

PUFF THE MAGIC DRAGON

New pottery hub in Deloraine

> PAGE 12



FLYING THROUGH THE AIR

Plenty to jump about at Chudleigh Show

> PAGE 14



DRIVEN BY THE OLD WAYS

Mountain Cattlemen gather at Harveydale

> PAGE 20





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Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper

Flowers and veg come full circle in Westbury

The Westbury Garden Club Flower Show was once again a runaway success, attracting an estimated 700 entries. 300 people attended on the day with Lorraine Pasfield and R Mercer taking out the prize for Grand Champion Dahlia. As well as the many beautiful blooms on show there was also a selection of summer vegetables, including this unusually shaped marrow, held by Elena Tweedale 8 yrs of Westbury. Photo by: Mike Moores

Evacuation centre poised for action

By Hayley Manning

THE TASMANIAN Government, in association with Tasmanian Fire Service and local

councils, opened evacuation centres for those areas impacted by fires or threatening embers. Meander Valley Council's Social Recov-

ery Coordinator, Patrick Gambles, in response to guidance and direction from Tasmanian State Emergency Services (SES) and other emergency services, activated the Westbury Town Hall Supper Room as an evacuation centre several times during the recent bushfire threat.

"Our role is to help the community get back on its feet by providing access to personal support, shelter and information. It could be as simple as come in and let us know you are safe and we will register

NIS

you. We can help with immediate needs and for more substantial support we will bring in services like Red Cross. financial or health services, and ultimately, if people need...

Continued on Page 2...

Evacuation centre poised for action

Continued from Page 1...

...somewhere to sleep, we have contingency plans to turn a hall like this into an overnight evacuation centre," Patrick said.

"Regrettably, Council does not always have the time or resources to door-knock during an emergency situation so we work in partnership with volunteers from our six local service clubs, who can provide low-risk support, check on people in their home, help with clean-ups and do minor repairs."

Patrick says the Council emergency management team has a strong association with Red Cross, and they appreciate the support of agents with training in psychological first-aid, evacuation centre management and all forms of disaster impact experience.

Emergency Services Man-Tasmania, Howard ager Colvin, says Red Cross staff help people complete a 'Register. Find. Reunite.' national registration service that informs Tasmania Police, other emergency services and loved ones of evacuation details (according to permission indicated at



Patrick Gambles and Vicki Jordan, ready to offer assistance to those in need at Meander Valley's Evacuation Centre in Westbury.

the time of register) – in the event that communications are compromised.

"In my experience, Meander Valley Council is one of the most switched on councils in Tasmania when it comes to emergency management," Mr Colvin said. "They have engaged with Red Cross in emergency management, adapted some of our emergency management operational practices, and worked with us to train a range of community organisations in the joint recovery effort

that follows.

"We see the benefits every time they respond to an event and the community can take comfort from the hard work the Council has put in."

Patrick says while it is heartening to receive offers

of goods and volunteer assistance, it is not practical due to the unpredictable nature of events.

The best way people can help is by registering to volunteer. To do so, please visit www.volunteering tas.org.au

On track for rubbish collection In the swim for MS

By Sharon Webb

MEANDER VALLEY Council has asked ratepayers living off the beaten track to signal their interest in a new rubbish and recyclables collection – but not many people are interested in paying the council an extra \$206 a year for the privilege.

General manager Martin Gill wrote to "rural households in accessible areas", telling them the proposed service would begin July to September 2019.

"This initiative will allow more households to particied just makes people more reckless about what they throw away. I also don't like the way rubbish collectors leave bins thrown untidily on the roadside."

Properties that are accessible will be provided with a wheelie bin for a weekly rubbish collection and a wheelie bin for a fortnightly recycling collection

While Mr Gill's letter implies the new service is a done deal, the measure has yet to be voted on by the elected newly Meander Valley Council. Confirming that the has made council no formal decision to implement the service, he said: "The model currently under review was developed with the previous council. "The letter has been issued to property owners to obtain feedback which will be provided to the council to inform their future decision."

whether the offer of rubbish/ recyclables collection applies to them should take a look at their access road.

"For properties to receive the service the waste collection vehicles need to be able to safely travel up roads and be able to turn around at the end of dead end roads," Mr Gill said.

"Council officers and a contractor have inspected the road network to gain a better understanding of which areas are accessible without having to undertake significant road works."

The rubbish/recyclables

THE LIONS Club of Hadspen South Esk is co hosting with City of Launceston Lions the LAUNCESTON MS 24 Hour

Mega Swim 2019. The event will be held on Saturday 18th May & Sunday 19th May at the Launceston Leisure and Aquatic Centre.

The MS 24 Hour Mega Swim is a fun team relay event where teams have a swimmer in the water for the entire 24 hours and compete for laps swum and money raised. It is one of Australia's most popular and fastest-growing fundraising events, bringing communities together in living with multiple sclerosis. Events are organised by local committees with support from MS.

Now in its 18th year of the event, the MS 24 Hour Mega Swim was originated by Carol Cooke AM, an Australian Paralympian living with MS who had a vision of bringing people together to raise funds for multiple sclerosis.

Multiple sclerosis is the most common neurological disease in young adults and diagnosis is typically between 20 and 40 years of age, although onset of symptoms may be earlier.

pate in recycling efforts and promote better environmental outcomes," he wrote.

"Properties that are accessible will be provided with a wheelie bin for a weekly rubbish collection and a wheelie bin for a fortnightly recycling collection."

One Mole Creek ratepayer said she knows no-one in favour of a new service.

"We are organised to take our rubbish to the local tip and don't want to pay more," she said.

"I believe having it collect-

Ratepayers wondering

collection will be compulsory, as will payment.

Subject to council approval, Mr Gill said, the cost for the service will be added to the rates notice for relevant properties. Ratepayers who wish comment on the to proposed service are encouraged to contact Meander Valley Council This can be done by email: waste@mvc.tas.gov.au; writing to Meander Valley Council P.O. Box 102 Westbury; or phoning 6393 5300.

support of people living with multiple sclerosis.

Launceston raised over \$20,000, with 5 teams and 60 participants in 2017 with great community support. This year the event is hoping to raise another \$20,000. Over fifteen MS 24 Hour Mega Swim events take place across ACT, NSW, TAS and VIC each year, hosting family-friendly, all ages events. In 2018, nearly 3,000 participants swam over 400 hours across Australia, raising over \$850,000 to support people Funds raised go to people living with multiple sclerosis by funding the Go for Gold Scholarship Program and Financial Assistance Programs.

Go for Gold Scholarships allow people living with multiple sclerosis to reach their potential in life. They provide direct and immediate support for some of the 25,600 Australians living with multiple sclerosis.

To donate or sign up go to megaswim@ms.org.au or you can call 1300 733 690.



From L-R Brenda Greichen, Debby Kemsley and Jilli Porter-Bains, all practice laughing yoga on a regular basis.

Photo by: Mike Moores

Breathing, laughing, living Any language anywhere

By Hayley Manning

TO MOST people, yoga conjures up visions of chanting, sweaty bodies and limbs contorted into poses such as Downward Facing Dog, Reclined Cow Face and, of course, the Eight-point Shoulder Opener.

However, laughter yoga bears no resemblance to traditional yoga besides shared health benefits and a Hindu form of cultural greeting and/or parting from Sanskrit known as Namaste: "I bow to

the divine in you".

Attuned Vitality owner, Debby Kemsley describes her Laughter Yoga Club as "exercise for the soul"-designed to drive the stale air from your lungs, while creating a favourable environment for the happy, feel-good hormones... endorphins. Each 30 minute session features alternating sequences of laughter and breathing exercises, repeated over five rounds, followed by a pause at the end of each sequence.

"Laughing can increase

the body's endorphin levels to create a more positive attitude and generate a lot of energy. It can also lower the stress hormone cortisol, which can make people feel tired and unenergetic, without them even realising why," Debby said.

Laughter Yoga Club will be at Deloraine House starting on 13th March, Wednesdays 9.00am for a 9.15am start. It's free. Private and extra sessions also available. Contact Debby Kemsley: 0477 772 739.

EVER WANTED to learn a language? All you need is your library card.

Come along to the Deloraine Online Access Centre on Tuesday 26th March at 10.00am to 11.30am and discover how your library card provides access to Mango Languages and the opportunity to learn 70+ languages.

It's great for travellers, business people or for anyone who loves learning new things. Who knows, you might be able to watch those foreign films without the subtitles!

Participants can come, hear and look or they can use a computer and enrol. Bring your current Libraries Tasmania card & password (if you haven't used your Library card in awhile, drop into the Library to update it & your password) and also bring an email address you can access at the centre.

This session is provided free of charge and morning tea will be provided, but please book a spot first by calling the Online Centre on 6362 3537.



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A magnificent muscle car visits Deloraine for the annual Deloraine Street Car Show.

A great set of wheels

By David Claridge

THE DELORAINE Street Car Show gets bigger every year. The number of cars grows and the number of visitors coming through increases, benefitting local businesses and giving people a rare

glimpse of motoring history. For those wanting some extra fun, the show offered a Car Cruise and Mystery Garage visit the day before.

Those interested started at the 50's Diner in Deloraine and then went on a cruise to a surprise garage to see

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The Liberal Government Securing funding for the Meander municipality

Upgrading the Meander Falls Walking Trail project

Funding for the Westbury **Recreation Ground**

someone's prized collection.

Committee Member, Carl Mansfield, led the convoy to their mystery destination, a different one each year.

"There were one hundred cars on the cruise this year. The line went for kilometres as we made the journey," he said.

"Many people come from Hobart and the mainland, so we have this to give them. It's something else to see while they're here."

An estimated 500 cars were on display at the car show this year, and they were met with perfect weather.

Funds raised by the event are put back into the community through various organisations.

"We will give more away during the year when we decide where it's needed the most," Mr Mansfield said.

The Deloraine Car Show was an idea of a group of local businessmen including Carl, who wanted to bring business to Deloraine.

Becoming dementia friendly

By Wendy Laing

FAMILY information А and support session on an introduction to dementia, causes, symptoms and typical changes that may occur, was held in February at Deloraine House. Also discussed was the availability of support services in northern Tasmania and Dementia **Friendly Communities**

Ms Kim Curley, a Dementia Advisor based in Launceston, told of an estimated four hundred and thirty-six thousand Australians living with dementia. This not only impacts on individuals with the condition but also family and friends who provide support and care.

Dementia is not a normal part of ageing," Kim said, "and no two people are affected in the same way."

The word Dementia is the umbrella term used to describe a collection of symptoms which cause changes in memory, thinking and behaviour of the brain. provided Services by

the Tasmanian Division of Dementia Australia include counselling with practical and emotional support, education and training to increase understanding and awareness, and living with memory loss programs.

As a family member, friend, neighbour or co-worker you can increase your awareness of the impacts caused by dementia and make a person coping with dementia feel accepted, safe, included and involved. Further details about dementia friendly communities can be found at www.dementiafriendly.org.au.

The national helpline, 1800 100 500, is a free and confidential service where you can chat with caring and experienced professionals about dementia and memory loss concerns you may have for yourself or others. The Launceston branch of Dementia Australia can discuss aspects of care regarding diagnosis and treatment.

To contact Kim Curley phone 6325 4688 or email Kim.Curley@dementia.org.au





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In My Opinion...

By Joanne Eisemann Managing Editor

I OFTEN hear media items about the impact of raising livestock; in particular, the disastrous effect of cattle on the level of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere and therefore influencing climate change.

While further research has found that the figures being used to prove this assertion are somewhat dodgy, even common sense would tell me that this cannot be true.

I mean, how can a cow or even a bunch of cows sitting in a paddock eating grass be more harmful to the environment than me - living in a house filled with all manner of objects collected from all manner of places, eating delicacies that have been shipped from all over the world, travelling all over the place using fossil fuels. The list goes on and on.

I think we need to consider for a moment the benefits that our bovine friends bring to our planet before giving them the flick.

Cows are really fun to hang out with, they are naturally curious and have a wonderful sense of play. I count some of them among my best mates!

They are animals that give and give and give. A Friesian cow can give anywhere between 15 and 80 litres of milk per day and at an average of 36 litres, that's a lot of milk! They spend hours each day grooming and caring for the others in the herd, something that human race could the perhaps benefit from practising a bit more of.

Cows are more gentle than most other animals in the way they graze pasture. The design of the cow's jaw and the fact that they don't have top front teeth means a cow can't easily get closer than 2 inches (5 centimetres) from the soil when grazing, giving pastures a much faster recovery time than if say horses and/or sheep were grazing the same land. Their way of grazing is good for soil health particularly in these times of uncertain weather conditions.

While I agree that to go anyway towards reducing the effects of climate change some major societal attitude changes are required. But trying to scare the beejeebers out of everyone as a means of achieving that end is not going to work.

Diet changes are difficult at the best of times. I think most people only make them when they have had a serious health 'wakeup call'.

Personally I think selling the benefits of such diet changes, i.e. how much better people will feel eating less meat and dairy (generally, not everyone does!) is the way to go. This way the numbers of cows on the planet will decline in a gentle evolutionary way, easier on the on the planet, humans and cows.

Letters In...

THE COMMUNAL cost of aged care is not an appropriate local government cost.

It is a federal issue, not one for local subsidisation. Legal fees aside, I support MVC's decision to contest the Supreme Court's decision.

Council's role is to provide services to all ratepayers, not to pick winners and losers and reward/punish accordingly.

Peter Anderson Western Creek

FEW RATEPAYERS will

possible incursions by the Council into what should be an area for private enterprise. Already ratepayers' funds are being used at the Bracknell campsite where MVC for capital pays upgrades or replacements, maintenance, electricity, public insurance, labour and the like. Do ratepayers really want to fund so-called "free-loaders"? (Most tourists are happy to pay for their accommodation of whatever type). Could not that same money be spent on core Council services such

as rubbish management? If "freebie" or subsidised campsites are established by Council then recognised private enterprise campsites will close over time with loss of ratepayer funds, capital investment and infrastructure and many local community benefits. In the interests of public health, MVC should provide for free toilet and picnic facilities at popular destinations. However, camping at such facilities is another scenario and involves much higher costs. To avoid these costs a simple sign "no camping"

JUST AFTER 10'clock on Monday 4th February, the side of the road in Hill Street, Elizabeth Town caught alight. It was quite unexpected and burnt fiercely. There was no time for 'fire plans'.

As one of the land owners directly in the fire's path, I would sincerely like to thank the attending fire units. Their quick response was vital, as was the call for helicopter support.

To Deloraine, Elizabeth Town, Chudleigh, Mole Creek and Westbury units, THANK YOU, and to the three helicopter pilots who we never actually meet, THANK YOU. Many cars stopped on the Highway to watch you working the water-bags.

During the fire, police door-knocked to advise on wind-changes and for a while, conditions were quite tricky, and worrisome.

Everyone worked together to produce a positive outcome. I think we were all just 'relieved' that the fire was stopped before it took a greater hold in the trees.

It is vital that we all do our best to keep our properties clean, with a few well positioned fire-breaks. It made all the difference. I never imagined a fire would enter my property from the top.

There was nothing so valuable as 'a practice run' to show me how I would react in a real emergency.

I was so grateful that there was such a strong and quick response to the call-out. Thank you to all the crews who attended. You are like gold.

Annie Sommerville Elizabeth Town

Photo by: Annie Sommerville



Firefighters make a plan at the Elizabeth Town fire.

would suffice. Moreover, there are many recognised campsites, some free such as "Westbury Free Camping" which are funded and run at no expense to ratepayers.

If you want to avoid continuing rate rises then tell your Councillors to stay out of running campsites and to stick to essential core services which I think most ratepayers would want.

> Kevin Briggs Quamby Corner

IT'S BUSHFIRE season. It happens every year. It now happens sooner and lasts longer.

Those of us who live near/in the bush are watchful, try to prepare and feel compassion for those who are faced with fire threats other communities. in Meander Valley had its taste of fire in 2016. Tasmania is currently struggling with fires in the southwest and in the central highlands. I am sure we all have concern for our fellow islanders and hope the current forest fires can be contained soon. It does not give us the right to be complacent and certainly does not give anyone the right to mock those who feel a real threat from unwatched burn-offs that continue to occur on private land. In these super-dry

conditions, a small fire can become a wild fire in a matter of moments, given the winds and availability of fuel.

Prompting my comments is just such a callous remark from a landowner who when contacted by a concerned neighbour about burning off on a dry windy day could say with cavalier manner, "If you are worried, get your kids and go stand in the dam." What? Does this reflect the caring Meander Vallev community I live in or thought I did? We all have a vested interest in keeping one another safe. Fires are no joke.

> Jan Blakeney Weetah

THANK YOU for publishing my letter re horses fouling Deloraine's footpaths in main business and cafe' area on Australia Day. However, apparently wrote too soon, so this is really a P.S. A very reliable source told me that that night drunks were seen chucking the manure at each other in the vicinity of Frog's cafe'!!! The manure was finally picked up but I've seen obvious stains from it on our paths - some probably still remaining out of rain's reach, Continued on Page 6...



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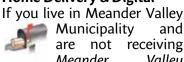
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be familiar with the National Competition Policy document released by the Government in January.

This document applies "competitive neutrality principles" to public camping in Tasmania. Some MV Councillors appear to be intent on providing public camping facilities paid for and subsidised by ratepayers negating the user pays principle. A possible planning application to provide camping at Westbury recreation ground may be the first of many

Letters In... Coping with the challenge of multiple births

Continued from Page 5... ...still there as disgraceful reminders.

Wow, some Australia Day!!! Judith-Anne Tahir Deloraine

CAN MEANDER Valley Council explain why a motorist driving a Mini-Minor (which can stop on a dime) has a 40km/h speed limit through the centre of Deloraine, while a freight train (which takes a kilometre to stop) has a 50 km/h limit? A.R. Trounson

Needles

EVERY MARCH, multiple birth associations around Australia celebrate Multiple Birth Awareness Week to highlight both the challenges and successes faced by families with twins, triplets or more.

Katie White, mum to fouryear-old Sienna and twoyear-old twins Lewis and Elliott, found her experience with the boys completely different to that of her daughter. Difficulties throughout her pregnancy increased her anxiety and worry for the health and wellbeing of her babies, while hospital stays

doctor-ordered and bed rest meant time away from Sienna. The boys were born prematurely and required weeks in hospital before they could go home. Katie found trying to care for babies in hospital and a toddler at home was overwhelming and difficult.

Once home, Katie found that "in the early stages I did not go out like I would have previously and at times felt quite isolated and disconnected from friends."

"The worry about what would happen if both boys were unsettled at once or needing feeding at the same time, or the worry about fitting the twin pram in places prevented me from going to things I normally would have," she said.

However, she met a group of twin mums through the Tasmanian Multiple Birth Association (TasMBA) and found these catch-ups helped to build her confidence.

"Everyone understood the worry and anxiety," she said. "We always carefully chose the places to go to ensure they had twin pram access and feeding facilities. These were all things that never entered my mind with my daughter."

TasMBA is a not-for-profit organisation run by volunteer multiple birth families. The organisation provides support, resources and education to multiple birth families around the state.

All multiple birth families, no matter the age of their children, are encouraged to connect with others in the Tasmanian multiples community whether at playgroup, quiz nights, school holiday catch ups, BBQs, information sessions or one of the other regular events organised by TasMBA.

Check out the TasMBA Facebook page for more information and updates.

They are cheaper too!

The tip shop itsself contains a wide range of things from an excellent array of ceramic basins - some brand new, clothes, including a great deal of bed linen in good condition which could otherwise be used for rags, picture frames, furniture that may only need a nail or two, doors, solid and fly-screen, toys and much more. The book and magazine section contain literature of many topics, from cookbooks, fishing magazines, health and diet as well as novels. Over the past several years, I have collected the entire Harry Potter series for 50 cents instead of \$150+. I have also stocked up on all my folders, plastic sleeves and some lined workbooks for the coming school year.

There is also several shelves of kitchen utensils and appliances as well as nicely sized glass jars with lids that, with a good scrub, shape up nicely. The electrical appliances work more often than not. The teacup and tumbler collection is magnificent with a wide variety of colours and even matching sets to choose from. The glass jars are a favourite of mine because occasionally, there is a very unique and often very old jar with interesting designs on it that may work as part of a decorative piece or put in a wall. Be careful when purchasing plastic or metal with marks or rust as these can be difficult to clean and may contain unwanted germs.

With so many useful ings lying around at the tip, it seems a waste to let them be carted off for processing. They can be used in so many creative ways and help cut down on the amount of waste we already have to deal with not only in Tasmania but in the world. And there must be more ways to use tip waste that I have not mentioned or even thought of. So maybe check out the tip next time you are out that way and see for yourself the plethora of goodies that can be found and reused at a great price!



Tip shop assistant Jess Wall of Deloraine with a selection of toilet suites and hand basins starting at \$10.00.

Trash turns into treasure

By Maeken Danen

THROUGHOUT MY childhood here in Tasmania, my

Lengths of timber in excellent condition can be found in the wood pile as well as pallets which are great for turning sisters and I would often into compost bins, keeping things off the ground or pulling apart, producing straight, even boards that can be used in a variety of DIY projects. Existing nails can even be taken out, straightened and reused if required! The metals pile always has roles of old chicken wire. Whilst most is only good as plant guards or patch jobs, occasionally there is a piece good enough for a fence. We built several poultry pens out of just such wire. Not only was it good enough to keep the ducks and chickens in

but also to keep the cows and goats out. Sheet tin was also a common find and there was always enough of different lengths without having to cut them up too much. Sometimes, when building, we would find that there were even holes pre-made in just the right spots! The paint was another great collection. Many cans are just the remains of a larger project but are still perfect. We used only tip paint for our projects, one sister even scored a can with enough to paint the inside of her room! Old fridges make great garden beds once the doors have been taken off. Drill a few holes in the bottom, turn

it upside down and fill with dirt. Because fridges are so deep, you can fill the bottom half with chunks of woods, old cotton sheets, and weeds. They will be decomposed by the time that space is needed by the roots of plants. Chest freezers make excellent beds if you need an extra tall one but feel free to fill much of the space with inorganic materials as it may never be used by roots. Bathtubs are also good garden beds but can also be used in hydroponic systems and as stock water troughs. They last a long, long time and best of all, can be fitted with plugs for easy cleaning! A friend of mine used bathtubs on his property in NSW for all his stock. With correct fittings, they are just as good, albeit smaller, than industrial concrete troughs.

have small projects around the garden and paddocks that required basic materials such as timber, pipe, bricks, and nails. Having limited funds for new materials, we turned to 2nd hand items and discovered that 80% of our needs where met at the local Deloraine tip. Needless to say, this became our favourite shop and still is for most of us, including me.

Trips to the tip are very fruitful. Not only can goodies be found in the shop area but also amongst the disposal piles.

Taste the excitement!

WHEN WAS the last time you popped a tomato in your mouth and experienced an explosion of flavour?

Head along to this year's Tasmanian Tomato and Garlic Festival and experience tomatoes as they were meant to be.

Meet celebrity gardeners, Peter Cundall, Angus Stewart and Penny Woodward.

Peter will officially open the festival, Penny (Garlic Growing for Home Gardeners, 10 Things You Did Not Know About Tomatoes) and Angus (Soil Health, Pests and Diseases) will be guest presenters and a Q&A panel will include all three along with Annette from Tasmanian Natural Garlic and Tomatoes.

Tour the extensive garlic and tomato patch with over 130 varieties on show and then head to the tasting tent to experience tomatoes and garlic the way they are meant to be.

Once inspired, mosey on over to the cooking showcase where David Ball, internationally renowned Executive Chef at The Glass House on the Hobart waterfront, will demonstrate amazing creations using heirloom



Attend the festival for the chance to sample over 100 varieties of tomatoes, 15 varieties of garlic and cast your vote for the tastiest.

tomatoes and garlic grown on the Reed property.

Competitive? You can enter your sauce, relish, produce and even artwork in one of many categories: see details at http://bit.ly/tgf2019. Entries close at 11:30 am.

The judging panel includes international chef Paul Cundall. If Grandma's secret relish recipe will beat all comers, or you've grown an unfeasibly large pumpkin, make sure you enter.

The festival will have an abundance of food stalls, produce, great coffee and plenty to keep the kids busy with an animal nursery, activities, bush walks, live music **When:** Sunday 17th March 2019 (gates open 9.00am, program runs 10.00am – 3.00pm)

Where: 338 Four Springs Rd, Selbourne (follow the signs north from Hagley). Grand Opening: 10.45am featuring Peter Cundall.

Entry: \$10.00 adults, children free, dogs on leads welcome. Camping: Free overnight camping available – bus tours welcome.

Proceeds: to assist Tasmanian Women in Agriculture and Meander Valley Harvest Helpers.

Details & schedule: can be found at http://bit.ly/tgf2019, or contact Vicki Jordan on 0400 155 690, or Cassie Jordan on 0408 593 281, or email garlic-tomato-festival-organisers@googlegroups.com.





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90 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine | 6331 5555 | info@alapartners.com.au | www.alapartners.com.au | Follow us on Facebook

Tree top adventure

MOLE CREEK is home to a special service for young disabilities, people with 'Wonderland Retreat'.

The Retreat, which has been open now for just over 14 months, provides short-term supported accommodation for younger people (ages 8 to 35 years) with NDIS plans.

Wonderland Retreat provides two programs, one involving recreational weekend activities and leisure, and the other providing a focus on life skills training mid-week.

Rob and Toni Mehigan, Psychologist and ex School Principal, and owner/managers of Wonderland, have coined the term 'adventure retreat' as young people participate in an active program which includes learning archery at Beers Farm in Red Hills, animal appreciation and grooming with llamas from Llama Farma at Christmas Hills, visiting Trowunna Wildlife Park, fish feeding at 41 Degrees South salmon farm, grooming horses at Nellie's in Chudleigh, feeding the chooks on the 2 acre property, petting the therapy cat Sophie as well as innovative physical therapy outings to Air 360, mini golf, Go Karts at Latrobe, Tazmazia and Westbury Mazes, Hollybanks Tree Tops Adventure and caving tours at Mole Creek as well as short walks around the Western Tiers, to name a few.

On the property, young people participate in discos, karaoke, arts and crafts, haircare, makeup, glamour photography, woodwork and horticulture supported by friendly and experienced care workers. "Relationship skills are honed through having fun together," says Kathryn Campbell - Community Liaison Officer at Wonderland.

"Our largest focus is simply

"While at the retreat ing and bedmaking skills and other life skills relevant to the participants' NDIS goals. Parents love us!," Kathryn commented.

Wonderland Retreat is also there for families when there is no other available support. Recently, a mum had to go for surgery and her young son spent 9 days at Wonderland with carers who followed an individually designed program over his time. He was particularly interested in making a stool for his sister and a lamp. He was able to create these things from scratch using recycled materials from the Mole Creek tip shop.

One young girl living with Huntington's, a condition which affects motor and brain function, had lost her confidence in relating to peers. She was able to bring Grandma to the retreat staying in one of the Guesthouse family rooms so she could provide the necessary extra family support for her granddaughter in getting used to the new environment and building her confidence again.

"I've found my peeps mum," said one young visitor. Another young person had lost confidence after being bullied at school. They had previously enjoyed sing-







9-year-old Jez enjoys exploring the treetops at Hollybank during a retreat at Wonderland.

ing and dancing but had become withdrawn and anxious. Her teary mother stated "she's back" after Wonderland to coming Retreat, as she had found

ated management planning." Cllr Tanya King first brought Westbury residents' rumbling discontent to public attention in the November 2018 council meeting when she asked what measures could be reasonably adopted to promote more harmonious

use of the town common?

new friends and was able to be herself in the accepting environment.

Wonderland provides many families in the district and beyond, with a 'second

grass at the current length, the grass seed heads are proving hazardous for dogs.

"The people that have contacted me are all seeking to enjoy this rare off lead environment for their well-behaved dogs, whose owners like to socialise and interact in a unique setting." Cllr King told councillors: "There also seems to be some confusion in the community about the purpose of the Common, and I understand that there has been unnecessarily aggressive behaviour exhibited by a user of the common." Conservationists such as citizen scientist manager Craig Broadfield and Westbury Common supporter Di Robinson are concerned about the possibility of frogs being killed in their mating season and nocturnal banfamily' in a rural environment to back them up in parenting their young person with a disability, which can be a tough job'. Visit www.wonderlandretreat.com.au.

dicoots having their heads lopped by slashing equipment as they sleep in the grass.

Council manager Martin Gill denied animals die by slashing. He also indicated he believes only Ms Robinson and Mr Broadfield are the only people concerned about the effect of mowing on wildlife: "We're really only servicing two people with this process.' While DPIPWE's policies on endangered species demand Meander Valley Council completes a Common management plan before DPIPWE issues further slashing permits, Cllr King believes such a plan is unwarranted. "In my opinion the Common is no different to any other public spaced owned and managed by the council," she said.

A common problem

By Sharon Webb

TASMANIA'S THREAT-ENED species manager will inspect Westbury Common this month before further when the summer mowing permit was allocated.

"All observations submitted for inclusion in the atlas go through a verification process. The accuracy of records

permits are issued for grass mowing there.

The Common has been slashed three times over summer after no mowing for a year. Environmentalists have voiced loud concerns about the effect on the threatened Green and Gold Frog as well as on skinks and bandicoots.

A DPIPWE spokesperson said that species mapping of the Common done before Christmas was not added to the State's Natural Values Atlas in time for the information to be taken into account

- both in terms of location and species identification - is critical to good management outcomes," he said.

"The permit issued to Meander Valley Council was based on the verified records contained in the atlas at the time the permit was being prepared, prior to new records for the Westbury Town Common being entered into the database and verified. "DPIPWE ensured the new records were swiftly verified and they will inform any future permitting and associ-

"My question was in response to ratepayer enquiries as to why the grass on the Common had been allowed to grow so long, and to the unrest building about its use," she said. Cllr King, who lives in Westbury and said she supports the Common's grass being baled for animal fodder, elaborated on the cause of Westbury residents' "unrest" by claiming "long grass at the moment reportedly makes it dangerous for dog owners to use the common.

"I am told that with the

sharon.webb @meandervalleygazette.com

The names of endearment

By Mike Moores

MY NEIGHBOUR across the road refers to his wife as 'dearly beloved'. This contrasts sharply with 'ayatollah' as a former colleague used to call his wife (what she called him is I'm afraid not printable!)

After musing on this difference I wondered what other endearments might be used for our nearest and dearest, so I compiled a small list of names for him and for her, supplied by colleagues and friends.

For Him:

Dead Leg, The fountain of all wisdom, himself, snotty clogs, Hitler, dear one. For Her:

Boots, minister Bossy for war and finance, she who must be obeyed, the clerk of works, dear heart, my little flower.

If you feel so disposed the Gazette would love to hear from you with your pet name for your spouse. You may of course remain anonymous, however the Gazette cannot guarantee your safety!



A NEW Red Cross survey reveals Australians are compassionate, with around two thirds (64%) of the population wanting to do more to help people in need.

Kerry McGrath, Director Community Programs, Australian Red Cross said: "In the second year of our Red Cross survey, Australia is trending in a very positive direction, with the great majority of us wanting to help others, and even an 8 percent increase from last year."

"Young people top the country, with eight of ten (82%) aged 16-17 saying they want to help others doing it

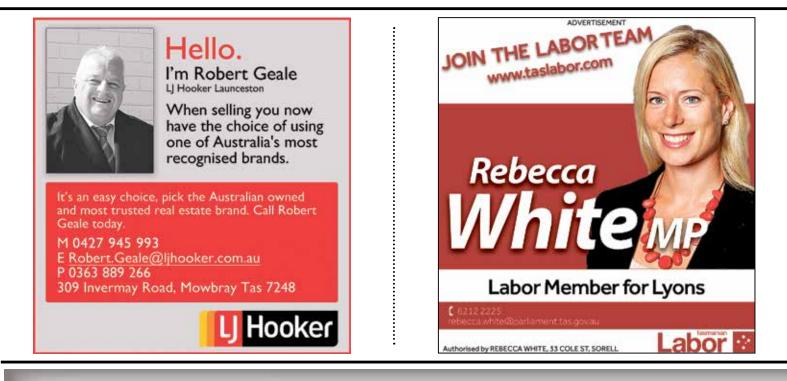
tough. This is excellent news for the state of our communities, now and into the future."

"Australians are absolutely crying out to make a contribution, with more than one in two (56%) saying they genuinely want to do more locally, yet just over a third (38%) say they are actively connected and engaged."

The new research coincides with thousands of volunteers hitting the streets for March's Red Cross Calling Appeal. Every March, Red Cross Calling brings volunteers together to host events, knock on doors or donate to Red Cross Calling.



The Westbury St Patrick's Day Festival will be held on the Village Green Saturday 16th March from 10.00am, entry by donation.



Heritage celebrated through St Patrick's day festival

By David Claridge

WESTBURY WILL be green in March with a family festival to coincide with Saint Patricks Day.

After last year's festival was cancelled due to planning problems, the committee has made sure 2019 will go ahead on the 16th March.

Secretary Amanda Taylor expressed how the annual festival comes about to celebrate Westbury's Irish heritage.

"We want it to be a family friendly festival. There will be local performers as we celebrate Westbury's history.

"It was settled by many Irish immigrants and convicts such as Richard Dry", she said.

Westbury in the 1820's was a garrison village. The first settlers were mainly Irish ex-convicts, retired soldiers and free settlers. By 1850 it was the largest military community in Tasmania.

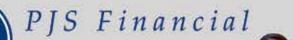
Richard Dry was the largest landowner in Westbury. An ex-convict through political exile, he helped many Irish people set up in Westbury. His son became the first nativeborn Premier of Tasmania.

From the events Facebook Page: There will be a street parade at 10.00am along with performers and food and craft stalls, a church market, vintage tractors and children's activities.

As previously published in Meander Valley Gazette, "The event's new steering group is working hard to recreate a village festival that celebrates Westbury's Irish heritage with an emphasis on folk tradition and rural activities."

The festival will be at the Westbury Village Green from 10.00am - 4.00pm. Entry will be by donation.











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New Council focused on Meander Valley at Community Cabinet

Meander Valley Councillors discussed all things local with Premier Will Hodgman last month at a social event at Fitzpatrick's Inn.

"Council took the opportunity to network and participate in discussion about Meander Valley's local achievements and the challenges faced by rural communities," Mayor Wayne Johnston said.



with Premier Will Hodgman ahead of the Community Cabinet meeting.

The event took place ahead of the Community Cabinet meeting that was held at the Rotary Function Centre in Deloraine on 12 February.



Above: The bridge over Limestone Creek that will be replaced as part of Council's capital works program.

Moving ahead with bridge replacements

Council has recently tendered and awarded the contract for the design and construction of three new bridges in the western part of the municipality.

The bridges are located on Barbers Road, Meander (Leiths Creek), Walters Road, Mole Creek (Limestone Creek) and Botts Road, Caveside (Ritchies Creek). These three bridges are the last of eleven bridge projects to be completed as part of Council's capital works program this financial year.

The contract was awarded to TasSpan Pty. Ltd. and works are expected to commence in mid-to-late April. Council will advise the public of temporary detours or construction site bypass arrangements closer to the commencement of construction.



Westbury Recreation Ground Clubroom upgrade progresses to tender

Request for Tender for the construction of a new func-

Council has advertised its the recommended tenderer at its meeting in March.



Council advocates for Common sense

The open space and natural features found at the Westbury Town Common can be credited with improving the health and wellbeing of the entire community. This natural floodplain, a site of historical significance, was originally set aside for collective use and remains a valuable community asset.

In recent years, Council Officers, guided by the Community Strategic Plan, have worked together with various organisations and community volunteers to establish riparian habitat across areas that were once used for recreation and the grazing of livestock. Over time, threatened and endangered fauna and flora have emerged and the success of this partnership has been nationally recognised.

It is disappointing that in recent months, Council and the restoration project the very mechanisms that created this award winning habitat, have been publicly vilified by a few individuals. Further, the suggestion that Council is destroying the habitat that it worked so hard to establish is unwarranted.

Council has successfully maintained these riparian areas for many years and understands fully, the requirement to adopt adaptive management practices. Operating under advice from DPIPWE and our Natural Resource Management Officer, Council regularly assesses the mowing program, reviewing buffer zones and wildlife corridors. In addition, Council has been working in consultation with relevant authorities on the development of a formal management plan and this initiative has been included in Council's 2019 Annual Plan.

The recent criticism fails to respect this area as public space and does not consider that the establishment of riparian habitat has changed the way the broader community accesses, interacts and perceives the Town Common. This miss-informed and sensationalist commentary only seeks to belittle the work undertaken by Council officers, various organisations and volunteers and calls into question the integrity of this collaborative knowledge base.

The views expressed by these people carry the assumption that they hold exclusive rights over the Town Common and this is at odds with the responsibility of Council to maintain a diverse, unique and accessible open space that caters for all users.

Council and Council Officers

have continued to maintain together" а "working approach, despite being subjected to threatening and at times antagonistic behaviour and what is obvious contempt for values of respect, fairness and balance.

Recently, Council installed educational signage across the Town Common that highlights the habitat areas. This provides opportunities for our community to read about the plants and animals that live in these areas and explains why these areas are managed differently. This emerging diversity has been positively embraced by many organisations and local residents.

It is saddening that this award winning space, that provides enjoyment by catering for a broad range of uses is being misrepresented by a couple of people with a single focus. From its inception, the true value of the Westbury Town Common has been the role it has played as a resource that provides a range of benefits to many people in our community.

The recent improvements undertaken by Council have enhanced this value and Council will continue to manage the space in this way.

- Mayor, Wayne Johnston

Pedestrian connectivity underway at Blackstone Heights

Council approved the construction of a new stage of footpath work in Blackstone Heights at its meeting in February.

In approving the work, Council has committed to following through on the implementation of recommendations contained in the Prospect Vale Blackstone Heights Structure Plan.

Council Officers will work with the contractor over coming weeks to set the construction program. Residents along Blackstone Road will be notified of the proposed start date.

tion room and alterations to the existing club rooms at the Westbury Recreation Ground.

Tenders closed on Thursday 14 February and an assessment panel is now reviewing the tenders received.

The commencement of work on the site is subject to Council's decision to award the construction contract to

"There is a possibility that work onsite could commence as early as April, but this time frame is subject to negotiations with the preferred tenderer," Mayor Wayne Johnston said.

The project has attracted funding from the Tasmanian State Government and the Commonwealth through the Community Development Grants programme.

The work will follow on from the recently constructed footpath along Pitcher Parade and Panorama Road.

The new stage will involve the construction of approximately 1.6km of concrete pathway along Blackstone Road from the intersection of Panorama Road to the intersection of Kelsey Road.

This plan was developed with input from community consultation sessions held in 2014 that identified the need to improve pathways for pedestrians in the area.

The contract for the work has been awarded to Crossroads Civil Contracting and There will be some disruption to traffic flow along Blackstone Road during construction to ensure work can be undertaken safely.

Any disruptions will be kept to a minimum and Council thanks residents for their patience whilst work is completed.

Does Meander Valley need a **Chamber of Commerce?**

Since the demise of the Meander Valley Business Association in 2017, a number of local business owners have voiced their desire for the formation of a new Chamber of Commerce or equivalent peak body.

After the departure of some of the driving forces behind the MVBA (formerly Deloraine on the Move), the Association appeared to run out of steam and the decision was made to wind up.

This has left a void within the business community, especially when there is a need to lobby Local, State and Federal Government organisations.

A united voice for the business community is often better received than individual representations. A body to advance and promote development and the commercial and economic interests of Meander Valley is something that could benefit the whole community.

Everyone understands what a Chamber of Commerce is. Not only does it provide the opportunity for business-to-business networking, advocacy, lobbying and finding synergies between like-minded businesses in Meander Valley, it also has the ability to champion strategic projects across all industries.

Purple For Prostate

and Pearn's set

to create happy

memories

This could be a great opportunity to pull together the many groups of industry, tourism and associations and provide a peak body for local business owners to advance the economic wellbeing of Meander Valley.

There are many models to consider. For example, a chamber could extend an automatic free membership to all businesses in the municipality with optional paid levels for access to the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce (TCCI) services like industrial relations, phone support and discounted training opportunities.

Meander Valley is one of the few areas in Tasmania without a business peak body to represent it's business community and maybe it's time to put that right with the help of business owners and operators of all sizes.

Whether you turn over \$10k or \$100m your input will be valued and essential.

If you think a peak business body is something Meander Valley needs, are interested in contributing or have a project idea that has potential to add to the economic development of our area, phone Alan Blackmore, Meander Valley Council's Business Engagement Officer on 0429 053 763 or email alan.blackmore@mvc.tas. gov.au

Mayor Wayne Johnston was honoured to turn the first sod for the planned Happy Memories Garden at Pearn's Steam World. Once complete, the garden will become a place of reflection for those who have lost loved ones to Prostate Cancer.

Shared experiences offer ideal support for those with diabetes

Diabetes, has become much more accessible with the creation of The Meander Valley Diabetes Support Group. Local resident, Sheila Stevenson, was the driving force behind the Group's formation after she identified the need for an additional resource.

"There are only two Diabetes support groups in the north of Tasmania. Previously, in order to attend a meeting, residents in Meander Valley would have to drive to either Launceston or Beaconsfield," Sheila said.

Diabetes Tasmania has thrown their support behind the initiative, providing affected.

Support for those living with educational material and guidance. "Lifestyle choices are an important aspect of managing the symptoms of Diabetes and our meetings are casual gatherings where we can share our experiencupdates," Sheila said.

> once a month and hosts a edge base," Sheila said. guest speaker every second month. "The aim is to create Meetings take place at a network of support that the Westbury Community continues to be self-sustain- Health Centre on the first ing," Sheila said.

The support group is not just for those diagnosed To join or for more informawith Diabetes, but also tion phone Sheila Stevenson for those more broadly on 0428 576 795 or email



"The group caters for those es, recipes and information caring for someone with Diabetes and those diagnosed with pre-Diabetes. The Meander Valley Diabe- It is a great opportunity to tes Support Group meets access an up-to-date knowl-

> Tuesday of the month from 1.30pm - 3.30pm.

> stevos.bjs@bigpond.com



Have you registered your best friend?

If your dog is over six months of age then it is required by law to be registered. The registration fee for a desexed dog in Meander Valley is \$21.50 per year.

Council will be undertaking property checks during March and owners can be fined \$163 for unregistered dogs. Apart from being the law, registration allows Council to quickly identify lost pets. If you have not yet registered your dog, visit www.meander.tas.gov. au to download an application form or contact Council on 6393 5300.

Date Claimers



.....

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



Pearn's generously donated the land for the garden, an initiative of Purple For Prostate. 'This fitting location will serve as a reminder to all men to visit their GP for a blood test," Mayor Wayne Johnston said.

Purple For Prostate have raised over \$10,000 in just one year with funds going towards the costs of critical pet scans for men diagnosed with this insidious cancer.

If you would like to contribute, Purple 4 Prostate wheelie bin stickers are available to purchase from the Westbury RSL.

Rupertswood Farm Crop Maze Hagley, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, 31 March

Great Western Tiers Art Award Exhibition **Deloraine Creative Studios** 2-31 March

Westbury St Patrick's Day Festival Westbury, 16 March

Tasmanian Garlic & Tomato Festival Selbourne 17 March

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

Local Markets

Liffey Market

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

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

Phone 6393 5300 Email mail@mvc.tas.gov.au Mail PO Box 102 Westbury Tasmania 7303 **Customer Service Office** 8.30am - 5pm Monday - Friday 26 Lyall Street Westbury Tasmania 7303 meandervalleycouncil www.meander.tas.gov.au Meander Valley Council

General Enquiries

Firing your creativity with clay

IT IS with great excitement that Deloraine Creative Studios (DCS) is announcing the completion and availability of our Pottery Hub.

After 18 months of tireless work by the DCS executive committee President Sonja Grodski, Vice President Rod Russell-Stone and Treasurer Tracy Rolph, the vision of the Pottery Hub has come to fruition. This would not have been possible without the support and backing of Mr Dennis Durham and the Tasmanian Community Fund.

Mr Durham had the faith in the quality of our studios to finance the renovation and remodelling of the area into a beautiful space to house the Pottery Hub.

The executive committee applied successfully for a grant from the Tasmanian Community Fund for the purchase of a large kiln and associated furbishing. The Tasmanian Community Fund is an independent organisation that supports and strengthens Tasmanian communities by distributing funds to these communities.

The Meander Valley Council also provided a grant to enable DCS to acquire the extensive industrial shelving, benches and cupboards required for the Pottery Hub.

With the above support DCS will now forge ahead to facilitate and administer access to the valuable local Deloraine and North-west district resource.

The Pottery Hub, located at 59-61 Emu Bay Rd Deloraine is a dynamic resource



A pottery hub has been developed at Deloraine Creative Studios thanks to a Tasmanian Community Fund grant, Denis Durham and the Meander Valley Council. Pictured is Trish Richers, the Pottery Hub Co-ordinator. Photo by: Mike Moores

for the local and wider northwest Tasmanian community. It is available to both groups and individuals and is a space in which to share knowledge, acquire new skills and nurture creativity while interacting with a variety of potters and ceramicists,

skilled and beginner alike.

Trish Richers is the Pottery Hub co-ordinator. Information and bookings for space, firings and classes is available by contacting her on 0407 930 342 or trish.richers@ gmail.com. Beginner pottery classes in hand building will commence on Saturday 9th February.

Presently the activities on offer are:

1. Beginners classes

2. Hiring of space by individuals or groups wishing to hold workshops 3. Clay supplies 4. Kiln firings and hire of shelf space

Members of the public are welcome to come and view the Pottery Hub area during DCS opening hours and to discuss how the Hub can help them fulfil their creative ambitions.



Cats, rats & all take their toll

By Sarah Lloyd

TASMANIA HAS a special bird fauna, with many species found nowhere else.

Some, the Tasmanian Native-hen, the Black Currawong and the largest honeyeater in Australia, the Yellow Wattlebird, are conspicuous. But others are easily overlooked - Scrubtits, Tasmanian Thornbills and Tasmanian Scrubwrens are cryptic birds of wetter habitats; the endemic honeyeaters (Yellow-throated, Strongbilled and Black-headed) forage high in the canopy of eucalypts and rarely descend to the understorey; and the tiny, leaf-sized Forty-spotted Pardalote is now only found in the woodlands of the south and south-east. In the past two hundred vears 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.

A wave of bird declines and extinctions is sweeping the planet and island populations are the most vulnerable. Their inherently small size, vulnerability to habitat modification, fragmentation and introduced predators, especially cats and rats, and the changing climate are taking their toll. Birds are part of our everyday lives; we are captivated by their antics, beautiful colours and melodious songs. They have crucial ecological roles in controlling insect populations, pollinating plants and dispersing seeds. Birds have an intrinsic right to exist; we can all play a part in ensuring they do.

A selection of Sarah Lloyd's bird photographs will be on show at the Meander Valley Council offices in Westbury and Pixels Digital Gallery in Deloraine until the end of March.



The bright colours of this indian style rice salad work well with the skewers of charry spiced chicken.

Photo and recipe by Wai Lin Coultas

THINK BARBECUE chicken and Israel's street food comes vividly to mind; as do the equally delicious Indian tandoori.

Marrying both's best yields skewers of charry spiced chicken invitingly lifted by generous squeezes of caramelised lemon. With a cold rice salad winsomely wedding Kosher ingredients with South India's... ah, perfect for anticipating first hints of autumn.

Ingredients

600 g boneless chicken thighs, equally diced into 24 cubes 1 medium red capsicum, deseeded & sliced into squares 1 medium onion, peeled, vertically sliced into 6 & layers separated 1 lemon, vertically sliced into 6 wedges Extra virgin olive oil lodised salt

For marinade

5 cloves garlic, peeled & minced

2 tbsp ground cumin 1½ tsp ground cardamom 1 tsp paprika 1 lemon, zested & juiced 2½ tsp maple flavoured syrup Crack black pepper

For rice salad

6 handfuls of long grain white rice, cooked in seasoned beef stock & cooled 1 lemon, zested & juiced 1/2 tsp ground turmeric
120g baked cashews,
dry toasted
80 g sultanas
40g fresh coriander, leaves
roughly chopped
Dried chilli flakes

Instructions

1. Mix marinade's ingredients, 2 tbsp oil and salt together to toss with chicken cubes for refrigerating covered overnight; soaking 9 wood skewers in water for as long.

2. When ready to skewer, toss onion and capsicum slices in oil and salt; wrapping soaked skewers' blunt ends with aluminum foil.

3. Onto each of 6 skewers, thread 4 marinated chicken cubes, interspersed with slices of 2 oiled onion and 2 oiled capsicum; piercing skewer's sharp end into a lemon wedge.

4. Thread remaining oiled veg slices onto 3 other skewers.

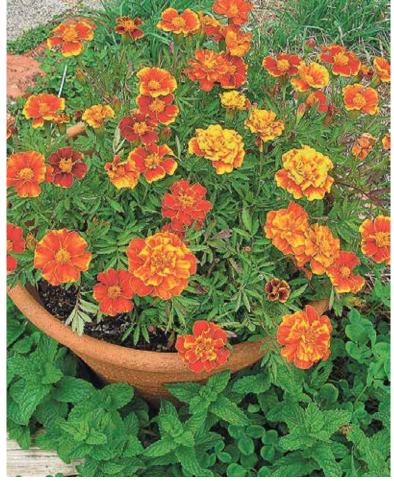
5. Barbecue skewers on hot plate till meat is cooked through; charring them over open flame to liking before removing foil. 6. For rice salad, mix lemon zest and juice with turmeric to stir 3 tbsp mixture through rice to yellow them; mixing in cashews, sultanas and coriander after, and sparingly, to taste, toss in chilli flakes.

Serves 2 to 3



PERENNIAL PLANTS have replaced the formerly popular bedding annuals in recent times, but annuals can still have their places in the ornamental garden, particularly when weeds like twitch grass are a problem.

The bed can be completely cleaned out to make room for the next crop of annuals. The frost and drought resistant



African Marigold *Tagetes erecta* (pictured) is an outstanding example - in fact, it is originally from Mexico.

It is generally thought to be a twitch suppressant, but some additional research reveals that the essential oils have anti bacterial and anti microbial properties.

Additionally, seeds saved germinate freely if sown in seed raising mix in punnets, and planted in the garden bed, or large display vessels when they reach 5 or 6cms. in height.

Regularly dead headed, they will bloom on through late summer and into March. Leave a couple of heads until they dry out and collect the seed for sewing next Spring.

All summer flowering perennials and shrubs should be dead - headed now to



African Marigold is thought to be a twitch suppressant.

preserve their vigour.

In the Vegie Garden.

Leeks, which revel in the coldest weather, are an essential ingredient for hearty winter soups. Sow seeds in seed raising mix, or buy punnets of seedlings, and plant in a bed well prepared with organic matter with a mixed fertiliser added. Make holes 20cms apart with a rake handle and drop seedlings in the bottom, just covering the roots. Regular watering will slowly fill the hole with soil as the leeks grow.



MLC



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Your Independent Legislative Council Member representing the Meander Valley community in the Tasmanian Parliament. Looking forward to being in the community on a regular basis where I will be available to meet and discuss your needs and issues.

Contact details – Office phone: 6350 5000 Mobile: 0427 523 412 Email: tania.rattray@parliament.tas.gov.au THE OFFICIAL opening of the 130th Royal Chudleigh Show 2019 was conducted by Mr Allan Cameron.

First celebrated in 1889, Chudleigh Show is one of Tasmania's oldest agricultural shows, showcasing local agricultural industries, fine local produce and entertainment.

With popular features including ute displays, vintage tractors, horse activities, wood chopping and the annual running of the Chudleigh Cup, the Show is a great day out for families and patrons to experience poultry, cattle, sheep, horses, dairy heifers and sheep dogs competing for "best of show".

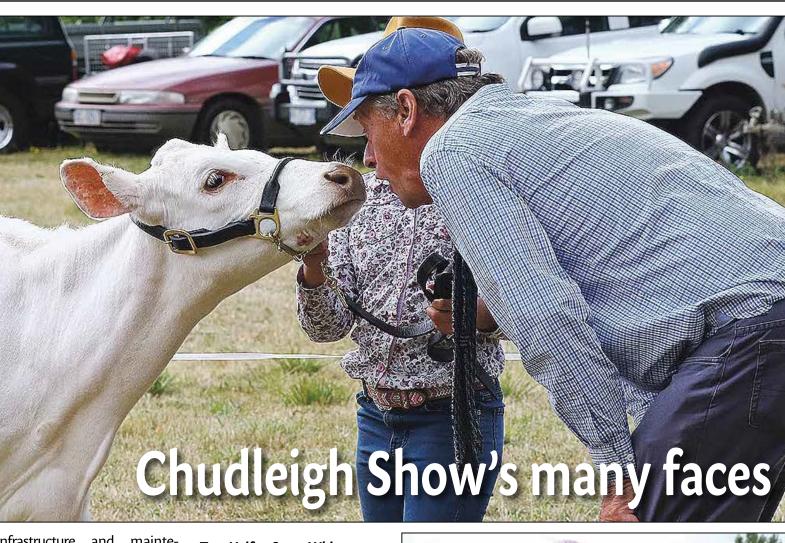
In his opening speech, Mr Cameron paid tribute to all the people who worked over the years to make the show happen, congratulating the current committee and thanking the exhibitors, competitors, and 'the horse people and the chopping fraternity who are a big part of the show'.

After thanking Home Industries, he noted the shortage of younger people helping with the show and made an appeal for them to become active if the show is to continue.

"We who have been involved in Chudleigh Show over the years have seen it survive mainly because of the work done by volunteers and good management."

Mr Guy Barnett also attended this year's show, commenting on their importance to rural communities and reiterating the Hodgman Government's advocacy of regional shows and their communities.

As a long-time supporter of the Chudleigh Show, Mr Barnett was pleased to assist in providing a \$15,000 grant for essential



infrastructure and maintenance and another \$4,730 grant under the 2018-2019 Tasmanian Government Agricultural Development Grants Program for commentary box and building upgrades.

Top: Heifer, Snow White, owner Adarie Bloomfield of Longford and cattle judge Allen Atkinson. Right: Bella Davies 5yrs of Sheffield on 'Maple'. Below: enthralled spectators. Photos by: Mike Moores.







Soulmates string along

By Antonia Howarth-Wass

ON A wet summer's morning in early February, well-known resident, artist and musician Joanne Mitchelson married her violinist friend and soul mate Hamish Pike in the Anglican Church at Westbury The beautiful and historic church was a fitting setting for 5 harpists who had accompanied Joanne on trips to Northern France for festivals and performances, plus there was a violinist and organists which also helped fill the air with music. The church was packed with guests and well wishers and as they emerged, the sun shone on this most exceptional couple to wish them well. Hamish looked special in his waistcoat and was supported by longtime friend

Peter McPhie, Joanne's brother Brian and one other Mitchelson together with 3 page boys in bowties. Joanne wore a slim fitting cream lace dress with flowers in her hair and a long train and was attended by bridesmaids in dark blue together with some simply gorgeous flowers girls. The wedding reception was to have been on the historic village green opposite the church where she and Hamish met some years previously, but as the ground was sodden the organisers made a rapid transition to the Westbus Depot, setting up tables for the feast provided by locals and guests to make this day a very special day for a very special couple as they embark on a new journey together.

Anna Shephard with 5-month-old anglo nubian goat 'Peanuts' at the Chudleigh Show.

Story and photo by Hayley Manning

MUSIC FESTIVAL goers went Radio Ga Ga at Mole Creek on Saturday 23rd February for the 2019 Day at the Creek.

The town was a 'hive' of activity as a helicopter ferried joy flights overhead, visitors strolled along Pioneer Drive for coffee and the morning papers, and two brand new Harley Davidson Softails arrived to be showcased for the raffle.

Mole Creek Hotel owners. Doug and Ramona Westbrook have tapped into Tasmania's Crazy Little Thing Called Love for tribute bands. They re-booked Killer Queen Experience to return as headliners after their performance at the 2018 Day at the Creek, along with Credence Clearwater Revival, Bowie and Elvis tribute acts - perfect for those who have not "experienced" the real artists or for people who just want to relive memories from the 70's and 80's.

Modern-era audiences of all ages can't get enough of Queen, whose iconic hits are enjoying a world-wide resurgence following the 2018 release of 20th Century Fox's *Bohemian Rhapsody*.



L to R: Ange Weeks and Dee Lowry of Sheffield testing brand new Harley Davidson Softails which were showcased at Mole Creek.

The British rock band and lead singer Adam Lambert officially opened the 2019 telecast of the Academy Awards.

Chair of Australian Rotary Health Tasmania, John Dare said the hoteliers have always donated to local organisations, but decided for the first time this year they wanted to raffle two identical Harleys, with all funds raised (\$45,000) to go to Australian Rotary Health for research into Youth Suicide and Mental Health. Rotary District Governor of Tasmania, Ross Carlyle presented Doug and Ramona with the Paul Harris Fellow recognition at the event for their support.

The Harleys were won by Luke McDonald and Woodrow Barstad.







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for homes & small business

Established

January 1998

EVENTS DIARY & PUZZLES

10 South American ruminant (5)

11 One who shapes metal (5)

13 Telegraph messages (9)

14 Government supremo in

a specified policy area (4)

22 Caused by overexposure on

12 Rhizome (9)

20 Uproarious (7)

a hot day (9)

26 Musical note (9)

28 Inexpensive (5)

29 Type of male (5)

30 Cut off (9)

18 See (7)

21 Vex (4)

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INVER THE FENCE Travel to Ulverstone

A COUPLE of events coming up in Ulverstone may be of interest to residents of Meander Valley.

The first is a Men-Health and Welltal Being Workshop for people 65+. Participants will be presented with the latest Australian and Tasmanian research finding on what is known to be important and meaningful to people, especially Tasmania. Local priorities will be identified and local opportunities explored.

Free workshop 9:30am through to 2:30pm. Catering is provided. Regisat www.eventbrite. ter com/e/people-65-men-

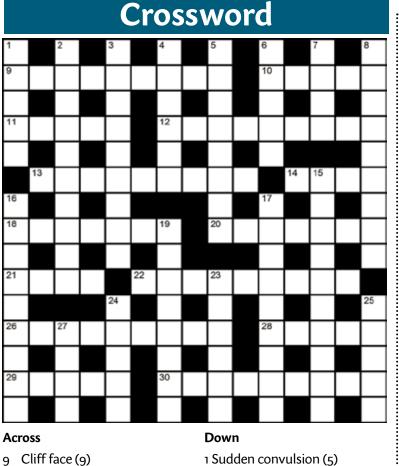
tal-health-wellbeing-workshop-tickets-53943495447 or call Roslyn Evenett 6421 3618 for more information.

The second is Back to the Future. Ulverstone's North West Ecofest is being held on April 13th, 2019 – 10.00am to 4.00pm.

The theme is Back to the Future: where the Wisdom of the past meets the innovation of the future. Entry to the festival is by gold coin donation.

Continued on Page 17...

Events Diary



- 1 Sudden convulsion (5)
- 2 Type of military flag (10) 3 Made more restrictive (9)
- 4 Reflecting surface (6)
- 5 Progressive (8)
- 6 Utter joy (5)
- 7 Western pact (1,1,1,1)
- 8 Cold weather personified (4,5)
- 15 Retailer (10)
- 16 Fencer (9)
- 17 Eighty (9)
- 19 Memento (8)
 - 23 Perspiring (6)
 - 24 German submarine (1-4)
 - 25 Malice (5)
 - 27 Charts (4)

©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!

1

5

Sudoku

2

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Sudoku - March 2019 Solution

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3	9	4	2	9	١	2	6	8
9	2	٢	8	6	3	9	4	L
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9	3	6	١	8	4	g	L	2
٢	8	2	S	3	6	١	9	4
2	4	3	6	9	8	L	١	G
٢	g	9	2	4	L	6	8	ε
6	2	8	З	F	9	4	2	9

Christmas Hills

RASPBERRY

farm cafe

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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 March	'Our Feathered Friends' photos by Sarah Lloyd	Pixels Gallery, 21 West Parade, Deloraine Open weekdays 10.00am - 4.00pm Saturday 1.00pm - 3.00pm
Every weekend in March 10.00am - 4.00pm	2019 Rupertswood Farm Crop Maze	Station Lane, Hagley. Adults \$15.00, Children (4-16yrs) \$10.00, Seniors \$10.00, Family \$55.00. Info: Anna 0403 075 766
Every Sunday 2.00pm - 4.00pm	New Memoir Group (write your life story)	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine \$2.00 pp per session Contact Kim on pemolotus56@gmail.com
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
Sunday 10th March 1.30pm	Deloraine Jazz Club presents "Fats" Holler	Empire Hotel, 19 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine \$10.00
Sunday 10th March 11.00am - 3.00pm	Ukelele Workshop for Complete Beginners	Empire Hotel, 19 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine (upstairs) \$50.00 BYO Ukelele Bookings Ph Rose 0414 346 436
Wednesday 13th March 9.00am	Laughter Yoga	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine Free Ph: Debby on 0477 772 739 to book
Thursday 14th March 9.30am - 2.30pm	People 65+ Mental Health & Wellbeing	Pier 01, 3 Wharf Rd, Ulverstone Free workshop Register 9.10am Catering provided More info 6421 3618
Friday 15th - Saturday 16th March 7.30pm	Ten Days on the Island - The Protecting Veil	Cycles @ The Empire, Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine Tickets \$39.00 Conc \$35.00 www.tendays.org.au Ph: 6210 5777
Saturday 16th - Sunday 17th March 2.00pm	Ten Days on the Island - The Protecting Veil	Cycles @ The Empire, Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine \$39.00 Conc \$35.00 Tickets: www.tendays.org.au Ph: 6210 5777
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
Saturday 16th March 10.00am - 4.00pm	St Patrick's Day Festival	The Village Green, Westbury Entry by donation Folk music, food, crafts etc. More info Ph: 0467 097 791 Amanda
Saturday 16th March 8.00am - 1.00pm	Westbury Market	11 Lonsdale Prom. Westbury Enquiries: 0417 931 619
Saturday 16th March 8.00pm	Ten Days on the Island - Stalin's Piano	Gallery 9, West Barrack Street, Deloraine Tickets \$49.00 Conc \$44.00 Tickets: www.tendays.org.au Ph 6210 5777

Tasmanian Garlic & Tomato Festival	338 Four Springs Road, Selbourne Stall holders arrive 9.00am Adults \$10.00 Children Free info 0438 009 522
Council Community Forum	Parkham Community Hall. Refreshments are provided. Go along and share your thoughts
Comedy Road Show	Deloraine Football Club, Racecourse Rd, Deloraine \$50.00 Ph: 0437 749 034 to purchase tickets
Stepping Stones Leadership Camp	Hagley Farm School \$85.00 Young people 18 - 25 yrs Only 20 spaces avail. Bookings Ph: 0400 155 690 Vicki
Mindfulness Workshop with Christine	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd. Deloraine Free Registration essential Ph: 0488 064 228
Crescendo Choir in Concert	Gallery 9 West Barrack Street, Deloraine Tickets \$25.00 www.trybooking.com
Want to learn a language? We'll show you how	Deloraine Online Centre, 21 West Pde, Deloraine Free Bring your current Libraries Tas card To book Ph: 6362 3537
Tasmanian Junior Beef Expo	Deloraine Showgrounds, Highland Lakes Rd \$160.00 incl. all activities & meals Tas.Junior.Beef.Expo@gmail.com
Community Response to Eliminating Suicide	Westbury Health Centre, Meander Valley Rd, Westbury Free training Ph: 6362 2678
Deloraine Showground Market	Deloraine Showgrounds, 14795 Highland Lakes Rd, Deloraine More info: 0409 695 321 or 6369 5321
Watercolour Flora Workshop for Beginners	Found in Earth Florist, 29 West Church St, Deloraine To book: rubytuesdaytas@gmail.com \$110.00 all inclusive
Liffey Valley Market	Liffey School 1443 Liffey Rd, Liffey Local honey, Baked goods, Plants, Crafts Enquiries Ph: 6397 3670 Quenton H
Freshmans Showjumping Practice Day	Westbury Showgrounds - info on Westbury Show website Contact Elizabeth Richards 0407 807 876
	Council Community Forum Comedy Road Show Stepping Stones Leadership Camp Mindfulness Workshop with Christine Crescendo Choir in Concert Want to learn a language? We'll show you how Tasmanian Junior Beef Expo Community Response to Eliminating Suicide Deloraine Showground Market Watercolour Flora Workshop for Beginners Liffey Valley Market

The Deloraine Branch has been in existence for 105 years, but now there are ten members, most of whom are elderly, which means that at the present time, a lot of activities have had to be cut back.

President Lexie Young, who has been a volunteer for over 40 years said new members would be most welcome, and information about the Deloraine Red Cross can be obtained by ringing her on 6362 2615.

Continued from Page 16...

The festival offers an opportunity to engage with local community some groups, businesses and individuals who are willing to share expertise in the areas of sustainability, wellbeing and the environment. Stalls, workshops and talks as well as food, buskers and children's activities will complete the experience. Special guest is Tasmania's very own "Food Guru" and Senior Citizen of the Year, Sally Wise. Bring your old batteries, mobiles, spectacles to be recycled. Cycle, walk, car share and don't forget your own water bottle.

Contact Anne 0407 614 985.

A century of service

L to R: Joan Pedley, Marilyn Day and Lexie Young of Deloraine Red Cross.

By Wendy Laing

A WEEKLY hospital visit is only one of the many activities members have undertaken over many years as volunteers with the Deloraine Branch of the Australian Red Cross.

people attended 100 the annual fund raiser, a Devonshire Tea and raffle, held on the 31st January this year. This raised \$2,279, which President Lexie Young said would go towards charities throughout Tasmania, including bush fire relief.

During the event, two members were honoured for their long service to the Red Cross. The Northern Regional

manager, Barbra Hill and the volunteer mobilisation coordinator Pippa French presented Joan Pedley with a gilt rosette for 60 years of service and Marilyn Day received an award for 50 years of service. A remarkable achievement.

Over the years, Joan Pedley and Marilyn Day along with all the members of the Photo by: Mike Moores

Deloraine Red Cross have raised money by working at fairs, door knocking and through the TeleCross program which was set up to help people who live alone and are at risk of an accident or illness that may go unnoticed. In particular, people who are housebound or may have a disability.





Deloraine & Westbury Medical Centre are pleased to announce a new psychologist for our practice: Karen Tepper

Starting from 12 March 2019, Karen will be working from Deloraine on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and from Westbury on Tuesday.

For appointments, phone 03 6362 2266 22 Tower Hill Street, Deloraine and 80 Meander Valley Road, Westbury

Karen has a special interest in mindfulness, CBT, meditation and couples therapy and is happy to see children.

Clients from outside our practice are welcome. Appointments should be made through reception at either Westbury or Deloraine.

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Geoff Harvey riding Tanbark Redpa of Westbury competing in the Roy Davies Memorial Stockman's Whip Crack at the Harveydale gathering of the Mountain Cattlemen's Association. The competition involves hitting 10 targets with your whip in a horse shoe design. Pictured below: Ruby Geach 12yrs with brother Lenny 6yrs compete in the junior whip cracking. Photo by: Mike Moores

By David Claridge

WESTBURY GOT a country jolt in February with horses and stock whips gathering for some fierce competition.

The annual Mountain Cattlemen's event landed at Harveydale this year with hundreds of people coming to compete and watch.

Longford man Will Browning took home the Senior Championship, Victorian man Peter Hodgkin took second, while Sassafras local Ben Howe took third place.

In the junior division, first, second and third were Westbury girls, Maya Scott, Georgia Burford-Rowe and Georgia Elias.

TMCA Secretary Danza Hardwicke shared how gate takings were on par with previous years.

"There were a lot more day passes sold this year with the event being close to a town. We even had a couple of mainland competitors.

"We have a championship of four stages, whip crack, handy stockhorse, cattle handling and an optimum time stock horse race. The competition was high, so it was a good event.

"This year we trialled an U12 event which got 14 children involved.

2019 was the 32nd meet which moves around the state each year. The association, from their website, states that they actively try to pass down traditional stockman's skills and are trying to protect high country heritage and traditions.



Funny football

DELORAINE FOOTBALL Club is celebrating its 125th year in 2019.

The first function for the year is bound to start the celebrations off on the right foot with a Comedy Road Show to get everyone laughing.

The Laughs of Launnie International Comedy Festival will be held at the Deloraine Football Club, Racecourse Drive Deloraine on 22nd March at 8:00pm. The line up includes Lindsay Webb, Bryan O'Gorman from Canada, Kirk Smith representing the US of A, Luke Heggie, Fiona O'Loughlin and more.

Tickets are \$50.00. The show is for one night only so book early by calling 0437 749 034 or email hannah-kateo5@hotmail.com

Organisers think life is better when you're laughing and invite you to come and laugh with them.

