

SAVE THE CHILDREN

Locals rally on the river

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CARVED IN STONE

Cambodian carvers demonstrate unique skills

> PAGE 12



SUPER MUM

Daisy raises 52 calves

> PAGE 14

Meander Valley Gazette

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December 2018

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper



Kerry's king of the crop

Kerry the rooster ruffled a few feathers when he was awarded Best Bird In Show for the second year running at the Deloraine Show. Being firmly at the top of the pecking order, Kerry the Rhode Island Red, certainly has something to crow about. While the prize money may seem like chickenfeed, the award is the top perch when it comes to prestige. Kerry is pictured here with his proud owner, Tony Sherriff. Photo by: Mike Moores

Fire risk looms large in valley

By David Claridge

EACH YEAR, as summer approaches, the question is asked how bad can the bushfire season get this time?

According to the Brigade Chief of Deloraine Fire Station, Dan Watson, people need to refresh themselves on how to protect themselves and their properties

in the event of something terrible happening.

"This year, October and the first week of November were very busy for Deloraine and for the rest of the brigades in the Western Tiers Group," he said.

"At Deloraine, we normally have one to two call outs per week, but we were doing on

average two call outs per three days.

"We have had a drier than normal few months, but all the advice we are getting from the people in the know is that this year will be no different for the Meander Valley area than from other years.

"There are a lot of very wise landowners

out here that understand and respect fire in the wild and I think that helps everyone stay safe every summer.

"Most of the fire fighters that work in the Meander Valley region are volunteers who have other jobs and of course families that they put on hold to be available to attend fires around the

state during the summer.

"I would like to thank all the volunteers from our local brigades for all their hard work they do and for all the time they give up for training and call outs," Mr Watson said.

"Also, for the people who want to use fire outdoors, please register your fire. There's a fair chance you will save a brigade from being called out when not needed as you might

know your fire is safe but someone that can see your smoke may not and call 000 to report what they believe is a fire emergency.

"By calling 1800 000 699 you can register a burn and get a permit if needed."

The Tasmania Fire Service website www.fire.tas.gov.au has more information and will provide updates on any bushfires in the region as they progress.

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I look forward to assisting those in the
McIntyre Electorate in 2019.*

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**Best wishes
from the staff
and volunteers at
Meander Valley Gazette**

Photo by: Jill Heyer on Unsplash



When it came to having a good time at the Westbury Show, the Warren family (including Lucky) had it licked. Lucky won 2nd place in the most obedient class of the ever-popular pet parade. In the true spirit of sharing, Ash aged 5, Harry aged 9 and Lochlain aged 8 shared an icecream with Lucky to celebrate his success. Photo by: Mike Moores

Meander dispute continues...

By Sharon Webb

TASMANIA'S PLANNING tribunal has made a ruling allowing progress on a dispute about use of the former Meander Primary School, a dispute already costing thousands of dollars in legal fees.

The Resource Planning and Appeals Tribunal in October ruled Teen Challenge, the organisation renting the school property from Meander Valley Council, must allow accredited town planning and bushfire hazard practitioners onto the property.

As the dispute continues, Meander Valley Council has spent \$20,000 on legal advice; MARRA has spent around \$15,000.

Teen Challenge declined to answer legal cost questions but it is believed their legal expertise is donated.

Council's general manager, Martin Gill, indicated there was no ceiling on council's legal costs to defend its decision to hand over the property to Teen Challenge for a peppercorn rent: "I cannot anticipate the total

legal costs. Council is obliged as the planning authority to participate in the current tribunal process."

Since May, Meander Residents and Ratepayers Association has requested two experts be allowed onto the property to gather information to appeal Meander Valley Council's decision to allow Teen Challenge to use the property to reform female drug users.

Teen Challenge has refused the experts' access.

MARRA secretary Karen

Hillman said: "We welcome RMPAT's decision."

"We couldn't understand Teen Challenge's refusal to allow site access in the first place, given the site is not even in use yet. Their refusal also caused a six month delay that is at odds with their frequent claims that they are being prevented from operating."

Teen Challenge spokesperson Tanya Cavanagh said: "We [originally] submitted our application and received a permit approval from the council."

"This approval was appealed against by Timberworld Pty Ltd and the appeal is currently before the tribunal.

We see no merits in the appeal and so we intend to see the appeal process to its final conclusion which we expect will be that the council decision is upheld."

More than two years ago Meander Valley Council approved Teen Challenge, taking over the former school property for drug users' education and residence.

This has not begun, MARRA having appealed the council's decision.

Teen Challenge leaders Ms Cavanagh and Mr Peter Ferrall are using the property; Mr Gill said living there is not

Continued on Page 6...

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Community Bank comes to the rescue

A TOTAL of \$152,601.80 was committed to 10 local projects in the Deloraine and Districts Community Bank® Branch of Bendigo Bank second community grants round for 2018.

The funds will support dedicated community groups to realise their dreams.

"We feel so supported," says Sharman Lewis, grants officer from the small but devoted

group of people working to restore the fabric of the heritage listed Parkham Church.

The deconsecrated church and hall property at Parkham was purchased in 2016 by Parkham Community Inc to be used as a community centre. The external fabric is in poor condition and needs urgent intervention to repoint the stone foundations, replace

leaking guttering and sections of rotting timber before being repainted.

"There are starlings nesting in the walls," comments Sharman.

Parkham Community Inc. received a \$10,000 grant from the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank® Branch that enables the group to apply for a further \$90,000 from the Tasmanian Community Fund who require that 10% of funds needed for projects be raised from another source.

The old church was built in 1902 by community members on donated land with donated local timber and funds raised by the community largely by growing potatoes. The inner fabric of the church is still in good condition and Parkham Community Inc members are keen to see the beautiful old building restored thereby helping them with fundraising into the future and keeping their heritage alive.

Another restoration project that will go ahead thanks to a community grant from the bank is the refurbishment of Pearn's Steam World flagship engine the 1910 8HP Foden traction engine.

A regular attraction at Agfest, St Patrick's Day festivals, Westbury and Deloraine Shows, without repair, the engine will become a static display at the museum.

As a high-pressure vessel, boilers must meet strict criteria and the Foden no longer meets certification standards.

This type of work can only be carried out by specialist heritage repair people and will cost up to \$40,000 for the professional component of the repairs. "The \$20,000 grant provided by the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank will go a long way towards



Photo by: Mike Moores

breaking the back of the fundraising needed to repair the Foden," says treasurer of the Pearn's Steam World Committee Ruth Paterson, adding "It's a big job for our small committee to raise funds. We can't thank them enough."

Simon Rootes, Manager of the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank® Branch of Bendigo Bank says he enjoys leading a team that are working together to support local community projects. "As a team we feel so much pride when we see the work we put in throughout the year turn into such great community

outcomes. Not only are we providing an excellent banking service to our community each day, we are then able to give back to the community that support our branch. It's a great organisation to be a part of, knowing that we are really making a difference to our community is what really drives our team."

The Deloraine & Districts Community Bank® Branch of Bendigo Bank has now returned close to \$1.5 million to the Meander Valley community through grants, dividends, sponsorship and donations.

Recipients for the Community Grant Round 2 were:

- Deloraine Agricultural & Pastoral Society (Deloraine Show) - \$50,000 - new kitchen/dining pavilion and amenities.
- Deloraine Baptist Church - \$5,500 - Hall heating and replacement floor
- Deloraine Football Club - \$7092.80 - tables
- Deloraine House - \$9,960 - Upgrade to windows and removal of chimney
- Kentish Regional Clinic Inc (CORES - Meander Valley) - \$1,900 - Meander Valley Community Response to Eliminating Suicide (one day prevention workshops)
- Parkham Community Inc. - \$3,500 - Water Security for Parkham Community Centre
- Parkham Community Inc. - \$10,000 - Restoring the Heart of the Community (Church restoration)
- Pearn's Steam World - \$20,000 - The Crown (restoration of historic machinery)
- Rotary Club of Deloraine - \$7,000 - Rotary Function Centre Improvements
- Rotary Club of Westbury - \$12,649 - Food Van Upgrade
- Western Tiers Film Society - \$25,000 - Little Theatre Sound System Upgrade

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Authorised by Senator Jonathon Duniam, Liberal Party of Australia, Ground Floor, 85 Macquarie Street, Hobart TAS 7000.



Photo by: Mike Moores

Pearn's Steam World Foden 1910 8HP traction engine delights crowds at local events.

In My Opinion...

By Joanne Eiseemann
Managing Editor

Quite a few people came into the *Gazette* office during the Council elections asking whom I thought they should vote for. I resisted the urge to encourage them to vote for my preferred candidates and instead asked why they didn't feel able to make up their own minds.

The response was the same every time, "I don't know any of these people."

It's not the same as state or federal elections where most candidates are party aligned so we have some idea of what they stand for.

I noticed that the communities in Tasmania with the highest percentage of eligible people voting were Flinders and King Islands, both with a shade under 83% of eligible voters returning a ballot paper. In Meander Valley it was 27% less with just under 56% of eligible people voting.

We do tend to talk quite a bit about connected communities these days and how connected we all are with social media etc., but to my

way of thinking King and Flinders Island have shown clear evidence of how connected they are with their election figures.

It's a pretty fair bet that most people voting in those council areas knew, or knew of the people they were voting for.

Only 3 states in Australia have non-compulsory voting for local government elections: Tasmania, Western Australia and South Australia.

In the most recent local government elections in South and Western Australia, the state average for eligible voters voting was close to 31%, 27.7% lower than Tasmania's average of 58.7%. In relation to the mainland, Tasmania is doing a much better job at engaging its inhabitants in local politics. However, if we look and learn from communities such as King and Flinders Island therein lies an opportunity to be brilliant.

In this day and age it's probably not too hard to solve - perhaps a web page where all candidates can write a blog, post some videos, photos and can add their CV would help.

Letters In...

A QUAMBY Brook resident has applied to build a modified shipping container to store guns and ammunition he plans to sell as a home business (*Meander Valley Gazette*, November 2018). Has World War Three broken out? Has the Calici virus failed, or has the five-shot pump action shotgun jammed? With hundreds of guns being handed in at every gun amnesty since the Port Arthur massacre, why do farmers need more? With a record number of guns and ammunition being stolen from gun safes, how safe is a shipping container out the back of Quamby Brook? Get a grip on it, they're about to build a high security prison just down the road.

A.R. Trounson, Needles

I AM looking for information (and photograph, if possible) about William Boney. He was a Deloraine boy who attended Launceston Technical School in the late 1940s and, in due course, became Tasmania's Rhodes Scholar (1954).

The information is needed for a contribution to a booklet being produced for distribution at a Tech Centenary Celebration in March, 2019. The booklet will include information about several former students who became prominent in their various

fields after they left school.

Also, any former students who are interested in being involved in the celebrations in any way are invited to get in touch with me on 6362 4488.

John Phelps, Deloraine

MY NAME is Phil Crowden and I am from Deloraine and over my 65 years have done much walking in the Deloraine area, particularly in the Great Western Tiers and the Meander (Hunstman) area.

On Tuesday this week I went for a walk to the Meander Falls and was delighted to see some track work being done. There has been very little done to the track for the last 30 years or so, apart from a few bridge replacements.

Chris and his two track work colleagues are to be commended on their work and their obvious skill at remaking some sections of the track; their attention to correct drainage and the creation of stone steps using the rock in the area being particularly encouraging.

Rather than spend money creating new tracks in the area, priority needs to be given to improving what already exists, and also to improving the access roads to the start of those tracks. The condition of the road to the start of the Meander Falls track is in very poor condition in some sections and is not

Let the freedom bells ring

BEGINNING IN December, the bells at St Mark's Anglican Church in Deloraine will ring for a period of 10 minutes each Friday as part of the Freedom Bells for Asylum Seekers campaign.

The bells are to remind us that there are men, women and children - just like us - who don't live in freedom and who don't have a hope for the future.

Rev Joshua Skeat says, "We are participating in this campaign, as a means of protesting the treatment of our fellow human beings - it is one small way that we can love our neighbour."

"The good news of Jesus Christ is all about establishing a hope and a future and we believe that this has real world impact here and now."

"How can we just stand by as people, many of whom are fleeing war zones and

persecution, are locked up indefinitely in our name?"

"This one small act of ringing the bells says 'We haven't forgotten you, we are praying for you and we call on our government to close the offshore detention centres and process all refugee claims.'"

Church and community members are invited to join with those ringing the bells to pray for all held in detention, and to write to their members of parliament asking them to resolve this situation.

Swim class

LEARN-TO-SWIM is being held again at Deloraine pool on 7 January to 18 January 2019.

Registration is on 3 January 2019 between 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. A free service from Deloraine Rotary, Phone Lois 0411 118 212

The Walls is a well-resourced access node to the TWWHA. Any further consideration of development in the TWWHA must await the state government's TWWHA Tourism Master Plan.

We want people to spend money locally and enjoy our area, then tell others about our community and the destination. Country comfort on the edge of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, with so many opportunities for day trips. This is value adding in tourism to benefit the community. (Mind you, we need a bit better wheelchair access around here!)

It's time for the region's community to really get behind day-tripping nature based activities to develop Meander Valley as a destination, no longer a region tourists just pass through or find out about too late to take the time.

Deb Hunter, Wild Cave Tours, Caveside

THREE CHEERS for French President Emmanuel Macron for highlighting the dangers of nationalism at the recent WW1 Armistice Commemorations in France. It is particularly crucial at this time in history, the Decade of the Strongman, which sees the likes of Kim Jong Un, Vladimir Putin, Rodrigo Duterte, and Donald J.Trump (these are only the top four offenders - there are plenty more in South America and Europe) hosing down their particular parts of the world with testosterone. It's time to focus on brotherhood, not petty differences in colour, sex, religion or location. One smart historian said, "Patriotism is the last refuge of the scoundrel".

Ed Tuleja, Meander

suitable for rental cars, particularly as most rental car contracts prohibit their use on unsealed roads!

Lastly, great work to all those involved and I hope it continues, but put the creation of new tracks on the back-burner until the existing tracks are brought up to acceptable standards.

Phil Crowden, Riverside

THE GWT Tourism Association has been working with a strategy seeing this region as Tasmania's short walks destination. Wild Cave Tours and Meander Wilderness Experience (MVG, November 2018) are a good fit and I strongly support this strategy. Where people don't just pass through but stay for more than a night in our lovely local accommodation, enjoying our local food and wine and take day trips into the edge of the wilderness, whether day bush walks, or (for example) day trips like Marakoopa Cave followed by Devil's Gullet or enjoying a Wild Cave Tour followed by Trowunna Wildlife Sanctuary and back to their local accommodation for the night.

We do not need any new multi-day walk with new huts impacting on our Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA) natural values, currently enjoyed unspoiled by the locals. "Node" access from local accommodation is the best way to maximise host community benefits associated with world heritage areas. We already have lots of existing short walks, several beautifully restored traditional huts and one of the best and most famous multi-day walks in the state, the Walls of Jerusalem.

EST. 2013

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Rowing for refugees



Margaret Tabor and John Phelps added their voices to a protest for refugees held on the Meander River. Photo by: Mike Moores

By Sharon Webb

AROUND 20 Meander Valley residents took to the water last month to add their voices to other Australians fighting to get child refugees off Nauru.

Battling a stiff wind on Deloraine's Meander River in their canoes, kayaks and rowboats, they joined 1000 people in Sydney's Hyde Park who listened to rock idol Jimmy Barnes, around

500 people in Melbourne and 6000 petitioning Australian doctors to demonstrate their strong objections to keeping children on Nauru.

Local organiser Pip Stanley said on the day: "There are still 80 kids on Nauru and they are having to go through the courts to get to Australia."

"The government is saying all will be off by Christmas but we believe there's no reason they can't come now."

According to Guardian Australia, the Federal Government is spending around \$300,000 a year fighting legal cases aimed at getting refugees off Nauru, including "a large number of children, among whom there is a worsening mental health crisis and several cases of resignation syndrome – a rare and potentially fatal condition that is considered a reaction to extreme trauma."

As Deloraine's own boat

people demonstrated their prowess on the water, complete with wobbly rowing and at least one unexpected dip, Reedy Marsh resident and former Meander Primary School principal Graham Pennicott maintained the Australian Government had created "a humanitarian crisis" on Nauru.

Deloraine resident Andy Dunn coxed an inexperienced rowing crew while Mark Kitteridge said he'd just want-

Meander dispute continues...

Continued from Page 3...

permitted and Teen Challenge must maintain the buildings and grounds.

MARRA's grounds of appeal to the TRMPA are that:

- Council incorrectly categorised the property as being used by Teen Challenge for "hospital services";
- Council incorrectly categorised the application as "non-residential use";
- The application does not comply with bushfire regulations because it has no bushfire plan;
- There is no site-specific study showing the facility is a suitable distance from noise and dust generated by neighbouring timber business, TimberWorld.

ed to turn up and make his voice heard on the issue.

Locals Margaret Tabor and John Phelps sported canoe signs saying "Try being humane" and "Sorry?" with John commenting: "My theory is that the Australian PM in 10 years' time will be saying sorry to these refugees."

Going to Uni or TAFE for the first time in 2019?

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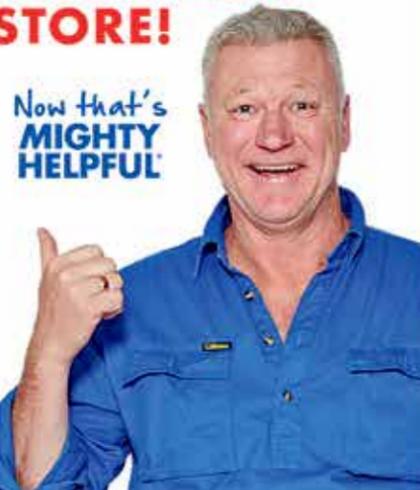
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MIGHTY HELPFUL MITRE 10

Community rallies for churches

QUAMBY ANGLICAN Parish are anxiously waiting to see whether their three iconic, heritage-listed, stone churches have been saved.

St Andrew's Carrick was built by Sir Thomas Reibey and consecrated by Bishop Nixon in 1845. With a graveyard and columbarium, the church is the only tangible sign of worship in the town.

St Andrew's Westbury is convict-built and the foundation stone laid in 1836. The oldest church in Westbury

and one of the earliest planned churches in Tasmania. Hosting Nellie Payne's wonderful woodcarvings, it has a columbarium but the cemetery is some distance away.

St Mary's Hagley dates to 1861, built and paid for by Sir Richard Dry. The first Tasmanian-born Premier, he is buried under the altar. The newest church, but possibly the most recognisable, it stands outside Hagley, 'a light on the hill'. It has a graveyard, columbar-

ium and (former) rectory.

The Diocesan Council of the Anglican Church of Tasmania meets in December to advise all state parishes as to whether their submissions are successful.

The Parish are determined to do everything they can to keep their churches open for the communities. While not against paying redress to the survivors of sexual abuse by Anglican clergy, the Parish believes that the Anglican Church of Tasmania can raise the money by other means.

The Parish have asked people to pray for the Parish's survival and the com-

munity has already rallied around them tremendously. The Parish hopes that this continues, especially leading up to the Diocesan decisions.

The Parish have started raising funds, as they must prove the Parish is sustainable in the future.

Donations have already been made and the local community is assisting with fund-raising. St Andrew's Westbury was packed recently, for a concert with local musicians Joanne Mitchelson (pan flute and harp), Hamish Pike (violin) and Peter Schultz (pipe organ).

Busy planning Christmas services, the Parish is asking

the community to embrace these events and consider the future of the Quamby Parish.

Flying on a wing and a prayer at this uncertain time the hope is that the parish will be like a phoenix bigger and stronger than ever before.

How you can help: Donations towards saving the churches and proving Parish sustainability can be made to the following account. Account name: Parish of Quamby BSB 067 014 Account number 10064930.

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Contact: Rev Josephine Pyecroft, mobile: 0412 202 563.

Photo by: Mike Moores



Quamby Parishioners protest the sale of their churches.

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Our Deloraine Office is open via appointment. For an appointment and no obligation free discussion please phone 6331 5555.



Over 50 species of birds

By Tara Ulbrich

YOU ARE standing in an excellent place for bird watching. So promises one of the interpretive boards on the Liffey River Reserve.

Read on and you'll be invited to sit down and seek out varieties of the more than 50 species that have been recorded in the area. This one-hour walk, or two depending on how long you sit, offers bird watching and much more.

As a loop track you will have to make two creek crossings. Therefore, recent observation of rainfall is a must. At first the walking is easy along Pages Creek with its own plumage of rich fernery but then some light climbing is involved.

Every five minutes or so you'll want to pause. The landscape radically changes and although you might think

that your senses are tuned into the scenery, transitions can be missed. A boardwalk across grassland suddenly turns into a rocky path with thicket of musk daisy-bush.

In 1990 Bob Brown donated this 105 acres to the then fledgling organisation Bush Heritage Australia. Now its volunteers manage the site, protecting the place for the fauna and flora, but also for our appreciation. This location of myrtle beech rainforest and dry and wet eucalypt forest is part of a collection of national treasures.

The Liffey River Reserve walk is easily accessed from the lower car-park of the more frequently visited Liffey Falls. Enjoy this track for its opportunity to read about the birdlife, the forest and the rock formations or enjoy it for the chance to sit in a pristine, ornithological utopia.



Fairy Wren spotted at the Liffey Falls Reserve Walk.

Photo by: Jade Hallam

A plum job for pickers

LAST SUMMER, Nan Preston saw the need to acquire preserving equipment for Harvest Helpers. She applied for and received a Tasmania Hydro grant, one of six awarded from the 90 applications received.

"It was one of those

projects that you just have to support," explained Kate Hickey, Hydro Tasmania Community Coordinator.

Based at Deloraine House, fruit tree owners in the Valley contact Harvest Helpers when they have fruit they are unable to pick and wish to

share with the community.

Once assessed, a crew is sent to pick fruit when ready to harvest. Fruit is divided between owners, pickers and the community.

The community share goes out fresh through various programs such as Deloraine House emergency aid, the Eating with Friends program and other meals and functions prepared by volunteers,

or is preserved by Harvest Helpers Preservers.

Outreach areas are linked through Westbury Community Health Centre, with other areas being implemented this year.

The need to preserve excess fruit has grown with the Harvest Helpers program, so Preservers have now joined Pickers as volunteers.

As an experienced preserver, Nan Preston knows fruit can be preserved by various methods. Tasmania Hydro and Meander Valley Council grants have helped purchase equipment so excess fruit can be juiced, bottled, dehydrated, water-bathed, pressure-canned and stored for distribution throughout the year.

"We train those who have done no preserving," Nan said. "We use accredited kitchens

in the community and all volunteers are trained in safe techniques".

The group is self-sustainable, partnering with other community groups and through generous community donations.

"We want to remove wasted food in the community and get it to people struggling to give good food to their families. We also want to teach people to preserve and use the food they have access to," said Nan.

Working with Westbury Community Health Centre, Deloraine House and the Tech School, Nan will bring food-preserving awareness through programs beginning in autumn.

To volunteer as a Picker or Preserver, call Nan Preston at 6302-3377 or email mvharvestco.op@gmail.com.

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planning@fire.tas.gov.au
www.fire.tas.gov.au

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Photo by: Mike Moores

David Hudson from Harvest Helpers tests the newly-preserved produce with Elena Olah from Deloraine House.

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Tyler Village
Launceston



Above: Wayne Johnston, Mayor of Meander Valley

Mayor Johnston ready for new role

Newly elected Mayor, Wayne Johnston is more than ready to take on the challenge of Local Government, leading a newly formed Council to represent the constituents of Meander Valley.

Whilst undertaking his Declaration of Office early last month, Mayor Johnston acknowledged the work of the previous Council and the commitment made by former Mayor, Craig Perkins.

"Meander Valley has benefited from the dedication shown by Craig. The role of Mayor is a rewarding, but challenging one. To serve for seven years is an outstanding achievement and on behalf of the residents of Meander Valley, we thank you," Mayor Wayne Johnston said.

A Meander Valley local, Mayor Johnston follows his father into Local Government who was a Councillor for the former Deloraine Municipality.

Five of Meander Valley's nine elected members are new to the role, adding further diversity to the collective group of Council.

"Together we will be work-

ing hard to advocate for the Meander Valley community, aiming to balance growth with service delivery," Mayor Johnston said.

The opening of the Westbury Show was the Mayor's first public engagement, one he describes as "fitting".

"Local shows reflect the rural and regional values of Meander Valley. Behind the scenes, an army of volunteers work hard all year and their contribution has ensured the success and longevity of this event", Mayor Johnston said.

"Meander Valley is unique and our diversity serves to strengthen our region both economically and socially.

The community displays an incredible work ethic and, because of that we have the opportunity to live, work and shop locally.

I am humbled to have been elected and I thank everyone for their goodwill and support.

I look forward to serving the community as Mayor and working with you," Mayor Johnston said.



Track cycling superstars on their way to Westbury

Westbury's tranquil streets will be tinged with gold on Boxing Day when superstars of Australian track cycling descend upon the Village Green precinct to kick-off the 2018-19 Fulton Hogan Tasmanian Christmas Sports Carnivals.

Gold Coast Commonwealth Games gold medallists Sam Welsford, Kelland O'Brien, Alex Porter and Alexandra Manly will spearhead a top-flight contingent of more than one hundred racing cyclists from across Australia and overseas, showcasing their talents in the three-race Criterium Festival.

Meander Valley Council Mayor, Wayne Johnston said he was thrilled that the

Criterium was returning to Westbury after an absence last year.

"It's fabulous that cyclists of such high calibre will be gracing our streets," Mayor Johnston said.

Westbury's Boxing Day Criterium Festival is an opportunity for the entire family to enjoy a picnic on the Village Green whilst watching one of Tasmania's most challenging and spectacular criterium races.

What's special this year is that everyone will have a chance to experience the race circuit for themselves.

"Prior to the race, Meander Valley Council will be hosting a 30 minute Communi-

ty Ride. Open to cyclists of all ages, it's an opportunity for everyone in the family to complete a circuit or two and get a real feel for the course," Mayor Johnston said.

The Community Ride will start at 3.30pm and participants will be able to register on the day.

The 1.3km circuit starts and finishes on Lonsdale Promenade (near the RSL) and encompasses Lyall, William, Dexter and Adelaide Streets.

More information about the Criterium and the Community Ride is available on the Meander Valley Council's website, visit www.meander.tas.gov.au



Construction of new netball courts underway

Construction work for two new outdoor netball courts in Alveston Drive commenced on 1 October.

The Baker Group was awarded the construction contract by Council and the project involves earthworks, drainage and the in-

stallation of retaining walls, lighting and fencing.

Funding for the project includes grants sourced by the Deloraine Devils Netball Club from the Deloraine and Districts Community Bank, Community Infrastructure Fund,

the State Liberal Government election commitment, the Tasmanian Community Fund and Council.

The project is on schedule and work should be completed by the end of January.

Thinking of putting up a pool these holidays?

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 and that includes those pools purchased from your local department store. By

law, the minimum requirement is a certificate of likely compliance from your building surveyor to ensure that the fence complies 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.



School Holiday ACTIVITIES



Meander Valley Council is offering a nature based activity program over the summer break for young people in Grade 6 to college age ranges.

A number of outdoor activities are being considered:

- Derby Mountain Bike Camp • Rock Climbing
- Caving Camp • Paddling & Ropes Courses

In addition, we will be running a 'Beauty Inside and Out' activity, which will cover basic makeup application and understanding that beauty is far more than skin deep.

These activities will be subject to interest and weather conditions. Get in early as places are limited! To register your interest phone Vicki on 0400 155 690 or email vicki.jordan@mvc.tas.gov.au

For more details visit www.meander.tas.gov.au



Have you got a scaly neighbour?

Snakes can be seen in surprising places, particularly when water is in short supply. During the drier months, gardens can be attractive places to search for water.

Whilst most snakes will be passing through, you can minimise their visits by following a few easy steps:

- Keep grass mown
- keep garden debris to a minimum
- Store your wood heap away from the house and/or elevated 0.5m above the ground
- Keep underneath your house sealed or clear and dry
- Remove standing water
- Have well maintained yard fencing

Tasmania's snakes are protected. It is illegal to harm them in either Council's parks and reserves or on private property. If you do encounter a snake, the best thing to do is to let the snake go its own way.

If you have a snake that has taken up residence, they can be removed and relocated. Phone Reptile Rescue on 0407 565 181.

For more information about snakes, management and first aid, visit www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au



Notice of Annual General Meeting

Electors within the Meander Valley local government area are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting to be held on Tuesday 11 December 2018 at the Council Chambers, Westbury, commencing at 4pm.

The Agenda for the meeting will include a formal presentation of the 2017/18 Annual Report and discussion of related public submissions.

2017/2018 Annual Report

Copies of the 2017/18 Annual Report will be available from Thursday 29 November at the Council Offices, 26 Lyall Street, Westbury, by phoning 6393 5317 or by visiting www.meander.tas.gov.au

Council invites the community to submit comments on the Annual Report for discussion at the Annual General Meeting.

Written submissions should be addressed to the General Manager, PO Box 102, Westbury, 7303 and must be received by COB, Friday 7 December 2018.

Deloraine Pool open for summer



The Deloraine Swimming Pool is now open until 1 March 2019.

Hours

December
11am to 5pm
Tuesday - Sunday

January
11am to 6pm
Tuesday - Sunday

February
11am to 5pm
Tuesday - Sunday

The pool is closed Mondays, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Local Markets

Deloraine Market

First Saturday of the month
Deloraine Showgrounds,
Highland Lakes Road, Deloraine

Liffey Market

Second Saturday of the month
Old Liffey School,
1443 Liffey Road, Liffey

Mole Creek Market

Third Saturday of the month
Mole Creek Memorial Hall
Caveside Road, Mole Creek

Westbury Market

Third Saturday of the month
St Andrews Church
11 Lonsdale Promenade,
Westbury



Community Ride

RIDE STARTS 3.30PM
WEDNESDAY 26 DECEMBER 2018

BRING THE FAMILY FOR FREE CRITERIUM CIRCUITS BEFORE THE BIG RACE!

Open to cyclists of all ages
Register with Council prior or on the day from 2.30pm
on Westbury Village Green, Lonsdale Promenade
(at the start/finish line near the RSL)

For more information visit www.meander.tas.gov.au
or phone Council on 6393 5300
All participants must be competent bike riders, have a roadworthy bike & wear a helmet.



Council Christmas Closure Dates

Council Offices, 26 Lyall Street, Westbury

Offices will close from 12pm (midday), Friday 21 December 2018 and will re-open on Wednesday 2 January 2019.

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 open on their usual days, however, all sites will be closed on Christmas Day.

Works Department

Council's Works Department will be operating a reduced crew from 12pm (midday) Thursday 20 December 2018 until 7.30am, Monday 14 January 2019.

Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre

The Visitor Centre will be closed on Christmas Day.

Council Contact Numbers

General Enquiries & Animal Control 6393 5300

Emergency Maintenance

Deloraine, Mole Creek, Chudleigh and areas west of Exton 0407 754 031
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www.meander.tas.gov.au



Cambodian carving



Photo by: Mike Moores

Visiting Cambodian artists displayed their unique talents at the Deloraine Craft Fair this year.

never been out of Cambodia before he said.

"We are staying in a stone cottage in Dunorlan and loving it," he said.

"It was arranged for us by the Deloraine Rotarians; we have never stayed in such a place before.

"We are interested to see the support for young artists in Australia; in our country to be an artist is to take a risk."

Svay, whose large installation art was not being exhibited at the fair but can be seen in Hong Kong, South Korea, Berlin and New York, spoke for the two stone sculptors who have workshops at Artisans D'Angkor in Siem Reap.

There, tourists can see Rath and Chab and other craftspeople at work, using their ancient skills to make replica sculptures to rejuvenate the 9th - 15th century Angkor temple complex on a 162 hectare just outside Siem Reap - temples only uncovered from the jungles in recent decades and which are now Cambodia's biggest tourist attraction.

The fourth Cambodian, Nguon Savann Melea, is communications director at Artisans D'Angkor and

showed fair-goers stunning silk scarves and handbags made from fabrics created at Cambodian silkworm farms and their attached weaving mills.

Svay described bringing large slabs of stone to Tasmania, used by Rath and Chab to sculpt an elephant and an ancient Khmer king during the craft fair.

But he also spoke to Rotarians in particular about the precarious political situation in Cambodia and the impact of China on the world economy.

These subjects are embedded in Svay's contemporary art, some of which has been collected by the National Gallery in Melbourne. Having grown up in a refugee camp in Cambodia during the 1970s and 1980s, a time of the notorious communist government of Pol Pot, the themes of war and resistance are always present in his work.

Announced Contemporary Asian Artist of the Year in 2016, Svay's message is ultimately positive: "Artists have the possibility of power to change things for the new generation," he said.

Calendar Girl does it again

MEANDER VALLEY resident Leanne Osmond 'Freezes' out the Competition - Again!

The Bureau of Meteorology has produced Australia's best-selling weather calendar the 'Australian Weather Calendar', for over 30 years. It contains thirteen carefully selected photographs from all corners of Australia, each capturing an authentic and breathtaking weather experience, and it hangs on the walls of around 70,000 homes and offices across Australia and around the world.

The Bureau of Meteorology received over 900 entries for their 2019 'Australian Weather Calendar', and Meander Valley resident Leanne Osmond of Leo Photography was chosen as one of the 'lucky' thirteen finalists. Her photograph *Icicles at Liffey* is the featured image for the month of December.

This is not the first time she has made it into the calendar. Her image *Frozen Spiderweb*

in *St Marys* was chosen for the 2017 calendar.

Leanne moved to the Meander Valley in 2015 from South Australia and has been photographing the beautiful scenery of Tasmania ever since. She is an active member of the Mole Creek Photographic & Visual Arts Group, and was the inaugural artist to be exhibited at the Deloraine Online Centre's Pixels Digital Gallery.

Leanne's latest exhibition at Pixels is entitled *Tasmanian Treasures*.

Leanne's image in the 2019 Australian Weather Calendar was taken in June 2016 on the Highland Lakes Road.

View a selection of Leanne's photos including *Icicles at Liffey* at Pixel's in Deloraine during the month of December. All prints on show are available for purchase. Or for a larger selection head to <http://www.redbubble.com/people/Leao>.



'Icicles at Liffey' by Leanne Osmond.

Guy Barnett MP
State Liberal Member for Lyons



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For assistance, contact my office:
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Authorised by Guy Barnett MP, 76 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine 7304



By Sharon Webb

COOL TEMPERATURES during the Tasmanian Craft Fair were a new experience for four visiting Cambodian artists and sculptors demonstrating their skills at the Deloraine event this year.

Accustomed to the 30C-plus temperatures of their homes in Siem Reap in Cambodia's north, the artists rugged up with scarves and jackets to combat cold November winds.

Their manager, installation artist Svay Sareth, said the four were having an outstanding trip to Tasmania; stone sculptors Rath Phun and Chab Khchao had



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BBQ sole, an alternative to prawns for the festive season.

BBQ Sole with Kunzea & Dill

Photo & Story by
Wai Lin Coultas

IN KEEPING with the Australian tradition of cranking up the Barbie over a summery Christmas while shying away from shelling a heap of prawns, this easy to whip up refreshingly light recipe puts another Aussie seafood on the grill and goes Tassie local with what's in season for fruit, veg and herbs. The perfect bon appétit for yuletide entertaining.

Ingredients

- 6 x 200g fillets sole or flounder
- 90g fresh shitake mushrooms, stalks removed and caps sliced
- 1½ nectarines, thinly sliced into 42 segments
- ½ japanese cucumber, julienned
- ¾ red capsicum, deseeded and julienned
- 2 sprigs fresh dill
- 30 fresh sage leaves
- canola & olive oil
- Salt & cracked black pepper

For the sauce

- 5 cloves garlic, peeled and thinly sliced
- 1 large white onion, peeled and thinly sliced
- 40g butter
- 2 tsp Wild Pepper Isle's dried kunzea leaves, coarsely pounded
- 1 sprig fresh dill, leaves chopped
- 1 tsp allspice
- 100 ml white wine

- 100 ml thickened cream
- 1 tbsp white vinegar
- 1 tbsp Prickly Box honey

Instructions

1. Pre-heat barbecue on roast setting and brush fish fillets both sides with olive oil; seasoning.
 2. Barbecue fillets on medium heat 1 to 1.5 minutes each side till lightly charred and opaque white. Then slice each into 3 and set aside covered.
 3. Shallow fry till crisp the sage leaves and then the mushrooms in pre-heated canola oil. Drain the sage and mushroom chips.
 4. To make sauce, stir-fry garlic and onions in melted butter over medium heat till slightly caramelised before adding wine and kunzea, cooking out the alcohol.
 5. Stir in allspice, vinegar and thickened cream, thickening sauce with stick blender.
 6. Add honey, seasoning with salt and pepper, and stir in the chopped dill.
 7. To plate 1 individual serve, center a spiral of alternating cucumber and capsicum strips before stacking 3 segments of sole over and lightly saucing; topping stack with 5 sage chips, a nectarine slice and a sprig tip of dill, and garnishing with 6 nectarine slices, 6 mushroom chips and fresh dill.
 8. Serve with remaining sauce on the side.
- Serves 6.



THERE ARE at least 60 garden plants listed in the Encyclopaedia Botanica owing to the common name of "rose", when they are not members of the Rosaceae family.

Among them are Lenten Rose, which correctly belongs to the extensive genus of *Oriental Hellebores*.

The Sun Rose, which bloomed so profusely in the Commonwealth Bank Garden Deloraine, during the Craft Fair is really a *Helianthemum nummularium* a member of the Cistus family, and the correct name of the pretty yellow flowered shrub Rose of Sharon is *Hypericum calycinum*.

The profusely flowering white shrub pictured here in the garden of the Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre is popularly known as a Guilder Rose. In reality, it is a member of the large *Viburnum* genus, several specimens of which can be found in the same garden. This is *V. opulus*. The yellow flowering ground cover in the foreground is a member of the huge *Euphorbia* family, Cypress Spurge, or *Ecyperissias*.

A lot of confusion could be avoided by using the correct genus names of garden plants - the species name is not usually necessary.

In the vegie garden.

In order to avoid frost



V. opulus or 'Guilder Rose'.

damage, December is the last month to sow cucumbers and pumpkins. If they have already been germinated in boxes under cover, then time to maturity will be much shorter. Potato tubers, celery and sweet corn, (this in three or more short rows to facilitate pollination) should also go in this month.

Photo by: Mike Moores



L-R Faye Woods and Bessie Westwood put the finishing touches on the impressive poppy banner.

400 personalised poppies

RESIDENTS OF Kanangra Faye Woods and Bessie Westwood put the finishing touches to the 'Poppy Banner' they've been making during several months worth of their Craft days.

A true labor of love, the Banner contains over 400 crocheted Red Poppies, each

complete with a name tag, duplicating all the names of the World War 1 Service personel listed on the Deloraine Cenotaph.

The Banner has been formally handed over to the Deloraine RSL Sub-Branch for safe keeping and display, and may currently be viewed at

St Marks Church in Deloraine. Sub-Branch President, Mr Peter Ashton DCM, stated "What a very thoughtful and practical way of saying, We will remember them" and thanked all the ladies involved in the banner's making: Faye Woods, Bessie Westwood, Joan Scott, Phyllis Cubit, Daphne Cole and Rita Whiteley.



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Daisy the mighty milker; calf carer supreme

By Lorraine Clarke

TWELVE YEARS ago, Daisy was just one of many thousands of dairy calves born in the Meander Valley, so unesteemed that she was sold for \$25.00 to Phil and Lyn who raised her on their hobby farm near Deloraine. Daisy bloomed with their devoted attention and two years later, produced her first calf.

Since then, many bobby calves have been reared with her generous supply of milk. Daisy has nothing to do all day except eat the choicest pasture, gaze at the view and chew her cud, interrupted twice daily by a short stroll through the gate to her blue feed bin, where she stands patiently while Phil hand-milks her. "She loves her food. She will eat anything, especially bread," said Phil.

In 2016, Daisy had trouble calving. She had a Caesarean section, but her calf was dead. She was producing up to 33 litres a day, enough to feed 6 calves. As soon as one batch had been started off with a couple of months of rich Jersey milk, another group of day-old sookies was

bought in. This continued until she was dried off in July this year, and during that 20 months, Daisy's milk had reared the astonishing number of 52 calves.

In September Daisy produced her latest calf, Teddy, who has his mum to himself all day, but despite his best efforts, he cannot drink all her milk. Phil still milks 16 litres a day which feeds 3 other calves as well.

Granddaughter McKinley is excited about coming to the farm for the Christmas holidays, and the first thing she plans to do is take a tumbler out to the paddock and drink Daisy's fresh warm milk.

Pampered Daisy has almost certainly outlived the other calves born in 2006, and is assured of a home for life with Lyn and Phil. The rolling green paddocks are full of young cattle that thrived on the good start Daisy gave them, and chickens scratch around in the abundant grass, but none of them is destined for the table there. "We don't eat anything that has feathers or hooves that we've raised," said Lyn.



Photo by: Mike Moores

Daisy the cow is assured of a home for life after rearing 52 calves from her reliable milk supply.



Plans are underway to change cat ownership requirements to combat the feral cat problem. Photo by: Andrew Cooke, courtesy of Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre.

Here kitty, kitty, kitty...

By Hayley Manning

LANDCARE TASMANIA members, family and friends were invited to an information day and social barbecue at Meander Memorial Hall in October. Native shelterbelt experts shared their tips for optimum results, and Project Coordinator of the Meander Valley Feral Cat Trapping Program, Kevin Knowles, gave an update.

Kevin, a member of the Upper Meander Catchment Landcare group, started Tasmania's first feral cat trapping program three years ago, in an attempt to provide a more accurate account of true density numbers.

Traps are set over a square mile for two weeks, then onto the next square and so on for 12 months, before the process is repeated. Kevin estimates 10-12 cats are caught in the

first round with significantly reduced numbers in the second round of trapping.

"Domestic, stray and self-sustaining feral cats are a risk to Australian wildlife, mammals and birds because they are not equipped to fight against the introduced species," Kevin said. "Devils used to keep the numbers down by eating feral kittens, but now the cat is the apex predator."

"Most feral cats also carry the *Toxoplasma gondii* parasite, which is not only fatal for infected wildlife and pets, but it can also cause spontaneous abortion in sheep. One local farmer lost 500 lambs two years ago," he added.

Kevin notes that research conducted over the last ten years provides evidence that humans infected with toxoplasmosis can suffer from tumors, mental illness and blindness. Pregnant women are particularly vulnerable and may have a miscarriage.

Proposed changes to the Cat Management Act 2009 could see the protection of primary production land by allowing the landowner or a representative, to humanely destroy, trap and seize any stray or roaming cats, which should then be taken to a cat management facility.

RSPCA CEO Dr Andrew

Byrne, said the proposed amendments in the new Tasmanian Cat Management Plan 2017-22 includes the compulsory desexing and microchipping of all cats, but suggested cat registration needed to be included and the fees used to subsidise costs. The delayed 2017-2022 Plan will go to Parliament in September 2019.

With regards to cat management facilities, City of Launceston General Manager, Michael Stretton, said that the RSPCA will focus on its inspectorate services across Northern Tasmania, and move away from providing shelter services for dogs and cats.

"The Council has already announced Dogs Home of Tasmania as the new dog pound facility and we hope to announce the new provider for the cats in the near future," Mr Stretton said.

Littleproud grants offering

ROUND 2 of Smart Farms Small Grants program is open for landholders and community groups.

Grants of between \$5,000 and \$200,000 are available to assist farmers and groups to adapt to change, innovate and become more sustainable.

"These grants support new projects to improve Aussie soil, biodiversity and vegetation. They will also help support water security and promote climate-smart farming,"

Federal Minister for Agriculture David Littleproud said.

"I know there's exceptional ideas out there, and these grants can make them a reality."

Almost \$5 million in funding was awarded to 77 projects under Round 1 and more than \$9 million is available for Round 2.

This round closes on 11th January. To apply, go to <https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/>.



Deb Wilson (fawn dress) shows a group of Victorians around the gardens at Old Wesleydale.

Lush gardens inspire mainland visitors

IN MID-NOVEMBER 31 members of U3A Castlemaine in central Victoria took part in a five-day 'Gardens of Northern Tasmania' tour, organised and led by former colleagues and now Deloraine residents Richard Mack and Rosalie Young.

Among the gardens visited were Old Wesleydale, Wychwood, Culzean, Entally House, Woolmers Estate, Villarett, Kaydale Lodge, Annsleigh, and the Emu Valley Rhododendron Gardens. Also included were a number of smaller private gardens in Weetah, Mole Creek and Longford.

Coming from the poor soils and harsh summers of the box-ironbark forested region of central Victoria, the participants were amazed at the lush scenery and extrav-

agant colours of our local gardens. "Nothing I have ever seen compares to this garden," said one on leaving Old Wesleydale, while another was blown away by the "fabulous trees and calming reflections of the lake" at Culzean in Westbury.

Even small gardens were praised, White Dove Cottage at Longford being described as a "lovely cottage garden, perfectly designed and planted." She said she was inspired to regenerate her own garden on the mainland.

A barbecue on the banks of the Meander, hosted by members of the local garden club, gave participants an opportunity to experience the serenity of the riverside walk in Deloraine with its indigenous sculptures and plantings.

The tour was a wonderful

opportunity to showcase the beauty of northern Tasmania to the participants. Many had not visited Tasmania for many years and it became clear that they were keen to return, bringing family members with them.

"It was so lovely to see the pleasure that our friends got from visiting these wonderful gardens," said Rosalie. "It just made all the hard work of planning the tour worthwhile."

In addition to the pleasure that the tour gave to the participants, it also had an economic benefit, bringing over \$24,000 into the local community.

What's next? "We're thinking about a tour that combines gardens and some of the grand architecture of the region," said Richard.

Photo by: Tom Comerford

Village green carol service

By Lorraine Clarke

ONE OF life's enduring memories for many folks is the annual Christmas Carol Service attended in childhood. This is a cherished family tradition throughout much of the world, and Westbury has been hosting such a service for longer than anyone can remember.

For the past 18 years, the carol service has been held on the Village Green, with the Hall booked in reserve in case of inclement weather. It is an initiative of the Combined Churches of Westbury and the Meander Valley Choir.

The event begins at 7.00 pm on the Westbury Village Green, on Sunday 16th December. The Lions' Food

Van will be in attendance to provide snacks and coffee, and there will be a lolly scramble for the children.

Launceston's City Band Ensemble kicks off the musical program. Communal carol singing will be led by the M.V. Choir. Carol booklets are available so that everyone can join in.

Guest artists include the Westbury Primary School Choir, Our Lady of Mercy Children's Choir, the 'Uke3A Strummers and Drummers', and Patrick Gambles.

Bring along a rug and cushions to sit on the grass, candles if you wish and build a family tradition that the next generation will always treasure.

Triking for the Tarkine

By Hayley Manning

IF YOU recently saw a lobster riding along the highway, your eyes didn't deceive you.

Inspirational Gaby Jung, 72, recently rode her electric tri-cycle 540km's around Tasmania to create awareness about the ancient takayna/Tarkine rainforests and the vulnerable

status of its inhabitants.

Gaby was accompanied by a support van driver Lizzie and Tim a photographer.

Starting in Hobart, the trio visited Orford, Swansea, Cressy, Bracknell, Deloraine and the Northwest, before ending their travels at the Tarkine on 23rd November.



Gaby Jung 'the lobster' and support crew Tim and Lizzie stopped in Deloraine and spoke with students at the Primary School.

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Christmas cheer

ONCE AGAIN, the Combined Churches of Deloraine are supporting two significant Christmas events, inviting everybody to take part in Carols by the River and the Christmas Day Dinner as part of their Christmas celebrations.

The Carols, now in their 31st year, will be held by the rotunda near the Meander River in Deloraine, on Saturday, 15th December.

Starting at 6.30pm with the free barbecue, entertainment will start at 7.30pm, finishing at about 9.00pm - a great opportunity for a family occasion.

The Meander Men, with their robust performance of songs and carols will begin, followed by school choirs and other entertainers, including the Kids' Club.

Of course, everybody gets the chance to sing some favourite carols. Josh Skeat will be the MC.

The award-winning Christmas Day Dinner is held on Christmas Day (obviously) from noon. All are invited.

The Dinner will be held in the Mennonite Church (formerly the Uniting Church Hall) at 20 West

Continued on Page 17...

Crossword

- Across**
- 9 Photograph taken at very short range (5-2)
 - 10 Kind of illusion (7)
 - 11 Relating to sound reproduction (5)
 - 12 Holy Communion (9)
 - 13 Dog with wavy silky hair (6,7)
 - 20 Leg joint (4)
 - 21 Graded (5)
 - 22 Wife of one's uncle (4)
 - 23 Reflection (13)
 - 32 Doctor (9)
 - 33 Cost (5)
 - 34 Typical (7)
 - 35 Petite (3-4)
- Down**
- 1 Fragment (5)
 - 2 Black magic (6)
 - 3 Make over (6)
 - 4 Become visible (6)
 - 5 Steel boot reinforcement (6)
 - 6 Filter (6)
 - 7 Operational (6)
 - 8 Vigorous attack (5)
 - 13 Sarcastic doubter of sincerity and merit (5)
 - 14 Unsoiled (5)
 - 15 Strange and mysterious (5)
 - 16 Organisation (3-2)
 - 17 Per --- ad astra (RAF motto) (5)
 - 18 Resident of e.g. Basra (5)
 - 19 Russian revolutionary leader (5)
 - 24 One-fifth of the atmosphere (6)
 - 25 Ethnic (6)
 - 26 Posted (6)
 - 27 Yearner (6)
 - 28 Warning (3-3)
 - 29 Source (6)
 - 30 Atomize (5)
 - 31 Conical tent (5)

Sudoku

©2018 Syndicated Puzzles
 How To Play: Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 x 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9. Best of luck!

Crossword - December 2018 Solution

Sudoku - December 2018 Solution

Events Diary

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

Date and Time	Event	Details
Every day during December	'Tasmanian Treasures' by Leanne Osmond	Pixels Gallery, 21 West Parade Deloraine. Open weekdays 10:00am - 4:00pm Sat 1:00pm - 3:00 pm.
Saturday 8th - Sunday 23rd December	2018 Meander Valley U3A Art Exhibition	Deloraine Creative Studios, Emu Bay Rd, 10.00am - 4.00pm Official opening Sat 8th 4.30pm All welcome.
Saturday 8th Sunday 9th December 11.00am	Apex Club of Deloraine Tasmanian Tractor Pull	Red Hills Memorial Park, Mole Creek Rd, Red Hills Gates open 9.30am for 11.00am start \$15.00pp U16 Free.
Saturday 8th December 8.30am - 4.00pm	Carrick Hall Garage Sale	Carrick Hall, Meander Valley Rd, Carrick Devonshire tea avail More info 6393 7111 or 0428 576 795.
Saturday 8th December 7.30pm sharp	Western Tiers Film Society "Just to be Sure"	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine M Drama/Comedy France 100m More info Ph: 0418 389 868.
Saturday 8th December 11.00am	Quamby Fly Fishing Club Christmas BBQ	Fossil Park, Meander River Bring a dish - Meat supplied Contact Eve for details.
Saturday 8th December 7.00pm	Country Music Fundraiser	Deloraine RSL \$6.00 savoury supper included phone 6362 2366 to book.
Sunday 9th December 7.00pm	Traditional Christmas Carols - Carrick	St. Andrew's Anglican Church grounds, Carrick.
Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th December	State Showjumping Championships	Westbury Showgrounds, Lyttleton St. Westbury (Jumping Tasmania North) Trade Expo + other attractions.
Saturday 15th December	Christmas Party	Parkham Community Hall & Church For more info Phone Kaylene 0499 554 316.
Saturday 15th December 6.30pm	Christmas Carols by the River	Combined Churches of Deloraine, Riverbank Deloraine.
Saturday 15th December 9.00am - 1.00pm	Deloraine Showground Market	Deloraine Showgrounds, Highland Lakes Rd, Deloraine Ph: 0409 695 321 for Bookings & Details.
Saturday 15th December 8.00am - 1.00pm	Westbury Market	Anglican Church Hall, 11 Lonsdale Prom. Westbury BBQ cooking breakfast, stalls. Ph: Rob Menzie 0417 931 619.
Saturday 15th December 9.00am - 1.00pm	Mole Creek Market	Mole Creek Memorial Hall, cnr Pioneer Drive and Caveside Road Contact Ross Quick 0413 681 252.
Sunday 16th December 7.00pm	Combined Churches Christmas Carols	Village Green, Lonsdale Promenade Westbury.
Sunday 16th December 2.00pm - 5.00pm	Live show - Fraser A. Gorman	Marakoopa Café, 186 Mayberry Rd. Mayberry Sophomore Album "Easy Dazy" Laid back Americana style.
Monday 24th December 6.00pm	Children's Christmas Mass	Catholic Church, Parsonage St. Deloraine Carols & Readings 5.30pm Play, Santa, Lollies Angels/Shepherds.
Monday 24th December 9.00pm	Christmas Eve Mass	Catholic Church, Meander Valley Rd. Westbury Carols & Readings 8.30pm.
Monday 24th December 7.00pm	Christmas Eve Worship	St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Carrick.
Tuesday 25th December 9.30am	Christmas Day Worship	St. Mary's Anglican Church, Hagley.
Tuesday 25th December 9.00am	Christmas Day Mass	Catholic Church, Parsonage St. Deloraine.
Tuesday 25th December 12:00 midday	Christmas Dinner	Mennonite Church Hall Deloraine Free of charge RSVP no later than 20th December to Judy 6441 5241.
Wednesday 26th December 3.30pm	Westbury Criterium	Community ride, register on the day Elite Men, Women & Masters races will follow reg by 13th December.
Sunday 30th December Late afternoon	Carrick Park Pacing Club - Meander Valley Cup	East Street, Carrick Full Bar facilities, Kiosk, BBQ For more info Ph: Sandra 0400 635 070.
Thursday 3rd January 10.00am - 4.00pm	Rotary Learn-to-Swim Registration Day +5 yrs	Deloraine Council Pool, West Pde, Deloraine (just along from the Caravan Park) Free Community Service.
Sunday 6th January 1.00pm	Summer Meadow Music	Marakoopa Café, 186 Mayberry Rd. Mayberry.
Monday 7th January - Friday 18th January	Rotary Learn-to-Swim - over 5 yo's	Council Pool, West Pde, Deloraine Mornings 10.00am - 1.15pm Afternoon 1.45pm - 3.45pm Ph: Lois 0411 118 212.
Thursday 10th January 7.00pm sharp	3rd Annual Festival of Small Halls	Meander Memorial Hall Bar & BBQ from 5.30pm Tickets from Council, Lyall St Westbury Ph: 6393 5300.

Volunteer Manager's forum



From L to R: Nan Preston, Gary Conroy-Cooper and Anne-Marie Loader. Photo by: Mike Moores

By Wendy Laing

A MORNING TEA to celebrate International Volunteer Manager's Day was held on Wednesday, 7th November in Deloraine House to thank Volunteer Managers who enhance and enable the

spirit of volunteering in the Meander Valley.

Organisations present included members of the Council and managers of the Visitor Centre, Forest Helpers, Pearn's Steam World, Mean-

der Valley Gazette, Neighbourhood House and a member of Volunteering Tasmania.

Guest speaker, Mr Gary Conroy-Cooper, Manager of the Launceston Library spoke about the vital role of a

volunteer manager.

"Volunteers are our greatest asset." Mr Conroy-Cooper said. "Imagine the confusion it would cause by withdrawing all volunteers throughout the Meander Valley for one day, one week or even longer."

"Young people like project-based volunteering or opportunities that might lead to employment."

Volunteer Managers are responsible for selecting, training and supervising volunteer staff of an organisation. They must be able to communicate effectively with volunteers, paid staff members and clients.

"Different age groups volunteer differently," Mr Conroy-Cooper said. "Young people like project-based volunteering or opportunities that might lead to employment. Middle aged and retirees tend to prefer long time volunteering over extended periods of time."

It is the manager's role to ensure a volunteer has a good understanding of the requirements needed in an organisational role. Volunteering should be a pleasant and rewarding experience, not a point of

stress. Remember that some may have faced significant personal challenges. A thank-you card, email or phone call is always appreciated.

For information about the Meander Valley Managers of Volunteers Group, please email Vicki Pryer at vicki.pryer@greatwesterntiers.net.au.

The group meets bi-monthly to support volunteering in the Meander Valley. All volunteer managers and coordinators are welcome to attend.

Christmas cheer

Continued from Page 16...

Barrack Street. As well as a traditional Christmas dinner, there will be plenty of music and fun.

Russell MacKenzie will be MC and will help lead the singing of another round of community carols.

Betty and Warwick Holmes started the dinners fourteen years ago. After seven years, they moved to New Zealand and other people have now taken on the organising role.

Thanks to the generosity of the local combined churches and businesses, the event is free. A place must be booked by phoning Judy or Graham on 0434 845 697.

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SPORT



A flipping good flop

Corey Horsburgh trying out Deloraine Little Athletics new high jump mat with a Fosbury flop.

Photo by: Mike Moores

IT HAS been an exciting start to the season for Deloraine Little Athletics with the arrival of a new High Jump mat.

Initially the cost of the mat was going to force the club to borrow a mat, but with a successful grant application from Coles (one of Little Athletics major sponsors) and a helping hand from a local freight company Highland Haulage, the club was able to

afford a new mat.

"Our athletes were very excited when it arrived, and there were two state qualifiers on the first day of using it!" said Club President Gina Sullivan.

"We cannot thank Highland Haulage enough for their assistance in freighting it down from QLD. It was going to cost our club \$3,500 to ship it to Tasmania, so their

assistance was greatly appreciated in helping our local centre.

"Having this mat means safer jumping for our athletes and when they go to compete at State Events they are familiar with using this type of mat," said Gina.

The season continues through to March 2019 so we hope to see more qualifiers and maybe even some records!

Local charity derby to become annual event

By David Claridge

LOCAL CRICKET is alive and well this summer with a charity event held in November to raise funds for the Ponting Foundation.

Bracknell Cricket Club Men's A Grade played a game against the Bishopsbourne Panthers.

The score was Bracknell 138 and Bishopsbourne 7-139.

Bishopsbourne was bolstered by fill in team mate

Tom Triffitt, former Australia U/19, Tasmanian and West Australian Keeper.

Along with the match there was a BBQ, activities for kids, an aftermatch function followed by a silent auction, monies raised went to the Ponting Foundation.

Tom was a guest speaker for the event.

Bishopsbourne Co-Coach Hamish Jones one of the organisers, was pleased with

the amount raised.

"We plan to do this kind of event every year, it is a really good cause to get behind," he said.

At the time of writing this story, the final total raised at the event wasn't yet declared.

From their website, the Ponting Foundation is dedicated to helping young Australians and their families beat cancer. It provides funding for a range of services.

170 yrs of equine endeavour

CARRICK RACE Course is proud to be celebrating 170 years of racing this season.

Originally developed on land reserved by the late Sir Thomas Reibey, the original course was located about three and a half kilometres east of Carrick. Finding conditions far too wet in the winter, the Carrick Racing Club soon decided to purchase and develop the present site of the course.

Carrick Racing Club was set up in 1848, holding their first meeting on Boxing Day 1849.

The club folded in 1912 with the assets purchased by the Carrick Hack & Trotting Club. Both forms of racing were conducted for a number of years. When the number of gallopers declined, the club changed once more and became the Carrick Trotting Club.

The Carrick and Westbury

Trotting Clubs combined in 1976 to form the Carrick Park Trotting Club, later renamed the Carrick Park Pacing Club.

Over the years, Carrick has been, and remains, the only race course in Tasmania entirely controlled and owned by the club.

To celebrate this milestone, the club will once again stage three race meetings. The first was held on 2nd December. The Meander Valley Cup will be run on 30th December and the Carrick Cup will be run on Saturday, 16th February.

Jumping against the clock

SHOWJUMPING IS a great spectator sport with lots of action-packed riding!

The Meander Valley Council Jumping Tasmania State Titles 2018 are being held at the Westbury Showgrounds on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th of December.

The event is run by Jumping Tasmania North and there will be two rings and classes of show jumping consisting of riders of various ages and ability levels.

Championship classes will see riders strive to complete the course within a set time without knocking any poles without refusals at the fences, over two rounds. Riders who manage to do this

successfully then go into a third round which is a jump off against the clock.

The other type of class is a Speed class. Riders in these classes aim to complete the course in the quickest time without having any poles down or refusals.

There is a Trade Expo where local businesses will display their products; food and coffee vans will also be on site. Jumping Tasmania North is very fortunate to have many local businesses and services sponsoring and supporting the event.

Spectators are welcome and encouraged. Entry is free of charge!



Photo by: Jess Honan

Jo Geard of Westbury jumps her horse Ambervale Smudge.