about community facilities such as parks, recreation centres and venues. Facilities are all mapped and have handy clickable locator icons that track directly to information specific to that facility.

Officially launched on 1 December, Discover Meander Valley was developed by Tasmanian mapping consultants, Insight GIS.

"More and more people are performing online searches through maps to find the

location and service they need. Discover Meander Valley is geographically tailored to our local community and the property search functions apply specifically to Meander Valley. This enables users to find relevant information much faster," Mayor Craig Perkins said.

To have a look at your property or to search for a facility near you, visit [www.meander.tas.gov.au](http://www.meander.tas.gov.au) and click on the Discover Meander Valley button on the home page.



Visit [www.meander.tas.gov.au](http://www.meander.tas.gov.au) and click on the Discover Meander Valley link on the home page

Access property information and generate printable reports



Access community facility information, features and locations



## Bridging the gaps

Work on the bridge over the Mersey River on Union Bridge Road has entered its final stage. Contractors, BridgePro Engineering, are working hard to complete the new structure before the end of the year.

Funded in part by the Federal Bridges Renewal Program, the new bridge is 60m long and will be dual lane.

"This new bridge has been purposely re-aligned to improve sight distances for heavy vehicles," Mayor Craig Perkins said.

Council's Department of Infrastructure Services has had a significant volume of work over the last year.

"In addition to the reconstruction work that was a result of the floods, scheduled projects across the municipality have also required attention.

Whilst the floods are a just a memory for many of us, they leave a stark legacy for affected residents and remain an operational reality for Council officers. They have done a marvelous job managing the workload", Mayor Perkins said.

In addition to the work on Union Bridge Road, the northernmost bridge on Montana Road at Western Creek is also scheduled to be replaced before the end of the year.

"Bridge renewal is an important aspect of Council's capital works program, particularly as Meander Valley has a significant number of crossings," Mayor Perkins said.

Flood repairs to the bridge abutments on Mayberry Road were also completed recently and further remediation work has begun on the Marakoopa Creek bridge.

"Notifications of temporary road closures and extended travel times on affected routes will be advertised in advance and we thank residents for their patience as Council continues working on a number of projects throughout the municipality," Mayor Perkins said.



Above (left to right): Works undertaken on Union Bridge Road and Mayberry Road bridges.





Above: Fr Richard Ross, Robert Clarke, Dianne and John Terry gear up for Carols on the Village Green.

### Village Green or landing strip for Santa?

For the first time in four years, it will be the Westbury Village Green that lights up for carols this year on 10 December.

With an impressive line-up of entertainers, food and festivities start from 6pm, with the commencement of carols at 7pm.

There will be performances by the Launceston City Band Ensemble, Our Lady of Mercy's Chamber Choir, Westbury Primary School Choir, Meander Valley Choir, Dianne Terry and Patrick Gambles.

The Carols are an initiative of the Combined Churches of Westbury and all agree that twilight on the Village Green will provide the perfect backdrop for the event.

It has also been confirmed that an invitation has been sent to a certain gentleman in a red suit and arrangements have been made to ensure that there is enough room set aside on the Green for unexpected landings.

Bring your picnic rug and join in the fun!

### Anything but common...

It might be called the Westbury Town Common, but look a little closer and you will be surprised at just how many threatened species call this place home.

This natural floodplain has undergone ecological restoration over the last few years and strategic plantings have created habitats for an abundance of native animals, including some species that are struggling to hold on. Unmown, 'rough' swathes of grass are actually corri-

dors for the Eastern Barred Bandicoot, hiding places for the Green and Gold Frog and homes for lizards.

"A conscious effort has been made to plant species of Poa Grass to allow these species to take up residence. Threatened plants such as Slender Waterpepper and Purple Loosestrife fill out billabongs to diversify wetland habitats. Importantly, the provision of corridors with protective cover enables the natural movement and interaction of



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## Kooparoonia Niara

Official Opening of the Kooparoonia Niara Cultural Trail in Deloraine

*"Kooparoonia Niara cultural trail is the gateway to the Great Western Tiers, home to many sacred Aboriginal sites where my people lived and survived many generations ago."*  
Greg Murray

Please join us to celebrate the official opening with many activities including:  
An official opening ceremony, a fire-stick procession along the trail to the yarning circle, traditional cultural ceremonies, BBQ and refreshments and much more!

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2017**  
**11.00am**

Deloraine Apex Train Park, 13 West Parade, Deloraine.  
Please bring a picnic blanket or chair for lunch near the Yarning Circle. Parking available at the Train Park and West Parade.



## Festival of Small Halls

ROSEVALE HALL  
Sunday 7 January 2018  
Bar & barbecue from 5.30pm, show starts at 7pm  
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### Council Christmas Closure Dates

**Council Offices 26 Lyall Street, Westbury**  
Closed from 1pm Friday 22 December 2017. Offices will re-open on Tuesday 2 January 2018.

**Garbage & Recycling Collection Services**  
Scheduled collection days will not change. Please ensure your bins are out by 6am on your nominated collection day.

**Refuse Disposal Sites & Transfer Stations**  
Westbury and Deloraine Refuse Disposal Sites and Mole Creek Transfer Station will be closed on Christmas Day.

**Works Departments**  
Council's Works Department will be operating a reduced crew from 12pm (midday) Thursday 21 December 2017 until 7.30am, Monday 15 January 2018.

**Council Contact Numbers:**  
**General Enquiries & Animal Control** 6393 5300  
**Emergency Maintenance**  
Deloraine, Mole Creek, Chudleigh and areas west of Exton 0407 754 031  
Westbury, Prospect Vale and areas east of Exton 0407 706 245

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Email [mail@mvc.tas.gov.au](mailto:mail@mvc.tas.gov.au)

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*Demelza and the Coast*; one of the works on show at Pixels Digital Gallery for the month of December.

## Creating digital art with an iPad

GOING BY the artist name RabidDogoo8 (Royce Pentagast), will have an exhibition of his works at Pixels, Deloraine Digital Art Gallery for the month of December.

"I've been drawing for most of my life. At home, I have a huge collection of sketchbooks from over the years, filled with pencil sketches of characters I created, or some of my favourites from books, movies, or comics I liked," said Royce.

After winning an iPad in 2011 he set about using it creatively and, after trying out a few different drawing apps, he stumbled onto one called

Sketch Club, which he now uses to create all his images.

"The iPad is just like a digital version of those old sketch books I used to carry around in my bag. Being smaller and portable means I'm not constrained to drawing at a desk with a tablet and computer. Because of it, I've been able to push my art even further than I thought, continuing to draw some of my favourite characters from pop culture, develop my own, and create a small business around them. Currently I use it to develop promotional artworks for Mania Tas Pop Culture Market, as well

as my radio/online audio series *The Misadventures of Agnetha Deveaux*," explains Royce.

30 of Royce's digital images will be on display at Pixels from 10.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Saturday. Pixels is located inside the Online Centre at 21 West Parade Deloraine.

All images will be for sale as printed versions on paper or canvas.

## Opening for young artists

By Wendy Laing

THE OFFICIAL opening of the Tasmanian Young Artist Awards 2017 was held at the Deloraine Creative Studios on Thursday, 2nd November.

It was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Deloraine in conjunction with the Deloraine Craft Fair.

*Night Sky Girl* by Aroma Imran and *Biro Oscillation* by Mitchell McKenzie were the joint winners of the Years 7 to 10 section. *Inevitable Death* by Flynne Bessell received a commendation.

In the Years 11 to 12 section the winner was *Conflicting Space* by Calum Holmberg, with *Sparks Will Fly* by Heidi Smith and *Muse* by Brooke Thornbury

receiving commendations.

Judge, Carol McLean congratulated the artists of their high standard of work.

"Art isn't just putting pictures on the wall. It includes pencil drawings, computer animations and photography," she said.

"The spark of a professional artist is in the skill, talent and choice of subject."

The Director of the Tasmanian Craft Fair, Mr Tim Biggs said that he hoped the Tasmanian Young Artist Awards would continue to be held as part of the craft fair in the future.

### SEEN A PHOTO THAT YOU LIKE!

Many of the photographs in the Gazette can be purchased. For prices and information, phone 6286 8212.

## Another successful fair

THE TASMANIAN Craft Fair has successfully concluded its 37th year and new Director, Lesley Dare, is well underway with planning for 2018.

It is estimated that the 'spend' by visitors in the Meander Valley, apart from the Craft Fair earnings, is around \$700,000.

## Update on 'Mountain Man'

A NEW location for the 'Mountain Man' sculpture on the Meander riverbank in Deloraine has not been found, Meander Valley Mayor Craig Perkins said.

The sculpture's owners, the Tasmanian Government, has told Meander Valley Council to provide evidence of

community engagement if it wants the sculpture moved.

"Some councillors are looking for another location but until we satisfy the State Govt requirements it will stay where it is," Cllr Perkins said.

A motion to relocate or demolish 'Mountain Man' was put forward in early 2017.



Bobbie Heywood of Launceston tutors Ava Marshall 5yrs of Devonport in the gentle art of lacemaking using bobbins at the 2017 Craft Fair . Photo by: Mike Moores

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Authorised by Senator Jonathon Duniam, 5 - 7 Best St, Devonport TAS 7310.

## Local film society celebrates diversity in cinema

A HIGHLIGHT of the Western Tiers Film Society AGM was the launch of the new program for 2018.

The program features cinematic gems from France and the USA, a war-time comedy from the UK,

and the fascinating historical adventure story from the Amazon, *Embrace of the Serpent*.

"We aim to schedule the movies to fit the time of year – cheerful ones in winter, and more




challenging ones in the warmer months", said WTFS Secretary Deb White.

2018 memberships are now available: westerntiersfilmsociety@gmail.com or call 0418 389 868.

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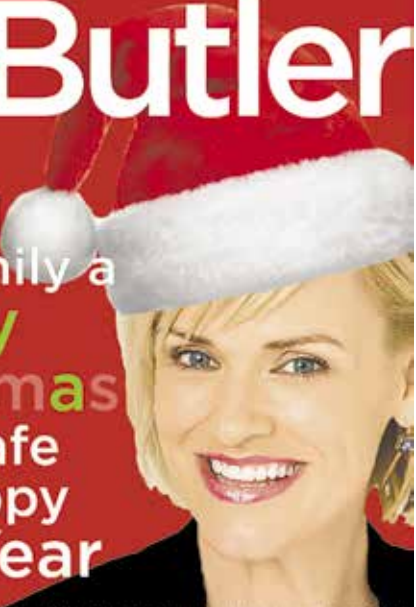




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**Jen Butler**

wishes you and your family a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year



Authorised by J Butler, 36 William Street, Perth, TAS 7300



# Heart of a community

Cheshunt was built between 1850 and 1852 by William Archer.

Photo by: Mike Moores

By Mark Butson

AS YOU drive from Meander along Sandy Lane, amongst vivid green farming land, you catch a glimpse of an imposing grand mansion ahead.

Approaching Cheshunt, you expect to see Jane Eyre walking amongst the gardens in a long flowing dark dress, waiting for Mr Rochester to return home.

The building architecture is predominantly Georgian, with an eclectic mix of Victorian verandahs, and even an Italianate Villa style tower at the

rear. The grand entry room even has a fireplace. There are 23 rooms (9 bedrooms), many ornate marble fireplace surrounds, soaring ceilings, and the original working kitchen fireplace, used by servants.

There are also several outbuildings, granary, butchery, carpentry shop, blacksmith shop and living quarters. This is a hard working farm, owned and operated by Paul and Catherine Bowman (with the help of their adult children, Alastair and Felicity).

The genesis for Cheshunt was the famous Tasmanian

Archer dynasty at Woolmers Estate, Longford. William Archer, the founding father, was granted over 7,000 acres at Cheshunt in 1828 and generously passed the land to his son William, who moved there in 1846 after marrying Ann Hortle.

William studied architecture and engineering in London, and Botany at the Royal Botanic gardens in Kew. He designed Cheshunt in 1850, and had it built between 1850 and 1852. He only had funding for the centre and right wings, but his design draw-

ings included a left wing. He planted exotic trees around the building including elms, chestnuts, Japanese cedars, oaks and American cottonwood trees, a testimony to his Botanical knowledge (and admired by Botanists today).

His other designs in Tasmania include Mona Vale, additions to Fairfield, an Italianate Villa addition to Woolmers, and several schools.

William Archer sold Cheshunt in 1873 to William Bowman from South Australia (who died in 1879) and passed ownership to his son Frederick. Fred had the left wing built between 1885 and 1886, following William Archer's design drawings. Fred employed many local men, establishing a profitable farm of sheep, cattle and grain. He was heavily involved in the community church and cricket.

In 1883, he married Gertrude

Field from the Calstock Estate in Deloraine, embarking on an 8 month world honeymoon trip. For one week, they stayed in Switzerland with the family of Cheshunt worker, Mr Reifer.

Fred died in 1929, and passed ownership of Cheshunt to his grandson Ronald. Gertrude and her daughter Stephanie remained living in Cheshunt until Stephanie died in 1969.

Ron and his wife Leila, moved into Cheshunt in 1971, and worked hard at restoring the home, which had fallen into disrepair. Ron (who died in 1996) handed the reigns to his son Paul Bowman in 1985.

Paul and his family have continued the enormous restoration project of the home and outbuildings.

Their children fully intend to continue the Bowman tradition of operating and maintaining Cheshunt.

## No change for show day

MEANDER VALLEY Council has ruled out supporting a proposal to swap the Launceston Show Day holiday for an Agfest holiday.

Cllr Bob Richardson put the motion at the November council meeting, saying that Meander Valley people do not support the Launceston Show as they do Agfest.

But Cllr Ian Mackenzie said that Agfest organisers do not want a public holiday for their event because of the impact on costs of penalty rates.

"Agfest doesn't need a public holiday; it already attracts 60,000 people," he said.

"I don't think we should put a nail in the coffin of the Launceston Show."

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# 'Carrickers' of Carrick

By Lorraine Clarke

ALTHOUGH TASMANIA loses many of its youngsters to the big wide world, it draws many of those who have grown older and wiser. One by one, the Pucetti family found good reasons to relocate from South Australia to our lovely island, until Andrew, with wife Susanne, became the last of eight siblings to make a new home here. They bought and re-fitted the old convict-built bluestone mill at Carrick,

and painstakingly packed 3 containers with 100 cubic metres of treasures and precious trinkets to stock it in its new incarnation as an antiques store.

Andrew is an amateur historian by inclination. "Sue and I are old-fashioned people. We like things from earlier eras," he said. "We're 100% behind Tasmanian heritage and want to maintain as much of it as possible. We're members of the National Trust. We want to leave this place better than

we found it."

The monolithic 3 foot thick stone walls of the 4-storey building exudes permanence and is cool on the hottest day. The Pucettis have sympathetically restored the mill's gutted interior to life while retaining elements of its original working history. A huge functional replica wooden water wheel at one end of the store actually spins when there is a lot of rain. "There used to be a dam upstream with a millrace that fed into the wheel, but that was washed away in the great flood of 1929. We'd love to be

able to replace the dam and use the wheel to generate electricity for the town. The wheel was spinning madly last winter."

Andrew loves to share the history of their extraordinary home. A wooden mill beside a crude timber bridge over the Liffey River was the first building in Carrick in 1820. When this was washed away, the four-storey stone mill was erected in 1846 by Mr William Bryan, and later sold to Mr T. W. Monds, whose name still graces the front wall. "The mill used to be the biggest employer in Carrick. In harvest season, horses carting drayloads of grain would be backed up into the village. The mill could hold 17,000 bushels of grain."

The original millstones are still on site, massive wheels of hand-tooled stone accurately pieced together and bound with iron. In operation, these weighty stones were separated by the tiniest margin but never quite met as they ground wheat into fine flour to feed Tasmania's grow-

ing population, and bran to fuel the hard-working horses that provided transport and motive power before the combustion engine era changed our world.

Behind the mill is the old miller's cottage, built in 1846 of convict-made red bricks. Andrew and Sue intend to restore this authentically for B&B accommodation. They revel in their acres of grass, trees and established gardens surrounding the mill, sloping down to the river. "Our antiques store opened on 1st October, and business so far has exceeded our expectations. We used to be city slickers, but now we're proud to be known as the Carrickers of Carrick."

Visit Carrick Mill Antiques and browse through the collections of old jewellery, china, coins, books and magazines, toys, glassware, furniture and multifarious knick-knacks displayed in a evocative and historic setting. Contact Andrew or Sue on 0415 734 154.



Photo by: Mike Moores

Andrew and Sue Pucetti's antique shop is now open in the newly refurbished Carrick Mill.

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The Brn of Meander Lodge would like to wish everyone a wonderful festive Christmas. Friendship & love - food for the soul. Enjoy the season. Remember the reason. Happy to meet, sorry to part.



Ms Juleesa Smith

## Scholarships are up for grabs

MEANDER VALLEY students looking to further their education, have the chance to apply for a scholarship worth \$5000 to assist with the cost of further studies.

The Deloraine & District Community Bank scholarship was first awarded in 2013 to Ms Juleesa Smith.

Ms Smith said the scholarship allowed her to move to Wagga Wagga to study a

Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree at Charles Sturt University.

"The scholarship helped me to be able to support myself through university and not have to rely on my parents which would have caused financial restraint on them," said Ms Smith.

The scholarships are for students within the Meander

Valley Area, for study-related expenses including accommodation and course costs, textbooks, and tutoring.

The most recent recipient, Mr Cameron Swain, is currently working towards his Bachelor of Psychology at Griffith University on the Gold Coast.

Community Bank Branch Manager, Darren Rumble said "We are delighted to be able to provide support for local students like Juleesa and Cameron to pursue higher education."

"We are also delighted to announce that this year we will also offer a TAFE Scholarship in its program for 2018."

Scholarships will be awarded based on academic achievement, financial and/or social challenges and evidence of leadership and citizenship within their communities.

Scholarship applications will be available in the Community Bank Branch or online at [bendigobank.com.au/scholarships](http://bendigobank.com.au/scholarships) from 1st December.

## Events Diary

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

Date and Time	Event	Details
Friday 1st December - 31st December	The Art of Royce Pentaghast	Pixels, Deloraine Digital Art Gallery, 21 West Parade Deloraine. Ph: 6362 3537.
Saturday 2nd December	Don Chorale Handels's Messiah	Gallery 9, West Barrack Street, Deloraine Adults \$25.00 Concession \$20.00 <a href="http://www.facebook.com/DonChorale">www.facebook.com/DonChorale</a> .
Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd December	Apex Club Tasmanian Tractor Pull Challenge	Red Hills Memorial Park 9.30am gates open for 10.30am start Adults \$15.00 Under 16 Free.
Sat 2nd & Sun 3rd December 10.00 - 4.00pm	Mole Creek Country Gardens weekend	Old Wesley Dale garden, Marakoopa Café garden & Wychwood Adult \$8.00 each garden or \$20.00 for all 3.
Saturday 2nd December 9.00am - 1.00pm	Deloraine Showground Market	Highland Lakes Rd, Deloraine Phone: 03 6369 5321 or 0409 695 321 for more information.
Saturday 2nd December 9.30am	Classic Carriages d Attelage de Tradition	Entally House, Hadspen old and new-style carriages More info Ph: David 0457 881 109 or Michael 6343 4308.
Sunday 3rd December 11.00am - 4.00pm	Sounds of Summer Community Music Event	Meander Riverbank near Pontoon Food & Raffle prizes Bring a blanket By: MV Community Radio.
Wednesday 6th December 10.00am - 2.00pm	Baptcare Outreach Service	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine Call Lucus at Baptcare on 1800 171 233 to make appt.
Thursday 7th December 11.00am	Life is short - be prepared - Talk by Sarah House	Community Health Centre, 89 Meander Valley Road, Westbury. Re wills, POA's, advanced care directives.
Saturday 9th December 7.30pm sharp	Western Tiers Film Society - "The Second Mother"	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd. Deloraine Brazil Drama 112min Rated: R Ph: 0418 389 868.
Saturday 9th December 8.00am - 1.00pm	Lions Club of Hadspen South Esk Car Boot Sale	Riverbank at Hadspen.
Saturday 9th December 4.00pm	U3A Art Exhibition Opening	Deloraine Creative Studios Gallery Open 10.00am - 4.00pm daily 9th - 23rd December Ph: Linda 6362 4368.
Sunday 10th December 10.30am - 2.30pm	Christmas fun and market day	Blackstone Park, Blackstone Heights. Lots of fun activities and food available.
Sunday 10th December 6.00pm	Christmas Celebrations on the Village Green	Village Green, Westbury Refreshments from 6.00pm Performances begin at 7.00pm All Welcome.
Tuesday 12th December 10.00am - 3.00pm	Spinners Group	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine Ph: Ineka 6397 3640 New spinners are welcome.
Wednesday 13th Dec. 10.00am - 10.45am	Story Time - Singing Stories & Craft	Westbury Community Health Centre, 89 Meander Valley Road, Westbury - Call Anne-Marie 0417 120 671.
Thursday 14th December 9.00am - 1.00pm	Tai Chi & Qigong	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine Cost \$10.00 Contact Judy Harker 0409 477 828.
Saturday 16th December 11.00am	Kooparoonia Niara Cultural Trail Official Opening	Train Park near rail bridge 11.00am for 11.30am start bring blanket or portable seat Martin 0447 800 625.
Saturday 16th December 6.30pm - 8.30pm	Carols by the River	Deloraine Rotunda Sausage Sizzle 6.30pm Carols 7.00pm Free-but donations appreciated.
Saturday 16th December 8.00am - 1.00pm	Westbury Market	Anglican Hall, 11 Lonsdale Promenade, Westbury Ph: 0417 931 619.
Saturday 16th December 6.30pm - 8.30pm	Mole Creek Market	Mole Creek Memorial Hall \$10.00 per table - for bookings and enquiries call Leanne on 0409 713 240.
Sunday 31st December 4.30pm - midnight	Carrick Park Pacing Club meeting	Harness racing meeting featuring Meander Valley Cup. Entertainment, Face Painting, Horsemanship displays.
Sunday 7th January 5.30pm Bar & BBQ	Festival of Small Halls, evening of music & song	Rosevale Hall starts 7.00pm Limited tickets Ph: 6393 5300 from 10th Nov; \$15.00 13+ yrs, \$10.00 U12, U5 Free.
Friday 19th - 21st January	Tasmanian Junior Beef Expo	Deloraine Showgrounds, Highland Lakes Rd 3 day camp.
Sunday 21st January 1.00pm	Red Hot Summer Tour	Country Club Lawns, Prospect Vale Suzi Quatro, Angels, Baby Animals, Screaming Jets etc. Tickets 136 100.
Saturday 26th January 8.00am - 1.00pm	Lions Club of Hadspen South Esk Car Boot Sale	Riverbank at Hadspen.
Every Wednesday 1:30pm - 3:00pm	Deloraine Memoir Group	Deloraine House. Learn to write about memorable aspects of your life.
Every Wednesday 10:00am - 12:30pm	Rowdy Ruggers	Deloraine House. Hook-rug making group. New ruggers welcome, child friendly. Cost \$2.00pp.

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**Don Tracey, Deloraine Golf Club's new life member.**

# A lifetime of golf Woodchop Wonder

AT THE 2017 AGM of the Deloraine Golf Club, one of the club's longer serving members Don Tracey was awarded life membership. Don was recognised as a valued club member, serving as President, Captain, Course Manager and committee member. Don has played pennant for over 20 years and been a co-organiser for 30 years of Farmers's Day, one of the clubs biggest annual events. President and Members congratulated Don on this wonderful achievement. 2017 was a challenging year for the club due to a virus in the greens, causing

significant loss of revenue due to less player participation. Restoring the greens required many volunteer hours and expense to put a recovery programme in place. Grants from Mark Shelton MP and the Meander Valley Council have been appreciated, as the course is now looking spectacular and the greens are improving. Members and visitors are invited to enjoy a game of golf. Green fees are \$20.00 for all day golf. New members are welcome. All enquiries to Secretary Beverley Jordan. Please phone 63 622 801.

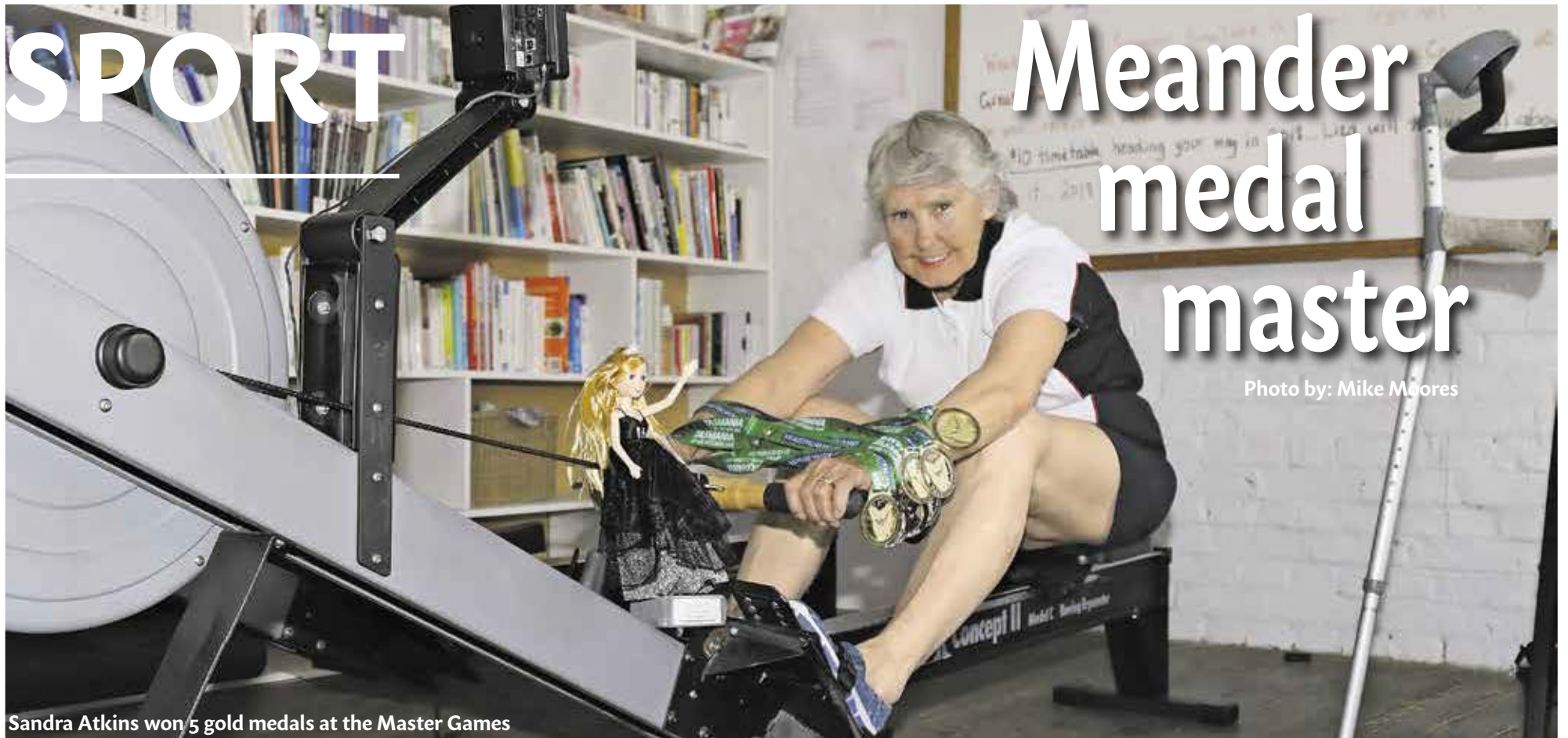
**By David Claridge**  
DELORAIN LOCAL, Daniel Gurr has been busy over the last few months collecting firsts in wood cutting competitions around Australia. From winning the Australian title in tree felling at the Brisbane show in August, the world tree felling championship at the Perth show around September, to recently coming away with the Australian Rookie Champion at the STIHL Timbersports national final in October, Daniel is truly following in his father's footsteps. From the Timbersports win, Daniel has earned a place

at the Rookie World Championship in Marseille, France in May next year. "I've been doing it my whole life. I'm pretty experienced for my age," Daniel said. "Doing the rookie championship and getting a chance to compete in the world championship for Australia has been great." In preparation for the world championship event, Daniel was recently invited to attend a training camp in Norway. "I plan to use the experience I gained in Norway to get me across the line. Hopefully I can bring it home for Australia."

# SPORT

# Meander medal master

Photo by: Mike Moores



Sandra Atkins won 5 gold medals at the Master Games

THE AUSTRALIAN Masters Games 2017 were held in Devonport in October.

Sandra Atkins of Osmaston competed in both indoor rowing and show jumping, winning gold in the 500m, 1000m and 2000m rowing events in the 75-79 age group.

For show jumping, Sandra won gold in the 70cm scurry and the 6-bar jump, winning silver in the 65cm

jump and the power and speed 50cm jump.

Sandra commented, '... they were two very diverse sports, but I wanted to get fitter for riding and I used to love rowing as a youngster ... the rowing has definitely helped my riding, so much stronger in my core strength and fitness. The best decision I've made in years!'

In other events, the Delo-

raine Devils Netball Club Masters were first-timers in the over 30s age group at the Devon Netball Centre, Spreyton.

The Devils played 8 games in 5 days, undefeated, to win the gold medal 30 to 18.

The weather was beautiful and Devils thoroughly enjoyed the Masters - with several trips to the beach for recovery.

Connie Frydrych of Mole

Creek is an experienced competitor, living up to the Masters' motto 'Swimming for Fun, Fitness and Friendship'.

Connie began competitive swimming in Rhodesia at age 7, returning to competitive swimming in South Africa as a Master in 1984 and joining Australian Masters in 1994.

Over 33 years, Connie has attended ten World Championships, five World Mas-

ters, two Pan Pacific and two Australian Masters, accumulating fifteen gold, five silver and five bronze medals. She holds eight Tasmanian State records in the 60-64 age group.

Connie won 4 gold medals this year, in the 100m individual medley, 50m backstroke, 100m backstroke and 50m freestyle.

She says 'Backstroke has always been my favourite...'

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