



HISTORY OF A CHAMPION

The story of mighty Malua

> PAGE 6



TESTING SPECIFIC GRAVITY

New gin distillery and cidery in Deloraine

> PAGE 8



YUM YUM AND MORE YUM

Australia Day breakfasts aplenty

> PAGE 12

Meander Valley Gazette

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February 2019

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper

Photo by: Mike Moores

Blue Farmer searches the skies



A dozen people plus the media gathered in a paddock outside Ashley Youth Detention Centre for the assembly of the Blue Farmer. Story by Hayley Manning on Page 12...

'Alkaloids' expand palliative possibilities

By Sharon Webb

A TASMANIAN Alkaloids employee has confirmed the company is growing cannabis for medical use on its site at Westbury.

The company's director of agricultural research Les Baxter told Deloraine Rotary Club's January meeting that the plants are grown

indoors under Australia's strict regulations with tight security.

He told the Rotarians 26 Australian companies are licensed to produce and cultivate cannabis in indoor facilities only, along with 20 manufacturing licenses.

"In Tasmania at least four companies are cultivating and

producing cannabis," Mr Baxter said.

"It's harder to get a cannabis license than to manufacture opiates. All staff are monitored; they can have no criminal record."

In 2016 Australia's Parliament unanimously passed legislation permitting the production of cannabis for medicinal

purposes, focussing on its use for childhood epilepsy, nausea in cancer and HIV patients and palliative care.

The Australian system is the most heavily regulated in the world, with both the Therapeutic Goods Administration and the Office of Drug Control in charge. Three separate licenses are

needed to grow, manufacture and research the substance and gaining them is a long process.

Mr Baxter said medicinal cannabis could also be used for pain management, particularly for multiple sclerosis and neuropathic pain.

"The advantages are in using it to decrease nausea, increase appe-

tite, manage chronic pain and to manage muscle spasms," he said. "Its possible side effects are memory loss and schizophrenia."

Commercial production of medicinal cannabis, closely related to the hop plant, is from the flowers of high yielding bushy plants about 60cm high. It grows from seeds or cuttings, cuttings being the preferred method of Australian producers.

Continued on Page...



Thelma Wood (L) and Lorraine Carroll visit the gravesite of Thomas Reibey.

A very grave dilemma

Photo and story by David Claridge

A NEW Year is meant to be a fresh start for everyone but, unfortunately, it has meant pain for many people.

At the end of 2018 the Church of the Good Shepherd in Hadspen held its

last congregation.

The church has been listed as one of the properties to be sold as part of the plan to fund the redress to victims of child sexual abuse.

For sixty years it has been a place of union, a place of celebration, and a place to put family members to rest.

The cemetery has a number of people buried in it, including important Tasmanian figure Thomas Reibey who, among his many other achievements, was Premier from 1876-7.

Locals who have family members buried behind the church have also purchased lots for themselves and family members, with no sign of reim-

'Alkaloids' expand possibilities

Continued from Page 1...

Over 8-10 week cycles the plants, which Mr Baxter describes as "one of the world's easiest plants to grow", are cultivated in 16-18 hour days at 24C. They have a final 12 hours of darkness before the unopened flower buds are harvested, dried, trimmed and cured.

Tasmanian Alkaloids extracts oil from the flowers and puts it into capsules.

Currently Australian companies can export only product, not flower buds; the product can only be used for four substances within pharmaceutical products.

"For Australian companies the potential for making money is in the international market, especially in complementary health products," Mr Baxter said.

"The current Australian market is only around 2000 people - and they must be buying their supplies overseas because Australia isn't producing enough yet."

Mr Baxter made it clear in his address to the Rotary Club that he was speaking from his own viewpoint and not on behalf of Tasmanian Alkaloids.

sharon.webb@meandervalleygazette.com

bursement from the decision.

The Church now has no congregation and a question mark over what its future may hold while it is on the market.

Hadspen resident, Lorraine Carroll, is devastated about the sale of the church because of the significant history of the church and what has been invested into it by the community.

She wrote a letter to the Anglican Diocese of Tasmania in December. The response was, that after further consideration, the Church of the Good Shepherd would remain for sale. It was indicated in a public statement that where cemeteries are involved it

would be ideal for community groups to take ownership.

"What's annoying is that many of the furnishings in the church have been donated by Entally House. I would hate for them to be sold," said Lorraine.

"My friend Thelma has nine family members buried at the church, including her husband, and has prepaid for a grave beside him. What is going to happen now?"

The Church of the Good Shepherd holds history about Thomas Reibey III and William Hadfield, two prominent names in Tasmanian history who are both buried beside the church.

- 7.00am Sheep Dog Trials
- 8.30am Jumping Events
- 9.00am Cattle & Sheep Judging
- Horse events commence
- 10.00am Vintage Cars and Bike Displays
- 11.00am Vintage Tractor Display
- Woodchopping
- Heats Dog Jump
- 11.45am Men's Muffin
- 12.00 Dairy Heifer Competition winners announced
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- 1.30pm Grand Parade

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Senator Steve Martin

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Nationals Senator Steve Martin (L) discusses with Aged Care Deloraine's CEO, Charlie Emmerton upgrades to the facilities in the kitchen at Grenoch.

Cash to sweeten the Grenoch pot

Photo and story by Emma Hodgkinson

AGED CARE Deloraine has secured funding to undergo major facility upgrades in its Grenoch Home.

The grant of almost half a million dollars was approved from the Liberal and Nationals Government's \$40 million Aged Care Regional, Rural and Remote Infrastructure Grants scheme.

Nationals Senator Steve Martin had been lobbying for funding under the scheme to contribute towards Tasmanian aged care facilities.

"This is a big deal for Deloraine, because we've had to compete against 3,000 other nursing homes Australia-wide for our fair share of 40 million dollars," Senator Martin said. "This funding will help improve the residents at Grenoch's quality of life."

Charlie Emmerton, CEO of Aged Care Deloraine said that the funds will be used to build a new laundry and completely renovate the kitchen.

"The upgrades will help improve our services, care, and the quality of life for the residents at Grenoch Home."

Grenoch Home has 47 beds, providing care and accommodation for senior citizens throughout the local community.

We're really thankful for the grant because it's really difficult in small rural communities to actually generate sufficient profits that enable us to spend that on redevelopments like this

Mr. Emmerton said that the upgrades will not only benefit the residents, but it

will make the facility more functional and better for staff as well.

"We're really thankful for the grant because it's really difficult in small rural communities to actually generate sufficient profits that enable us to spend that on redevelopments like this," he said.

This is the most significant upgrade Grenoch Home has had in twelve years and will take approximately five months to complete. The renovations are due to start in August, with the goal of completing them before Christmas arrives.

Roadworks to continue

DELAYS DUE to roadworks when travelling along the Bass Highway between Deloraine and Westbury are set to continue till the 15th March 2019.

The Bass Highway west of Porters Bridge Road has reduced speed limits with frequent lane closures during working hours of 7:00am to 5:00pm.

Roadworks are also slowing down travel on Railton Rd.

They are due for completion on 26th February 2019.



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Difficult to find Common ground on slashing

By Sharon Webb

MEANDER VALLEY Council has used an outdated plan to slash Westbury Common three times this summer, killing endangered frogs and other wildlife, according to Tasmanian expert Craig Broadfield.

General manager Martin Gill denies any wildlife was killed, saying the council followed a Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE) permit for the 2018-19 summer.

"Immediately following slashing in December and January we surveyed the town common for casualties or injured animals. There were no deaths or injuries of any fauna," he said.

A DPIPWE spokesperson said the department is aware several local residents have expressed concerns regarding the mowing/slashing.

"But we have not been presented with any evidence the permitted activity has resulted in the deaths of threatened species," she said.

According to DPIPWE, a condition of the current permit is that if the council is to get further permits, DPIPWE must approve a Westbury

Common management plan to protect wildlife such as frogs, bandicoots and skinks by the end of this summer.

But Mr Broadfield, a citizen scientist who manages Frogwatch Tasmania, maintains DPIPWE allowed the council to use an outdated plan which did not take into account the most recent updates on threatened species data in DPIPWE's Natural Values Atlas.

"I inspected the common immediately after the first cut and in my opinion the cut was not carried out in accordance to the DPIPWE-approved plan," he said.

Editor of the Frog and Tadpole Study Group of NSW, Monica Wangmann, wrote to all councillors and Mr Gill in December, seeking help to save the vulnerably listed, Green and Gold Frog which inhabits the common.

She told councillors protecting the frog's habitat needs to be a priority: "I dread to see photos again this year of more Green and Gold Frogs body parts in the cut hay."

Ms Wangmann said it is nonsensical to slash in the frogs' breeding season: "The council is thumbing its nose at community concerns and it's mean-spirited."



Photo by: Mike Moores

Westbury Common, pictured here in flood, provides a unique habitat for local wildlife.

Mr Broadfield is also concerned about the timing.

"The disturbance of any threatened species' habitat at the time of year when the species is most active (breeding season, mobility, numbers) is highly irregular and goes against all normal management protocols."

Longtime Westbury Common supporter Di Robinson, who takes school groups to the common to introduce them to wildlife habitat, said the council has slashed the common three times this summer.

"Nocturnal animals such as bandicoots sleep in the long grass during the day and the machine comes through and chops their heads off," she said.

But Martin Gill maintained that while council employees do not walk ahead of the slasher to rowse animals out of the long grass, "the pattern of mowing is done in such a way as to work toward the protected areas and use the vibrations from the machinery to rouse the animals."

Mr Gill said the council

determined which areas of the common were to be protected by reviewing DPIPWE's Natural Values Atlas and had worked with the local Landcare Group, constituting Ms Robinson and council's natural resource management officer, Stuart Brownlea.

"We have been working with the same plan for four years and make slight adjustments each year if there are changes to conditions on the ground," he said.

Mr Gill denied knowledge of slashing areas planted with skink tussock, habitat planted with funding from NRM North.

"We were slashing areas as identified in our permit. To the best of my knowledge this did not include areas where habitat had been planted," he said.

Ms Robinson, who has organised Green Army, Youth Futures and Conservation Volunteers groups to thistle-weed sections of the Westbury Common, firmly maintains council has slashed habitat.

"I've put 10 years into this area; someone needs to be a voice for the wildlife," she said.

sharon.webb@meandervalleygazette.com

Call for donations of necessities

DONATIONS FOR families affected by the current fire situation in Tasmania will be accepted at all Roberts Rural Supply Stores, Roberts Real Estate Offices (non bulky items only) and TP Jones Stores across the state.

Examples of what to donate; non-perishable food goods, clothing, toiletries &

personal hygiene products, Manchester, bedding, towels, childrens toys, fencing products, stock feed.

Cash donations can be made via Rural Alive and Well. Go to <https://www.give-now.com.au/raw> Alternatively, there are RAW cash donation boxes in Roberts and TP Jones stores.

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In My Opinion...

By Joanne Eisemann
Managing Editor

LATELY I'M hearing lots of talk about how technology and, in particular, social media is creating a new breed of people that have short attention spans and are increasingly no longer able to think or create from deep places inside themselves.

Multiple studies are backing up these stories.

I would question whether our attention to social media, while certainly accelerating it, is the actual cause of this disturbing trend?

To my mind, social media is simply magnifying trends that have long been established amongst our modern communities.

Take, for example, the popular tourist habit of roaring into some tourist spot or other, taking a selfie then leaving just as quickly. Many would argue that these people were missing the whole point of the experience.

I remember some 35 years ago visiting the Giant Tingle Tree forest near Walpole in the south west of Western Australia. Having grown up in South Australia, (not known

for its trees) and being a long time tree lover, I couldn't help but sit in this extraordinarily beautiful place for many hours, occasionally taking a walk but mostly sitting in awe of the beauty of the magical surrounds.

The Giant Tingle Tree forest has one particularly large specimen that although still alive, has been hollowed out by fire. It is so big that you could back a car into it, and during the time I spent there around 150 carloads of people did just that. They would drive up to the tree, back in, all hop out for a picture with their car inside the tree, (there were no digital cameras then, so that process was a bit slower than it is now), then all pile back in and drive off as fast as they could. In fact, only one car out of all those cars stopped for any longer, with the couple staying for about half an hour to have lunch.

I was shocked, to say the least, and glad to find out (via the internet) that the tree is now fenced off. This was years before computers began entering our homes and many, many years before social media was a twinkle in cyberspace.

cil may have us believe that the rates are to be paid by the aged care institution not the elderly resident, but you would need to be living in the "local government bubble" to believe that increases in the care providers costs will not affect the level of care that can be provided to the residents. One would need a unique view of the world to believe the elderly are advantaged by being forced into penury to pay council rates.

On the other hand, we see from the council's 2018 Annual Report, that four senior staff are paid between \$170,000 and \$190,000 per year and another receives a salary between \$220,000 and \$240,000 per year. The 2017 Annual report reveals that one employee, who apparently retired during that year, received a payout of \$245,705 on termination of his/her employment.

So, we have a council that can deal most generously with the elite members of its staff and at the same time be incredibly mean-spirited in its efforts to extract rates from some of the most vulnerable members of its community. Go figure.

For some time now, we have heard of the concept of a "social licence". It appears a social licence refers to the level of acceptance or approval by local communities and stakeholders to the actions of an organisation. The council may believe it exists through legislation not social licence. Eventually it will discover that

legislation ultimately reflects community attitudes.

The council may be successful in its actions in the High Court. Even so it will find that social licences are not handed out by the High Court – they are handed out by the "court of public opinion". A council interested in its longevity may wish to make its case there. Organisations with an overweening sense of their own importance and a determination to ignore popular opinion may discover that social licences can be ephemeral. Few would doubt that local government services are important – but they are far far less important than the of the quality of life of our elderly citizens.

Bernard Lee, Deloraine

THANK YOU for your recent article regarding healthy eating and exercise.

In Deloraine, we are so lucky to have no less than three gyms, all within easy reach of town.

In such a small town, it is rare to have these facilities, offering professional guidance and equipment in appropriate premises, to help us reach our health and fitness goals. Now more than ever there is so much focus in the Community and the Media on living healthily.

It was good to read the thoughts of one of our local Fitness Leaders (Kimberlee), on the subject of healthy living, and I for one would love to hear what Jason at the Crossfit Gym, and Tamsyn at the Body & Soul Wellness Studio have to add to Kimberlee's comments.

You and Me PT is indeed not situated in Deloraine, but in Westbury – another small town offering a fully equipped professional gym under expert guidance... there must be something in the water in the Meander Valley!!

Very often people are daunted by the idea of joining a gym, worried about age, body-image, fitness level, co-ordination, or even about not having gym-wear and its great to put a more personal touch to the subject.

More please!!

Rijke McGough, Deloraine

WHAT PERFECT weather we, in Deloraine, were blessed with on Australia Day. Dining at roadside cafe tables seemed the perfect thing to do.

Even a group of equestrians joined the typically Australian scene.

What we all weren't prepared for was the sight of horse manure dotted along the footpaths in Emu Bay Road - both sides of the road. We stood watching as the 8 horses and pony slowly moved along the footpath... riders laughing, with not a

care in the world.

Probably an idyllic adventure for these equestrians, but a nightmare for owners of businesses along our main street, and the public in general.

Far from an idyllic Australia Day was that of the Council ranger left to clean up this smelly disregard of our beautiful town.

Apparently these equestrians do an annual 'pub crawl' ... this year Deloraine was their choice again.

We all welcome animal lovers, but surely the owners of all animals must consider the rights of others too.

Judith-Anne Tahir, Deloraine

I write to congratulate you on your outstanding achievement for 5 years of circulation of the *Meander Valley Gazette*.

Congratulations to you, your staff and volunteers on reaching the 5 year anniversary of the newspaper, a great reflection on your hard work and dedication.

The *Meander Valley Gazette* provides an informative service to the community, allowing many residents to stay in touch with their local area.

You must be very proud of your achievements and I congratulate you and your team for providing such a great community service.

Mark Shelton MP, Liberal
Member for Lyons

3 YEARS ago the Westbury Town Common Landcare Group recognised the need and value of mapping this 52 acre Wetland of all the resident wildlife flora fauna frogs & fungi including the different daylight & nocturnal raptors.

Some are threatened & vulnerable species who are all an invaluable part of this balanced wetland system.

This mapping was fully supported by MVC .. to protect all resident species when completed and be supported by the installation of internal educational/environmental signage designed by a MVC team & Landcare.

The signage was to be installed in the 6 different habitat areas across The Common info transparent to all .. by loading onto The Threatened Species Signage QR tag on site ... printed into brochures & onto the MVC website.

In Nov.2018 .. I was advised by MVC of the proposed cut rake and baling ie "harvesting for fodder" quote as posted on Clr Kings FB page at the time .. which she supported ie fb quote "felt it was a good balance" for the TCom.

I have since been advised that "these large areas of long grass are a safety threat to dogs .. will get grass seeds in their coats."

Continued on Page 6...

EST.
2013

Meander Valley Gazette

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Letters In...

RATEPAYERS IN the Meander Valley could be forgiven for thinking their council has lost its moral compass.

The confirmation by general manager Martin Gill (*The Examiner*, 13/12/18) that the council had lodged an application with the High Court to challenge a decision of the full bench of the Supreme Court of Tasmania would surely test the sense of fair play of many.

The Supreme Court has ruled that not-for-profit charitable aged care institutions should not have to pay general rates. Not willing to accept the decision of the supreme legal body in the state the council has apparently decided to contest the matter in the High Court.

The council's decision raises significant ethical and financial issues. Any activity leading to an increase in the cost of living of the elderly, at their most vulnerable stage of life, would be repugnant to most fair-minded citizens. Any legal action in the High Court would surely lead to the council incurring significant amounts in legal fees.

It is clear there is a vast gulf between the council's attitude towards its senior citizens and its attitude towards its senior staff.

The council seems to be intent on extracting council rates from the elderly to the end of their days. The coun-



Photo by: Mike Moores

Deloraine bred Malua was inducted into Australian Racing Museum's Hall of Fame in 2007.

Melbourne, Melba and Malua

By Wendy Laing

LOCALS AND visitors alike will have seen the statue of the famous racehorse Malua, gracing the forecourt of the Western Tiers Visitor Centre.

Malua was bred at Calstock, near Deloraine, by John Field, purchased as a yearling by Thomas Reibey (former Premier of Tasmania), who sold him to Mr J O Inglis for 500 guineas.

Winning the Newmarket Handicap, the Adelaide Cup, and other races, his performance in the Melbourne Cup in 1884 saw him recognised as the best horse in Australia.

The Examiner, on 5 November 1884, reported that 'in the greatest race of the southern hemisphere, the Melbourne

Cup, Tasmania produced the winner in Malua ... who covered himself with glory by carrying 9st 9lb in the fast time of 3 minutes, 31seconds'.

Malua was an extraordinary horse – able to carry heavy weights and defeat the best racehorses in both sprint and staying races.

He was in the habit of 'coming from "nowhere" and fairly smothering the leaders', *The Sportsman* wrote in May 1884. 'The class of the field made little difference to him. At one stage he would not be in the picture, but in the next hundred yards he would swoop down and settle the argument.'

In July 1886, *The Examiner* noted that Malua had gone to

stud and would 'probably bid adieu to the turf forever'.

However, in 1888, Malua was switched to jumping – not so unusual in those days – and ridden by his owner Mr Inglis won the VRC Grand National Hurdle.

Combined with his stud career, Malua continued to race, winning the Geelong Gold Cup in 1889, his last race as a ten-year-old.

Malua was inducted into Australian Racing Museum's Hall of Fame in 2007.

Malua Street, in the suburb of Ormond in Melbourne was named after this great horse. For a brief period of time, this little street was also home to Dame Nellie Melba.

nation among Meander Valley residents on behalf of the previous owners: the 2.4 hectare property, possibly worth around \$500,000, sold for only \$120,000 at auction.

When the council put the property on the market, the former owners refused to allow potential buyers to see it; when new owner Geoff Styles entered the house he found many missing fixtures and significant damage created by removal.

New owner Geoff Styles'

insurance company, CGU (operating under Insurance Australia Ltd) refused to cover the missing fittings and fixtures, claiming that Mr Styles did not have proof the items had actually existed.

But the Australian Financial Complaints Authority upheld Mr Styles' claim that his insurance should cover the missing items.

Its investigation report into the missing items found that "most likely the items claimed were part of the property pur-

Ashley site for new prison?

By Sharon Webb

THE TASMANIAN Government has confirmed it is still examining location options for a new northern prison.

A government spokesperson said locations are currently being assessed and the government would have "more to say on this in due course". It is believed the list includes the Ashley Youth Detention Centre site just outside Deloraine.

Expressions of interest opened in September for potential sites for a northern prison, with Meander Valley Council supporting use of the Ashley site.

A recent spat between the State's major parties saw the Liberals accusing Labor of planning to close Ashley.

But the Shadow Minister for Corrections Josh Willie MLC said Labor would not close Ashley.

"While the data continues to show young people are assaulting staff and causing self harm at Ashley, all Roger Jaensch can do is attack Labor," he said.

"It is time for Tasmania to have a conversation about its approach to youth detention. It takes a huge proportion of the youth justice budget and there needs to be more of a focus on therapeutic and restorative justice."

The government responded saying significant work has already been achieved via the Ashley Youth Detention Change Management Program move to a more therapeutic model of care.

Mr Willie quoted this week's Productivity Commission report on government services recording 19 assaults and five self-harm or suicide attempts at Ashley in 2017-2018, little improvement on 16 and nine respectively in 2016-2017.

The report also reveals a cost of more than \$3,000 a day for each person kept in youth detention in Tasmania.

The Tasmanian Government allocated \$7.2m in its 2018 budget to refurbish the Ashley Youth Detention Centre, saying the decision will protect 60 jobs in

the Deloraine area.

But those job numbers look to decrease because the detention of young Tasmanians is decreasing dramatically.

According to the government's Custodial Youth Justice Options Paper by Noetic Solutions Pty Ltd, between 2008-2009 and 2014-2015 the total number of youth offenders in Tasmania declined by 47 per cent.

While Ashley currently has a 51 bed capacity, in the 2018 June quarter, 13 young Tasmanians were in detention per night according to Australian Institute of Health and Welfare figures.

Noetic predicts that by 2020 only six young people will be in detention.

sharon.webb

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Letters In...

Continued from Page 5...

This complaint tabled by Clr King .. Nov '18 MVC meeting requesting clarity on the reason why it had been allowed to grow unattended by Works for 11 mths!!

So who was the instigator? Owner of this proposed "fodder"?

MVC declined 3 requests to defer the harvesting despite me advising them of bandicoot & frog fatalities from previous years "Works".

Land Care Tas advised of DPIPWE contacts in Threatened Species Dept .. Natural Values Atlas Dept advised me of correct mapping with NRM Tamars help mapped & on NVA in 2 days.

This NVA was shared with MVC NRM on 7/11/18 ... complete with current map.

But chose to provide the old inaccurate plan / info with only 1 frog point to DPIPWE?

Di Robinson, Westbury

IT CRACKS me up when people write to the newspapers complimenting the Public Health System on their services. I am terminally ill and have twenty seven different illnesses including stage four Emphysema. I also have Susac Syndrome (auto immune disease) that causes violent headaches. The only pain relief I am offered is Maxalt and take the maximum dosage of three per day. Trouble is, the pharmacist will only dispense three a day, meaning I must travel to the pharmacy "every day of the week". Have you ever heard of anything so stupid? Maxalt is not covered by the PBS. Not only can I not afford the medication, but also the travelling cost. Oh yes, lovely, caring service indeed.

A.R. Trounson, Needles

Property insurance dispute settled

By Sharon Webb

THE OWNER of Blue Wren Hideaway at Mole Creek has been paid \$35,000 in insurance to replace fittings and fixtures allegedly stolen from the property after he bought it.

Blue Wren Hideaway became famous Australia-wide when Meander Valley Council sold it to gain \$3,500 in rates owed by its former owners whose religious beliefs led them to believe the council was not entitled to demand rates.

The sale also created indig-

chased on 1 September 2017.

"The available information suggests the property was vacated by the residents shortly prior to 16 October 2017."

At the time Tasmania Police refused to investigate the theft saying it was "a civil matter"; the complaints authority also has no idea who took the items.

It commented: "No information is available from the former owners. Whether the items were taken by the former owners or some other person is unclear."

Continued on Page 15...



Roadkill, a common sight on Tasmanian roads.

Photo by: Diego Delso

High frequency fence

By Hayley Manning

DATA RESULTS from Australia's first virtual fence trial, reveal the system is effective at reducing the estimated 500,000 animals, reptiles and birds, killed on Tasmanian roads each year.

A 2018 white paper published in the *Australian Mammalogy* journal, 'Road-kill mitigation: trialing virtual fence devices on the west coast of Tasmania', shows the most commonly affected species impacted by road traffic are the Brushtailed possum, wallaby, pademelon, spotted-tailed quoll and Tasmanian devil.

The Tasmanian Government's 'Save the Devil Program' (STDP), lead by researcher and author of the paper, Dr Samantha Fox, conducted a three year trial on a 13 km stretch of road between Arthur River and Marawah, from 2014 to 2017.

The small, high-tech devices are mounted onto posts at 25 metre intervals along the roadside and work when approaching headlights prompt audible, blue and yellow lights that deter animals from entering the road.

Trowunna Wildlife Sanctuary Director, Androo Kelly,

said it took the devil facial tumour crisis to stir the government into action. "Road trauma does take a lot of devils and eastern quolls each year, so the government could have been looking for solutions earlier," Androo said.

He discovered the virtual fence system on an obscure tech website in Austria

Wildlife Safety Solutions (WSS), founder Jack Swanepoel, "appalled" by the amount of roadkill he witnessed while holidaying in the state, was researching online when he discovered the virtual fence system on an obscure tech website in Austria.

Jack says the system he imported into Australia is still at an experimental stage, but he has "high hopes" the Tasmanian government will take notice of the world's first published, peer reviewed article and start using the cheap and easy to install devices around Tasmania.

"There is power in voices and numbers. I encourage everyone involved in conservation to band together with councils and make them realise we have a good solution here," Jack said.

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Deloraine local Corey Baker relaxes at Red Brick Road Ciderworks in Deloraine.

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The apple of Corey's eye

By Karl Gammler

A NEW business has opened up in Deloraine that will appeal to those who enjoy a tippie.

Red Brick Road Ciderworks and Hells Gate Gin have opened a combination cider- and gin-making facility and cellar door situated at the former Bodyworks at 30 East Parade, overlooking the Meander River.

The business has already proven popular with locals and tourists alike, with plenty

of parking and regular visits from food vans being a highlight on certain weekends.

Corey Baker and his partner Karina Damberg are no strangers to satisfying people's curiosity about all things cidery.

At their sister business, the Ciderhouse in Launceston, customers have been experiencing an amazing range of Tasmanian craft products, local food and local beverages such as cider, mead, wine, beer, and whisky.

But the time has come to move their base of operations to Deloraine where the couple reside with their young daughter, Beatrix.

Their approach is simple, real cider made from real fruit by real people. Apples and pears are sourced from fourth-generation Tasmanian growers, using traditional Tassie apples such as Geeveston Fanny and Orange Pippin where possible.

All cider is fermented and processed on site under strict guidelines with no added sugar, water, concentrate, flavours or colours. The ciders are unrefined,

unfiltered and unpasteurised, all carbonated by natural secondary fermentation.

Red Brick Road's core range includes Dry Hopped Cider, Sparkling Cider, Scrumpy, Cider Rosé and Perry.

But cider isn't the only beverage being made. The new Hells Gate Gin is proving so popular that a larger distiller is being made to satisfy demand. And for something different, there is local craft beer available on tap and a selection of Tassie whiskies and wines.

Opening hours are not set in stone. Summer is busy, with the whole bar and serving operation being taken to festivals such as The Taste of Tasmania and Mona Foma. However, when the main bar is absent from Deloraine, their customised converted minivan is a sight to see and can still satisfy your thirst.

The cellar door is open on Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday from 12.00-6.00pm and on Friday, 12.00-8.00pm. At other times, if the cellar door is open, just drop in to say 'G'day'.

Campfire restrictions remain

THE PARKS and Wildlife Service (PWS) is reminding everyone that campfire restrictions are still in place across all national parks, reserves and Crown Land state-wide until further notice.

PWS General Manager Jason Jacobi said PWS campfire restrictions will remain in

place indefinitely due to elevated soil dryness and the risk of new fire starts, at a time when there is a significant number of fires already burning across the state.

Under the PWS campfire restrictions, campfires, pot stoves and any fuel stove that burn coal, wood or plant material are NOT permitted.



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Where the devil has it gone?



The damaged sculpture.

By Sharon Webb

THE MAN who dreamed up Deloraine's Kooparoona Niara Cultural Trail wants residents to keep their eyes open for thieves following the theft of a valuable bronze Tasmanian Devil.

Greg Murray said he has reported the theft to police and is disgusted that anyone would steal the devil.

"It doesn't just hurt me because of what the cultural trail means to me personally but it leaves a nasty taste in the mouths of locals and visitors," he said.

Greg said he last saw the sculpture when he pointed it out to visitors around 9.00am on Friday 25th January.

When he was on the riverbank at 2.00pm the following day it was gone.

"This theft comes after someone tried to steal one of the muttonbirds last year – also on a Friday night," he said.

The bronze devil was smaller than lifesize, weighing 10-15kg and about 50cm in length.

The Kooparoona Niara Cultural Trail project was funded by State Government, Bendigo Bank and Meander Valley Council grants.

The Golden Valley artist who created the riverbank bronzes, John Parish, said the thief may have used power tools to remove the devil because it was anchored by three metal rods into a stump with fiberglass resin.

The devil theft follows the recent theft of a to-scale replica letterbox at the grain-store building in Parsonage St.

Owner Richard Dunlop said: "They must have really wanted it; they would have needed a power tool because it was bolted to stone.

"I imagine it will turn up at Evandale Market or on Gumtree. You can't underestimate human inventiveness when it comes to making money."

sharon.webb
@meandervalleygazette.com



Photos by: Mike Moores

Thieves probably used power tools to remove the bronze devil from its locale near the Cenotaph.

Our feathered friends

TWO OPPORTUNITIES to view the photographic work of well-known local naturalist Sarah Lloyd are available in Meander Valley during the month of February.


Pixels Gallery will show a selection of Sarah's ornithological pictures in an exhibition titled 'Our feathered friends' for the month of February. The digital gallery

at 21 West Parade Deloraine (behind the Library) is open 10.00am to 4.00pm weekdays and 1.00 to 3.00pm Saturdays.

'The Birds and the Bees' is the title of a showing of selected bird and insect photos Sarah will have on show at Meander Valley Council offices from 12th February to 31st March.

Sarah is eager to see greater

care taken of birds and their habitats in Tasmania saying, "In the past two hundred years the Tasmanian landscape has changed irrevocably and there is no doubt that this has been disastrous for birds. Cities and towns are encroaching on bushland; agricultural activities, once restricted to the most fertile soils, are expanding and intensifying and native forests are being decimated to feed our voracious appetite for timber products."




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Spotlight on and off...Council's Australia Day event

It was a case of lights out at Meander Valley Council's Australia Day event held on the evening of Friday 25th January.

The stage was set and the Mount Pleasant Room at Country Club Tasmania was ready to go, when a power outage left everyone in the dark.

"After some delay, we were considering postponing the event. We were fortunate that the lights came back on in the nick of time," Mayor Wayne Johnston said.

The evening went ahead, albeit a little behind schedule, with the crowd more than happy to wait a little longer to show their appreciation to those who contribute so much to the Meander Valley community.

Bryan Watson was named Citizen of the Year. Heavily involved in the community through both sporting and service clubs, Bryan was Meander Valley's SES Unit Manager for twenty years, a member of the Deloraine Lions Club for thirty-five years and has volunteered at Ambulance Tasmania for a further ten years.

Young Citizen of the Year was awarded to Kate Sheahan. Kate has represented

Meander Valley at the Tasmanian Youth Local Government Forum and in 2018 she was the Tasmanian winner of the Simpson Prize, a national competition which encourages participants to explore the significance of the Anzac experience and what it has meant to Australia. Kate also contributes to the community through her role as a volunteer at Stepping Stones Leadership Camps.

The Rotary Club of Deloraine's Learn to Swim Program received the Community Event of the Year Award. The Rotary Club of Deloraine has been offering free swimming and water safety classes for more than thirty-five years. This valuable service aims to reduce deaths of children by drowning. Over the last fifteen years, 1370 children have been taught to swim.

Daniel Gurr was awarded the Meander Valley Sports Award. Daniel has been competitively woodchopping since he was five years old and is dedicated to the sport. Daniel has been a member of the Australian Under 21 Wood Chopping Team three times and among his many achievements are two World Titles, six Australian Titles and fifteen Tasmanian Titles. His win at the World Rookie Stihl Timber Sports in France



Above: Mayor Wayne Johnston presents Bryan Watson with his Citizen of the Year Award.

put Australia and his home town of Deloraine firmly on the map.

Meander Valley welcomed eight new citizens at the event and over forty volunteers from the municipal area were recognised, receiving awards for 1000 hours, 3000 hours and Exceptional Service.

"I am humbled to present these awards. They reflect dedication, commitment and the inspiring spirit of Meander Valley.

Thank you to all who have contributed thousands of volunteer hours to serve others. This strengthens our community and makes us all proud to represent our municipality", Mayor Wayne Johnston said.



Recreational water safety

With summer in full swing and people enjoying the natural environments and recreational opportunities that Meander Valley has to offer, Council's Environmental Health Officers are sampling water at popular swimming spots at Blackstone Heights, Bracknell, Hadspen and Egmont.

Monitoring is undertaken to ensure the water is safe for public use and most importantly, human health. If required, public health warnings will be issued via signage at the site, as well as on Council's website and Facebook page.

This service assists the community to make responsible decisions. If you have any enquiries regarding recreational water quality, please contact Council's Environmental Health Officers on 6393 5320.



Celebrating our wetlands

February 2 was World Wetlands Day. This is an international day of celebration for the contribution of wetlands to the broader environment.

Our wetlands are important ecosystems. With a rich biodiversity they support in-stream life as well as animals dependent on water systems. Migratory species also require wetlands for their survival.

Wetlands can provide cleaner water, hold water on floodplains for agriculture and support tourism and cultural activities.

They periodically wash their landscape and maintain important connections throughout our catchments, including the cave systems around Mole Creek.

Meander Valley is lucky to have two wetland areas in close proximity to townships.

The Wildwood informal reserve at Deloraine,

adjacent to the caravan park is a wetland that is easy to access.

In Westbury, the extensive Town Common contains a mix of well-maintained walking paths and wetland habitats making it ideal for visitors to appreciate the functions of a wetland up close. This wetland is also home to numerous threatened species of animals and plants.

Council is celebrating World Wetlands Day by installing educational and interpretive signs in selected locations around the Westbury Town Common.

These signs are intended to assist in understanding the different environments that exist in the Town Common and how they support a range of plants and animals.

Next time you enjoy a walk around the Town Common, pause for a moment to read more about the fauna and flora that share the space and thrive there.



Above: Work in progress along Henrietta Street in Bracknell

Improvements to drainage completed

New drainage lines have now been completed in Henrietta Street in Bracknell. The work involved reshaping the existing open drain and the installation of new underground piping.

This project is the next stage of Council's ongoing commitment to improving the streetscapes within our townships.

Where the Devil are you?

This is an appeal to anyone who may know the whereabouts of a Tassie Devil sculpture recently taken from the river walk in Deloraine.

This figurine is one of eight endearing animals installed along the Kooparoona Niara Cultural Trail.

The Trail, a celebration of Aboriginal culture, was established last year through the efforts of local school students, volunteers, artists, service groups and businesses. It is a source of much community pride and an emerging drawcard for visitors.



It's such a shame that this little fellow has gone 'walk about'.

If you can help bring him home, please call Council on 6393 5300 or direct him to the Council Depot at East Westbury Place, Deloraine.



Above: Selfless contributions recognised - Volunteer Award recipients from Bracknell

Recognition for exceptional service

Individuals who volunteer their time and resources underpin Meander Valley's wonderful network of community organisations.

Now in its 22nd year, Meander Valley Council's Volunteer Recognition Program acknowledges the invaluable service given to the community by individuals.

This year, as part of Council's Australia Day celebrations, forty volunteers were recognised for each completing 1,000 and 3,000 hours of voluntary service.

A further twelve volunteers received Exceptional Awards.

From show societies and hall committees to sporting clubs and interest groups, contributions made by volunteering outweighs all other major industries.

This year, a large number of volunteers were from the township of Bracknell, which clearly illustrates the importance of the role of volunteers in small communities.

"On behalf of Meander Valley Council, I congratulate all

of our volunteers and thank you for your selfless contributions," Mayor Johnston said.

There are many volunteers out there that are yet to be recognised.

If there is someone you know that deserves recognition, consider nominating them for next year's Volunteer Awards.

Forms can be downloaded from Council's website at www.meander.tas.gov.au or collected from the Council office.

On the Village Green

The Westbury St Patrick's Festival returns to its traditional home on the Village Green on Saturday 16 March for a daylong celebration of all things Irish.

Activities begin with a street parade from 10am and then roll into a rich performance program ably supported by food and craft stalls a church market, vintage tractors and children's activities.

Guinness will also feature.

The event's new steering group is working hard to recreate a village festival that celebrates Westbury's Irish heritage with an em-

phasis on the folk tradition and rural activities. Entry is by donation, in keeping with the Group's commitment to making the Festival available to all.

An exciting feature of this year's program is the use of St Andrews Church as a venue for short acoustic performances and presentations.

These St Andrews 'Spotlights' will provide an intimate alternative to the main stage action. Come along and hear a whistle player, a poet, a harpist or historian.

Festival performers include: The Wheels, The Rolling



Waves, Fiddle STIX, Barbara Palmer Irish Dancers, Eddie Tuleja, Meander Men, Helen and Mick Flanagan, Westbury Primary School Maypole Dancers, City of Launceston RSL Pipe & Drums plus local session players.

For enquires, stall registrations and offers of support, please contact Amanda Taylor on 0467 097 791 or email westburyspf@gmail.com

Design And Construction Of Bridges - Western Districts Area

Council officers have recently tendered the design and construction of three bridges in the western area of the municipality. The bridges are located on Barbers Road, Meander, over Leiths Creek; Walters Road, Mole Creek, over Limestone Creek; and Botts Road, Caveside, over Ritchies Creek. These bridges are the last three scheduled for reconstruction as part of this years capital works program. Council will make a decision on awarding the contract at its February Meeting.



Expressions of Interest

Meander Valley Council is reaching out to local artists. We have an outdoor space at the Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre (98 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine) which we wish to improve. We are seeking design concepts that will engage tourists and value-add to the existing attractions of the Centre. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Vicki Pryer at the Centre or by emailing vicki.pryer@greatwesterntiers.net.au. Expressions of interest close 5pm Monday, 4 March.



Parkham Community Hall

Tuesday 19 March 2019 • 7pm - 8.30pm

Council holds quarterly forums in different townships to discuss local achievements and issues with residents.

A mix of Councillors and Council officers attend and all interested community members are welcome. These gatherings are intended to be informal and conversational – a sharing of information to raise awareness and to generate practical outcomes.

This particular meeting will focus on the communities of Elizabeth Town, Parkham and surrounding areas.

Refreshments are provided, please come along and share your thoughts.

For more information on Council Community Forums contact Patrick Gambles on 6393 5334



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

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Photos by: Mike Moores



Woody Sampson and daughter Faith recent arrivals from Melbourne enjoy brekky at Chudleigh.



From L-R: Sue Poulton, Alison Lee and Dinah Fitzgerald feed the hungry hoards at Westbury.

Bonza brekkies & fair dinkum fun

WHEN IT comes to Australia Day Breakfasts Chudleigh certainly brings home the bacon.

With visitors from Melbourne and locals from as far away as Longford, the stalwart volunteers were kept on their toes ferrying huge amounts of tucker for the seemingly endless line of eager and hungry visitors.

At Westbury the old hands set to with a will, up to their elbows in bangers and mushroom.

The previous evening in Prospect Vale saw a few hiccups for Council's Australia

Day Award Ceremonies.

At one stage it seemed unlikely that the event would go ahead when the Highlands fire emergency caused a blackout to Prospect Vale and surrounding suburbs.

Then Councillor Tanya King very bravely sang the national anthem (with some help from the Meander Men) when the scheduled performer didn't turn up.

Things went smoothly from then on with many wonderful Meander Valleyites being recognised for their extraordinary service to community.

Blue Farmer searches the skies

Continued from Page 1...

By Hayley Manning

TAKE THE old Meander Valley Road toward Ashley Youth Detention Centre and you will see a big Blue Farmer surveying the surrounding landscape.

Bruny Island artist, Grietje van Randen, designed the first Blue Farmer in her 'Sprokkelwood' open garden to raise awareness about people in the community with depression, after a spate of tragic events in her partner's farming family.

The third Farmer project began in 2018, when Tasmanian Craft Fair Director, Lesley Dare, invited Grietje to the all-new Community Arts Tent, where 250 locals and visitors took part in knitting garments from recycled blue

twine on purpose-built dowel knitting needles.

The completed garments were then sewn together and fitted onto a PVC frame, designed and made by the Ashley students.

Grietje stipulates all Blue Farmers must be positioned scanning the landscape to remind people to 'look out' for each other when they drive past, and they are to be created by local community volunteers.

"The process of sitting together while the hands are busy allows people to open up and work through things. This is of immense value if you are having a hard time," Grietje said.

"You might only need one conversation to make a difference."

Council to embrace new planning

By Sharon Webb

MEANDER VALLEY Council is set to be the first to implement the new Tasmanian Planning Scheme.

The council's general manager Martin Gill said Meander Valley residents will be the first Tasmanian community to work with the scheme, one of the key outcomes of the Tasmanian Liberals' planning reform process.

"We are the first council to put the new Tasmanian Planning Scheme on formal public notice and will most likely be the first to have the scheme including a local provisions schedule declared by the Minister sometime later this year," Mr Gill said.

The new Tasmanian Planning Scheme is designed to deliver consistency in planning controls applying across the State and provide the necessary flexibility to address local issues through local provisions schedules.

It consists of State planning

provisions and local provisions schedules, indicating how the provisions apply in each municipality and containing zone maps and overlay maps or description of places where the codes apply.

They will also contain local area objectives and any planning controls for unique places specific to the local area. These unique areas can be in the form of particular purpose zones, specific area plans, and site-specific qualifications.

Councils are responsible for preparing their local provisions schedules in consultation with their communities and other stakeholders to ensure it reflects the community's expectations.

The schedules include planning controls to accommodate unique locations such as universities and hospitals, as well as unique development conditions such as building height restrictions.

sharon.webb

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Where there is muck there is money

WHO WOULD have thought that cow poop could be worth money?

Get along to the Chudleigh Show on Saturday the

16th February to find out how.

The Junior Beef Expo committee are holding the first ever cow poo lotto.

A novel approach to fund-

raising, it works by marking out a paddock with grid lines and numbering the resulting squares.

Competitors purchase a square or squares in the grid and a cow is then let into the gridded paddock.

Here's where it gets intense with every one waiting and watching to see which square the cow poops on as this will be the winner.

Chudleigh show has been running since 1889, 130 years.

A great family day out, the show will also feature a dog high jump competition, a trick horse display, mens muffin competition, sheep dog trial, dairy and beef cattle exhibits as well as sheep and horse events.

For children there will be a jumping castle, pony and train rides. The committee are also hoping to hold a kids fishing event. Entry is \$10.00 for adults; \$20.00 for a family of four (2 adults, 2 children).



Junior cattle handling is a popular event at the Chudleigh Show.



U.S. ingredients married with an Australian love for sausages.

Tex-Mex Sausage Tacos

Photo and recipe by
Wai Lin Coultas

A CULINARY creation of the Tejano people living in Texas, Tex-Mex fuses Mexican cuisine with American ingredients including yellow cheese, beef or pork, beans, peppers, spices and the hard shell taco. Marrying U.S. ingredients with an Australian love for sausages and local fresh produce bursting forth in warm sunny February and with Tasmania's abundance of delicious gin, this recipe births refreshingly light tacos – the perfect summer fare assembled from

delectable ingredients filling wicker baskets at our favourite picnic destinations.

Ingredients

- 1 3/4 medium carrot, grated
- 60g snow peas, thinly sliced diagonally
- 100g mini truss tomatoes, diced
- 10g fresh flat leaf parsley, chopped
- 8g fresh dill, chopped
- 60g gherkins, thinly sliced
- 12 Old El Paso's original corn taco hard shells, warmed

For the sausage sauce
250 ml boiling water

- 20g dried porcini mushrooms
- 4 cloves garlic, peeled & minced
- 1/2 medium onion, peeled & diced
- 1 x 462g packet Boks Pork Sausages with Peppercorns, thinly sliced after removing skins
- 1 cube beef stock, crumbled
- 5 tsp honey
- 4 1/2 tbsp. tomato ketchup
- 2 tbsp tomato paste
- 1 1/2 tbsp. aged balsamic vinegar
- 2 tsp dried oregano
- 2 tsp dried marjoram
- 2 tsp cassia powder
- pinch cayenne pepper
- Canola oil, Salt

For the dressing

- 2 tbsp mayonnaise
- 1 tbsp sweet chilli sauce
- 2 1/2 tsp gin
- 1 1/2 tsp white vinegar

Instructions

1. To make sausage sauce, first soak porcini mushrooms in water for 15 minutes before chopping them up; setting aside porcini infused water.
2. In saucepan of heated canola oil, stir fry onions till tender and beginning to brown before adding garlic to stir fry till fragrant.
3. Add sausages; stir frying till all pink pork has turned white before adding porcini, mushroom infused water and beef stock cube.
4. Next add tomato ketchup, tomato paste, balsamic



TEMPERATURES FOR the first weeks of this year could well compare with those of the mainland states.

So far, rainfall has been negligible and many of the drought tender perennials are wilting in the heat.

Two ornaments which have survived are the Agapanthus and the spectacular two metre high Cardoon, *Cynara*



Ornamental Globe Artichoke

cardunculus, or the ornamental Globe Artichoke (pictured).

Both can be invasive and so flowering heads should be removed as soon as they begin to fade. In fact, it would not be too much of a loss if the flowers of the Cardoon were removed quite early, as its principle attractiveness lies in its huge silver grey deeply cut leaves. If left to seed, the thistle-down from this plant will invade neighbouring gardens.

Vegetables

One vegetable which does need liberal water is the delectable dwarf green bean, which is now beginning to bear. These should be harvested while slim and tender. Those pods surplus to immediate requirements freeze very well. Top and tail them, blanch them in boiling water, cool them in icy water, pat them dry, and freeze them in butter boxes.

- vinegar, dried herbs and spices; stir frying till sauce thickens; seasoning with salt.
- 5. Meanwhile making dressing by mixing mayonnaise, chilli sauce, gin and white vinegar.
- 6. To fill a tacos shell, first spoon in 2 1/2 tbsp cooled

sausage sauce before adding 1/12 of gherkins over and topping that with first 1/12 of carrots, then 1/12 of snow peas and finally 1/12 of tomatoes; drizzling over 1 tbsp dressing before garnishing with 1/12 of fresh parsley and dill. Serves 4.

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Authorised by: Guy Barnett, 76 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine Tas 7304



Photo by: Mike Moores

A state-funded campaign will address some of the issues involved in living next door to a farm.

The joys of country living

By David Claridge

FARMERS ARE important to the booming economics of Meander Valley. Yet, for their neighbours or people moving near to farms, some may not understand their rights and responsibilities.

A new campaign by the Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association (TFGA) called 'Living next door to a farmer' hopes to change that and help build good relationships between farmers and their neighbours.

A \$100,000 boost to the TFGA by the Government over three years aims to improve neighbours' understandings of farming activities and clearly outline everyone's rights and responsibilities.

A media release supplied by the government claims that "A comprehensive information package and communications

program developed by the TFGA will inform those from a non-farming background neighbouring farmland about essential farming activities and practices, as well as respective responsibilities of farmers and neighbours."

"It aims to reduce the likelihood of land use conflict in rural areas through awareness raising and new information tools to prepare newcomers for the realities of rural life."

This campaign is part of the Agrifood Plan enacted by the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment which aims to build the state-wide value of agriculture to \$10 billion per year by 2050. It will do that by helping farmers be competitive and give them certainty and the confidence to get on with business.

A cuppa for Helen

By Wendy Laing

ON THE 16th January, a commemorative morning tea for Mrs Helen Horton was held at the RSL Club in Deloraine.

Mrs Helen Clayton thanked the 80 people in attendance for coming along to help celebrate the life of the well-respected member of the Deloraine community.

Helen and her husband, Don, were remembered for holding the first Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea at their home in Deloraine and Helen continued to coordinate the event for the next twenty years.

As well as being a member of the Deloraine Hospital Auxiliary and Meals on Wheels for a number of years, she was also a fundraiser for



Helen Horton

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

Four of Helen's grandchildren reminisced about their time spent with Helen and Don while growing up. She was a great cook, they said.

Mrs Helen Horton passed away on the 3rd January 2019 after a long illness.

Big gig in Meander's small hall

Photo and story by Elizabeth Douglass

A BEAUTIFUL summer evening in Meander was the perfect place to enjoy the lively music of band Fru Skagerrak and soloist Liam Gerner.

One of the many wonderful Small Halls concerts, featuring one Australian and one international artist, the Meander Memorial Hall was packed out with an audience of all ages.

Sitting, hand-clapping, foot-stamping or dancing with children, the audience were all moved and delight-

ed by the traditional and not-so-music.

Adelaide boy Liam, now Melbourne-based and travelling the world, displayed his original songwriting and strong performing talents with just enough of a country twang to counterbalance the intricate and quirky music of Fru Skagerrak.

The latter, Anna Lindblad (Sweden), Elise Wesel Hildrum (Norway) and Maja Kjær Jacobsen (Denmark), play fiddles (violins), recorder and sing their way through lullabies, drinking songs and lively dances, a journey through the

traditional music of Scandinavia with music and laughter a common language.

With food and drink catered for by the Meander Hall Committee and Arts Deloraine, the concert embodied the Festival of Small Halls spirit - 'bringing big music to small places', celebrating wonderful music and the hospitality of small communities.



Liam Gerner entertained the crowd with original songwriting.

A tissue a tissue we all fall down



The good folk of Chudleigh organised another circus skills workshop for thirty lucky Meander Valley young ones during the school holidays. Pictured here are L-R Cayden Kester, Shenoah Hume and Samuel Marshman, all 8yrs, practising with kangaroo stilts while ably assisted by Kim Hume.



Photo by: Nathan Wheldon

The 'Bad Dads' will perform at Deloraine's Little Theatre on 16th February.

Fathers with a difference

By Sharon Webb

EIGHT BAD Dads from Launceston will bring their brand of soul rock'n roll to Deloraine's Little Theatre on the 16th February.

Presented by Arts Deloraine, the Bad Dads Orchestra's guitar-driven sounds and soaring vocals are sure to have locals dancing the night away.

According to Bad Dads member Luke Young, the band's rule of thumb is: We bring the party to town!

Together they've got hundreds of kids, hundreds of riffs and a big old bag of style and swagger.

Support acts will be guitarist Eddie Tuleja and fresh-out-of-college punk rock band FEELS, led by Monique How.

Luke said the Bad Dads

Orchestra concept began more than three years ago as a social band, a sort of men's shed for working musicians. And you had to be a dad.

But not many people know that the band's roots are firmly embedded in Deloraine.

The co-founder with Luke was Liam Pennicott, who died a year ago; he grew up in Reedy Marsh where his parents Graham and Geraldine still live and the band continues his initiative after his death.

"We actually started performing as a one-off for the Jackey's Marsh Forest Festival but that was cancelled because of a bush-fire threat," Luke said.

"So we did a gig to compensate the organisers for

their financial loss and kept performing from there."

The band first toured Australia's east coast in 2018, including performing in Blues on Broad Beach on the Gold Coast and will tour there again in 2019.

So will future members of the Bad Dads Orchestra definitely need to be dads?

"Yeah we have a blanket rule but sometime we'll need to open it up to others," Luke said.

So shine up those dancing boots. It's big, it's bad and it's dad.

PS, you don't have to be a dad to see the Bad Dads Orchestra but dads are super-welcome!

When: 7.00pm, 16th February
Where: Little Theatre, Deloraine

Tickets: Adults \$25.00; Arts Deloraine members \$20.00 – available at The Alpaca Shop Deloraine & online at <https://trybooking.com/BADPD>

Property insurance dispute settled

Continued from Page 6...

Mr Styles who previously had claimed a \$50,000 loss, said he was satisfied with the outcome: "We didn't get the full amount we asked for but this goes some way to putting back what was stolen."

Items missing from Blue Wren Hideaway included solar panels and inverter, all light fittings, a combustion stove, a heat pump, a vanity unit, oven and cooktop and built-in cupboards.

The home's water system was damaged, as were walls, ceilings and floors.

The \$35,000 paid by the

insurance company covered the items stolen but not the damage caused by their removal.

After the property was sold for \$120,000 and Meander Valley Council deducted the owed rates and the cost of the sale, the remainder of the money was returned to the previous owners.

But the family returned the \$105,000 to the council saying it had been a hostile sale and they didn't wish to collude in it.

Mr Styles will now put in a claim to the Supreme Court for some of that money.

sharon.webb
@meandervalleygazette.com

On the right wavelength

2019 IS promising to be a great year for Meander Valley community radio station MVFM 96.9.

With a new transmitter purchased and commissioned in 2018 and the aerial retuned to improve the signal, coverage now reaches more areas of the Valley and beyond.

Thanks to grants from Bendigo Bank, Meander Valley Council and the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia, building renovations and equipment purchases have made the station more efficient. Listeners, memberships and sponsorships have all increased.

Renovations for the second production studio space are complete. Equipment is being installed for live broadcasting to begin in 2019.

MVFM is run and maintained by volunteers, producing music and lifestyle programs, broadcasting a community calendar of local and council news, maintain-

ing a Facebook page and website, servicing equipment and performing all the back-room tasks required to stay on air.

The September AGM elected Mira Kuperstein (President), John Kenzey (Vice President), Tim Biggs (Treasurer) and Marijke McGough (Secretary), with committee members Nick Weare, John Phelps, Linda Irwin, Carol McLean-Carr and Noelene Hanson.

This year, for their work with the station, John Kenzey and Mira received Meander Valley Council Volunteer Awards.

If you enjoy listening to MVFM, consider becoming a member or a sponsor. Membership is open to all Meander Valley residents for an annual cost of \$30.00 (\$20.00 concession).

Membership and sponsorship allows MVFM to continue to broadcast, providing opportunities for people to make programs, meaningful training and work for benefit recipients and volunteers.

In March, MVFM will begin a fortnightly 'Member's Draw' where three members will receive a special prize from sponsors.

Volunteers are always needed to make programs, to utilise their special skills in social media, website-building, technical and computer work, or to just help out around the station.

Drop in to the studios located at 59-61 Emu Bay Road, between 10.00 and 2.00pm weekdays, to pick up a membership form, speak to one of the volunteers and have a look over the facilities.

Practical strategies for living

A FREE mindfulness workshop will be held at Deloraine House, spread across three Sundays in March and April.

This workshop is provided for free from Mindfulness Programs Australasia, with support from Primary Health Tasmania under the Australian Government's Primary Health Networks Program.

Learn practical strategies for managing difficult feelings, thoughts and situations in a relaxed environment

with qualified Mindfulness Teacher, Christine.

From 10.00am to 4.00pm on three Sundays: 3rd March, 24th March & 14th April 2019.

Attendance at all three days is required and registration is essential, so apply now.

Online: www.mindfulness-saus.com.au

Phone: 0488 064 228.

Email: admin@mindfulness-saus.com.au

Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd.

Yin Yoga

YIN YOGA · 8 x Tuesdays from 12 Feb · 9.00am · Westbury Community Health Centre

A great introduction to Yoga for older adults. Slow-paced, helping to improve flexibility & mindfulness. Can also be chair-based. Perfect for men, as well as women!

Cost: \$5.00 donation - Bookings essential as numbers are limited. For information call Dinah on 0417 292 622.

Cup day lunch

AGED CARE Deloraine Auxiliary are holding a Launceston Cup day Fundraiser.

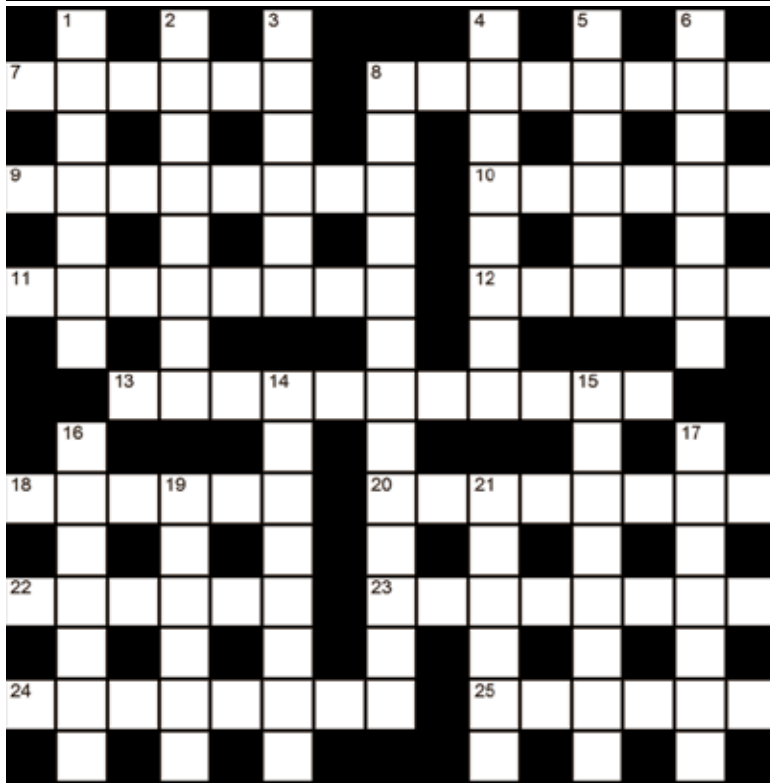
It will be a Black and White luncheon held at the Deloraine RSL club on Wednesday 27th Feb 2019.

Cost is \$25.00 per head which includes a 2 course meal.

Complimentary wine or orange juice on arrival.

Consult your milliner as there is a prize for the best hat as well as a raffle, sweeps and lucky door prizes. RSVP Chris Chilcott 0419 575 193, Maureen Hoskin 6362 4924, Jan Atkins 6362 2892 or Pauline Grey 6367 8217.

Crossword



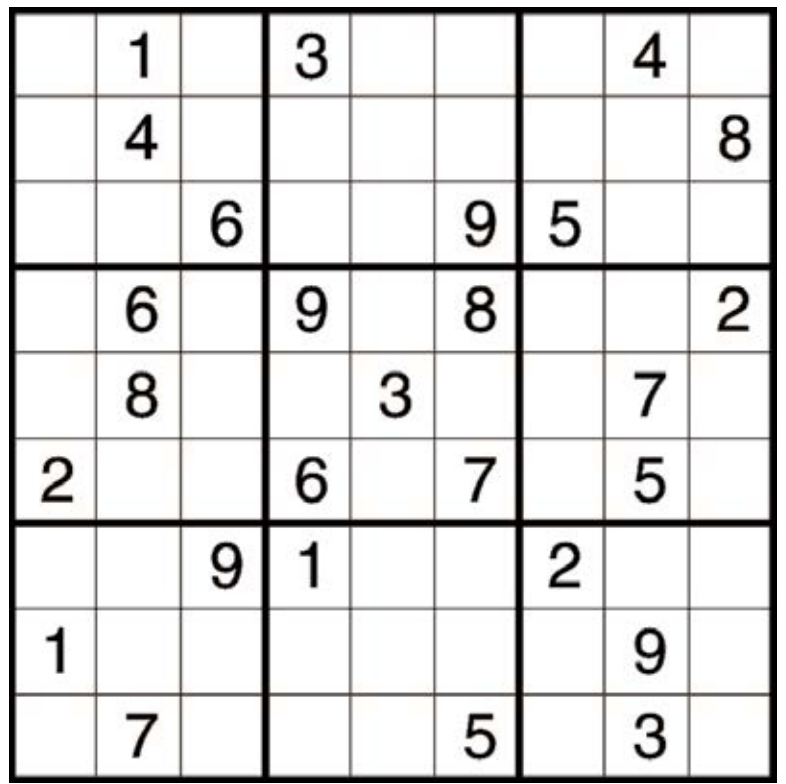
Across

- 7 Missing (6)
- 8 Enormous (8)
- 9 Type of lights (8)
- 10 Shrink back (6)
- 11 Saviour (8)
- 12 Man (6)
- 13 Moving to and fro (11)
- 18 Austrian composer (6)
- 20 Inspector (8)
- 22 Light-hearted TV show (6)
- 23 Person practising deception under an assumed name (8)
- 24 Forced high notes (8)
- 25 Tooth covering (6)
- 39 Preen (5)

Down

- 1 Belly (7)
- 2 Uneasy (8)
- 3 Flowing water (6)
- 4 Yes (3,5)
- 5 Tapered frozen mass (6)
- 6 Circumscribed (7)
- 8 Supreme commander (13)
- 14 Cosy (8)
- 15 Abroad (8)
- 16 Of local interest (7)
- 17 Regimental commander (7)
- 19 Charge (6)
- 21 Small sword (6)

Sudoku



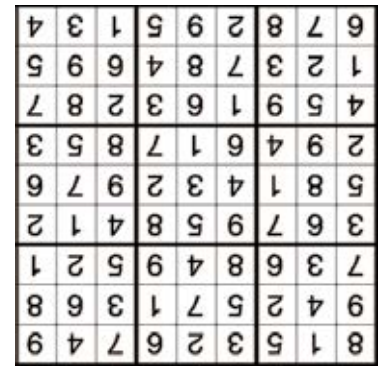
©2019 Syndicated Puzzles

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 - February 2019 Solution



Sudoku - February 2019 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
First Tuesday each month 1.30pm	Meander Valley Diabetes Support Group	Community Health Centre 89 Meander Valley Rd, Westbury Small plate a'noon tea+ \$1.00 info Ph: 0428 576 795.
Every Wednesday 6.00pm - 7.30pm	Yoga with Kristina	Deloraine Day Centre, Lansdowne Place, Deloraine \$15.00 Casual More info Ph: 0497 025 308 (Kristina).
Every Friday 10.00am - 11.30am	Yoga with Brigitte	Westbury Town Hall Supper Room, Lyall St, Westbury \$15.00 Casual More info Ph: 0414 948 760 (Brigitte).
Every day during February	'Our feathered friends' photos by Sarah Lloyd	Pixels Gallery, 21 West Parade Deloraine Open weekdays 10:00am-4:00pm Sat 1:00pm-3:00 pm.
Saturday 9th February 1.30pm - 4.00pm	Westbury Flower Show	Westbury Town Hall, Lyall Street, Westbury Entry \$2.00 Stalls, Raffle & Afternoon Tea available.
Saturday 9th February 7.30pm sharp	Western Tiers Film Society "Foxtrot"	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd Deloraine MA15+ Drama/Comedy Israel 104m More info Ph: 0418 389 868.
Sunday 10th February 9.00am - 3.00pm	Tasmanian Truck-n-Ute Show	Quercus Park, Oaks Road, Carrick \$10.00 Adults \$5.00 Pensioner Judging 8.00am - 11.30am On-site catering.
Sunday 10th February 11.00am - 3.00pm	Succulent and Cactus Exhibition & Sales	Deloraine Bowls Club, Meander Valley Rd. \$2.00 entry Light Refreshments & Lunch available new exhibits.
Monday 11th February	Meander Valley U3A Term 1 classes begin	Various locations Ph: Ph 0484 758 466, or email meandervalleyu3a@gmail.com for class program.
Tuesday 12th February - 31st March	'The Birds and the Bees' by Sarah Lloyd	Birds and Insects of Meander Valley, MVC Council Offices, 26 Lyall St Westbury business hours no charge.
Tuesday 12th February 9.00am	Yin Yoga (Yoga for older adults-men & women)	"Westbury Community Health Centre 8 x Tuesdays Cost: \$5.00 Bookings essential. Info Ph: Dinah 0417 292 622.
Saturday 16th February 9.00am - 6.00pm	Chudleigh Agricultural Show	Chudleigh Showgrounds, 50 Sorell Street, Chudleigh More info Ph: 6363 2047.
Saturday 16th February 9.00am - 1.00pm	Mole Creek Market	Mole Creek Memorial Hall, cnr Pioneer Drive and Caveside Road, Contact Ross Quick 0413 681 252.
Saturday 16th February	Carrick Park Pacing Club - Carrick Cup meeting	East Street, Carrick Full Bar facilities, Kiosk, BBQ For more info Ph: Sandra 0400 635 070.
Saturday 16th February 7.00pm	The Bad Dad Orchestra	Deloraine Little Theatre, Meander Valley Rd. \$25.00 \$20.00 Arts Deloraine Members Tickets: Alpaca Shoppe.
Saturday 16th February 4.00pm - 11.00pm	Country Music Jamboree	Marakoopa Café Ampitheatre 186 Mayberry Rd, Mayberry \$40.00 Tickets 6363 5033 Hot food - Strictly No BYO.
Saturday 16th February 8.00am - 1.00pm	Westbury Market	11 Lonsdale Promenade, Westbury More info ph: 0417 931 619.
Sunday 17th February 10.00am	Deloraine Street Car Show Classic & Custom	Emu Bay Road, Deloraine Live music, kids entertainment, stalls Ph: Grant Evans 0408 133 421.
Saturday 23rd February 11.00am	A Day at the Creek	Mole Creek Hotel grounds 90 Pioneer Drv. Mole Creek Pre-sale \$72.00 Gate Sales \$80.00 U13 \$12.00.
Sunday 24th February 12.00noon - 4.00pm	Tasmanian Liberals Country BBQ	Bella Vista Park, 5273 Bass Hwy, Deloraine \$15.00 Adults \$5.00 U12 Pony rides, Stall, Boot throwing.
Wednesday 27th February	Aged Care Deloraine Auxiliary Luncheon	RSL Club, Deloraine 2 courses \$25.00pp - Best Hat, Raffle, Sweeps, Door prizes. RSVP 0419 757 193 or 6362 2892.
Saturday 2nd March 7.00pm sharp	Movie "Bohemian Rhapsody"	Mole Creek Memorial Hall \$5.00 BYO Alcohol/Chair Popcorn, Icecreams etc avail. Ph: Ken 0419 242 285.
Saturday 2nd March 9.00am - 1.00pm	Deloraine Market	Deloraine Showgrounds, 14795 Highland Lakes Rd More info Ph: 03 6369 5321 Breakfast available.
Sunday 3rd March 10.00am - 4.00pm	Mindfulness Workshop with Christine	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd. Deloraine Free Registration essential - attend all 3 days Ph: 0488 064 228.
Saturday 9th March 7.30pm sharp	Western Tiers Film Society "Rosalie Blum"	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd Deloraine M Comedy/Romance France 96m More info Ph: 0418 389 868.
Saturday 9th March 9.00am	Liffey Valley Market & Car Boot Sale	Liffey School 1443 Liffey Rd, Liffey Local honey, Baked goods, Plants, Crafts Enquiries Ph: 6397 3670 Quenton.
Saturday 16th March 9.00am - 1.00pm	Mole Creek Market	Mole Creek Memorial Hall, cnr Pioneer Drive and Caveside Road, Contact Ross Quick 0413 681 252.
Sunday 17th March 10.00am - 3.30pm	Tasmanian Garlic & Tomato Festival	338 Four Springs Rd, Selbourne Stall holders 9.00am Gates Open \$10.00am \$10.00 Adults Child Free 0438 009 522.

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SPORT Carnival at Carrick



The Carrick Park Pacing Club's major event of the season, the Carrick Cup, takes place on Saturday 16th February at twilight. For the first time a sale of yearlings will be held. It is the only sale of standard bred yearlings in Tasmania this year. Other attractions during the evening will include: the Vandenberg Transport Carrick Cup, Fashions on the Field competitions,

a double-seated sulky race, celebrity pony race, live music, free children's jumping castle & face painting, and a Polocrosse demonstration. Tasmanian Polocrosse players from the Midland Spurs and Kentish (green & gold) are pictured above during the polocrosse demonstration match at last years Carrick Cup. Photo by Mike Moores

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