



WELL AND TRULY PLASTERED

Renovations to the Folk Museum

> PAGE 3



CELEBRATING THE CEREMONY

Controversy in the Meander Valley Parish

> PAGE 6



NOT A PONY IN SIGHT!

Training for the Canoe Polo Championships

> PAGE 20

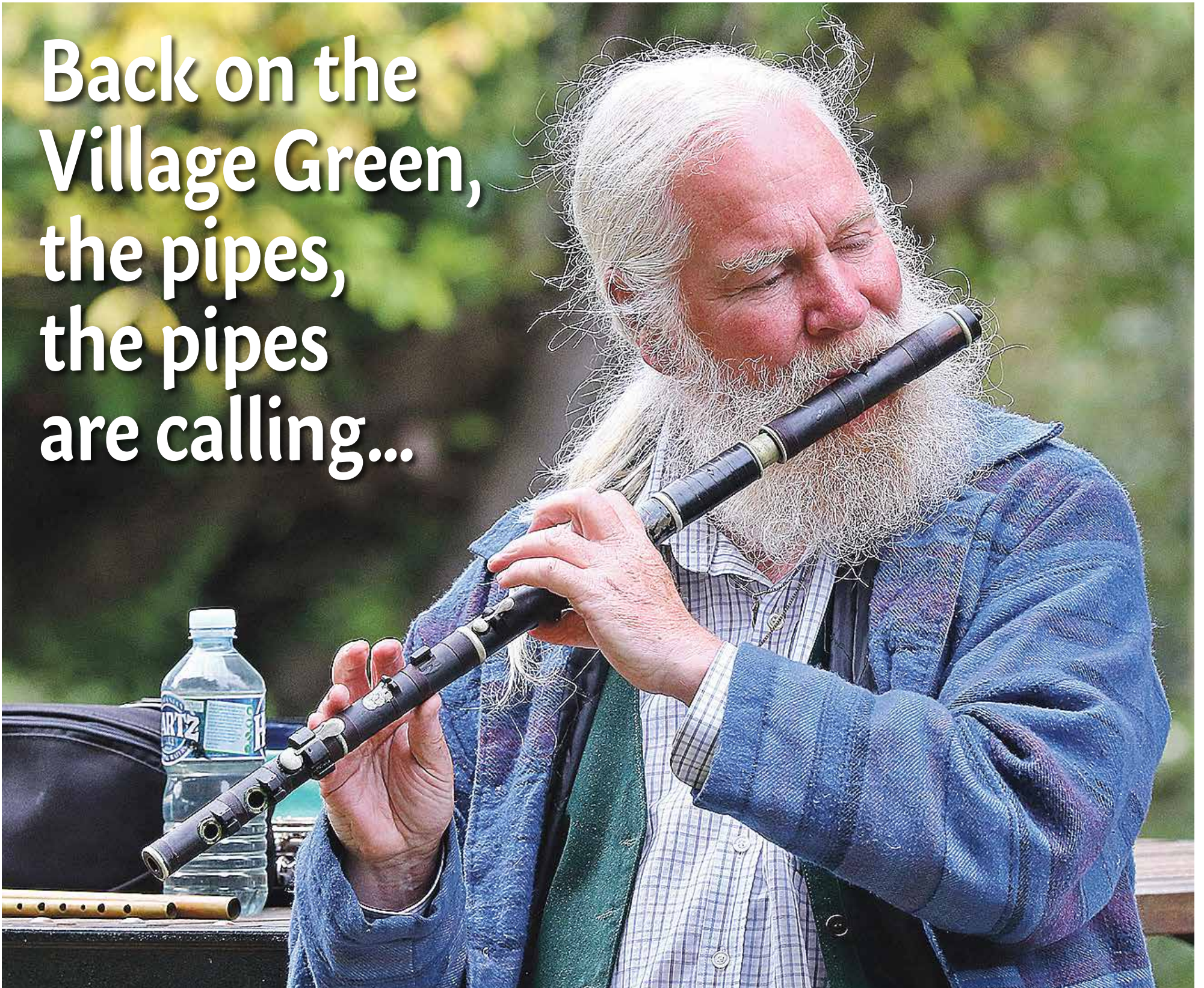
Meander Valley Gazette

FREE! Every Month

April 2019

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper

Back on the Village Green, the pipes, the pipes are calling...



Brian Owens of Ouse, flute and tin whistle player, playing his Indian rosewood flute on the Westbury Village Green. Just one of Brian's collection of wind instruments, the flute was made in 1837 by an instrument maker called Joseph Wallis, in the Euston Road, London. Photo by Mike Moores

WESTBURY AND the Village Green came alive on Saturday 16th March with the town's revival of the annual St Patrick's Festival.

This iconic event drew big crowds to revel in the sunshine and soak up a wonderful atmosphere of Celtic and community spirit.

There was something for everyone – a street parade led by St Patrick himself, a bustling church market, more craft and food stalls than you could poke a stick at, vintage tractors, classic cars, children's activities and a packed program of folk music, song and dance.

As always, the Maypole dancing by Westbury Primary School students proved to be a huge hit and in its traditional Village Green setting, created a real sense of history coming alive.

John Hickey of the Wheels folk group gave his thanks, "for

organising such a charming festival. The Wheels really enjoyed it, especially as traditional Irish music is so relevant to Westbury's rich history.

"The music in the church was a highlight for me (great acoustic venue). Barry Higgins' Irish pipes sounded wonderful.

"Hope the Steering Group got a chance to enjoy the festival as much as we did."

The Festival's new committee have been buoyed by the community response and has already started planning for 2020.

Chairman, Phil Steers, said, "the decision to

make the Festival entry by donation has been a total success with many more local families able to enjoy celebrating the town's Irish roots.

"Thanks to everyone who helped to make it happen. With the weather with us, we look forward to an even bigger event next year."

Landcare strong in the Valley

THIS MONTH, Landcare Tasmania welcomed the Minister for Primary Industries and Water, the Hon. Guy Barnett, to 'Colynn' at Westbury to see the work of Quamby Bend Landcare Group members – and how their long-term collaboration has resulted in major improvements to the health of the Meander River.

Rod Knight, Landcare Tasmania CEO, said interest in community Landcare had grown at an 'exceptional rate' with almost 60 new groups forming in the past two years, taking the total number of groups in the state to 220.

"The growth of involvement in Landcare highlights that Tasmanians are both generous and willing to tackle a wide range of environment and sustainability issues."

This year is the 25th anniversary of Landcare Tasmania who will be at Hagley Farm School in April at the Tasmanian Agriculture Productivity Group (TAPG) Precision Ag Expo.

TAPG Expos bring together producers, manufacturers, agribusiness and government to address issues of common concern to primary, secondary and service levels of Tasmanian agriculture.

WHEN: 17th April 2019, 10.00am – 2.00pm.

WHERE: Hagley Farm School, CONTACT: support@landcaretas.org.au or 6234 7117.

A great investment in the future

By Joanne Eisemann

THE DELORAINE & Districts Community Bank® is delighted to again be supporting local young people in furthering their career goals by assisting with education expenses through their scholarship program.

For the past nine years the bank has offered scholarships to university students.

This year, the scholarship program was extended to include financial support for students undertaking certificate, diploma, advanced diploma or associate degree level studies at TAFE.

Telisha Byard of Deloraine was awarded the inaugural scholarship to assist with her Education Support studies.

Sarah Larcombe of Westbury has been awarded this year's Deloraine & Districts Community Bank® Branch tertiary scholarship.

The tertiary scholarship is awarded to a first-time student whose financial circumstances might mean a university degree is out of reach.

Both young women are excited to be receiving scholarships.

Talisha will study at TAFE's Alanvale campus and chose to study Education Support because "I've always wanted to work with children within a school environment."

"I'm so grateful ... because I now have a chance to get the qualifications I need to achieve my dream job as a teacher assistant."

Sarah has a similar story to tell. Her dream to become a vet began at age 4, "and now I'm taking the first real step towards that dream. In the fourteen years since telling my parents that I wanted to be a vet, there has not been a single doubt in my mind that it's what I'm meant to do."

"Getting into Vet Science has been one of the most challenging experiences of my life, being both academically and emotionally strenuous. However, with the tremendous amounts of support from those around me, I managed to stay focused on my goal, whilst living a life full of fun and love."

"Living away from home for the first time, studying at a university approximately

1000km away from the place I've called home my entire life, definitely comes with its challenges. The stresses of university can be overwhelming; however, this scholarship has lifted an enormous weight off my shoulders," shares Sarah.

Sarah plans to bring her skills back to the Valley when she finishes her studies. "To be able to work within the Meander Valley as a veterinarian is my absolute end goal. The opportunity to give back to the community which has given me so much is something I truly aspire to."

Simon Rootes, Branch Manager of the Deloraine & Districts Community Bank® Branch, said that both Sarah and Telisha were deserving winners.



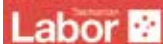
Above: Telisha Byard of Deloraine is excited to be awarded the inaugural TAFE scholarship to assist with her Education Support studies. Photo by Mike Moores



Right: Sarah Larcombe of Westbury has been awarded this year's tertiary scholarship. Photo by Maggie Howe

Jen Butler MP
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Mending our heritage

Dave Conway of Launceston, expertly applying new lime mortar to the inner walls of the Folk Museum, assisted by Ben Earle.

Photo by Mike Moores

By Wendy Laing

THE DELORAINE and Districts Folk Museum is being repaired and renovated.

As the museum remains open to the public, visitors have found it interesting to watch the work and sometimes ask questions about the renovations.

As a listed building urgently in need of repair, the Meander Valley Council has allocated \$100,000 for the preservation work.

Dave Conway, a contractor experienced in corrective

conservation to heritage buildings has begun work.

The aim is to stop the rising damp and repair the damage caused by water that has been trapped in the old walls due to lack of ventilation when the museum was first built.

A new ventilation system requiring installation of air drains and sub floor vents will prevent similar problems happening in the future.

Old plaster and paint is first removed from the original brickwork. Dampness and mineral salts are then drawn out of the old walls by apply-

ing a 'poultice' similar to papier mâché. This is left in place for two weeks and then the poultice is repeated.

The walls will be replastered using traditional lime mortar, as used in the original building, made from local materials.

Lime from Sibelco at Mole Creek is 'slaked' – a process where water is added to create a slurry which needs to be stored for a year or more. Local sand is mixed with the slaked lime to produce the lime mortar. This is a breathable surface which will prevent dampness from building up again.

The mortar would have been mixed with horsehair in the past, but now other fibres are used to add strength.

Finally, the walls will be traditionally rendered and painted to further preserve them.

Originally built in 1863 as the Family and Commercial Inn, Mrs Alma Bramich donated the old inn and its grounds to the community of Deloraine in 1972 to help preserve the history of the area.

Over 40,000 people visit the Deloraine and District Folk Museum every year.

Baby Play

BABY PLAY is a six-week fun program for babies aged up to 12 months and their parent/carers.

There will be singing, playing, telling stories and having fun meeting other babies.

To book, visit Eventbrite and search Baby Play Deloraine. For information call Annette Marie on 0417 120 671 or Deloraine House on 6362 2678.

Time and place: 10.00–10.30am at Deloraine House, Tuesday 21st May to 25th June.

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In My Opinion...

By Liz Douglass, Editor

THIS MONTH brings a few changes to the *Gazette*.

After carefully nurturing the *Gazette* from its birth until present day, our hard-working and much-appreciated editor and manager Joanne Eisemann, is now taking a step back from her role as editor.

The *Gazette* has steadily grown over the last 5 years, as have the demands on those working behind the scenes to publish and deliver the *Gazette* each month.

As both manager and editor, demands on Joanne have increased considerably, so a decision has been made to separate the two roles once more, to give Joanne some badly needed breathing space.

All those familiar with the *Gazette* and Deloraine Online Access Centre will know how much effort is needed to keep all the plates spinning!

Fortunately for all of us here, Joanne will continue as manager of the *Gazette*. Her editorial expertise will be gratefully accessed by the new editor until the training wheels are off.

Which brings us to the new editor – Liz Douglass, living in Westbury, 5 years in the Meander Valley, trying very hard to emulate the laid-back style and work ethic of my predecessor!

As is customary with newspaper editors, every month I will be speaking directly to you, the *Gazette* readers. Hopefully, you will continue to engage with the *Gazette* and write in to express your valued opinions.

The world can seem a very small place these days and events far away will have repercussions locally. The *Gazette* will continue to address external issues and events that may affect our community as well as local concerns.

As food for thought, two separate press releases were published this month, emphasising how complex and varied the Meander Valley can be.

This month, RateMyAgent website listed the Meander Valley as the ninth happiest place in Australia, a measure based on property prices that exceed sellers' expectations.

In contrast to this, the Brotherhood of St Lawrence, in their March report on youth unemployment in Australia, show West and North West Tasmania (including the Meander Valley) as the region with the 16th highest youth unemployment rate in Australia at 15%.

Looked at together, with a federal election looming, these are interesting talking points for our community, don't you agree?

I AM writing in response to the proposed rubbish collection for rural areas in the Meander Valley.

We are a busy, young family living in Birralelee. We moved to the area five years ago from Launceston and quickly got into the routine and the reality of regularly taking our rubbish and recycling to the tip.

We've invested in sturdy containers and wheelie bins for storing and safely transporting rubbish and recycling. Cheaper bins needed replacing often and we even had a good quality recycling tub stolen after it was accidentally left at the tip.

We also need to take the ute or trailer, as rubbish in the back of the enclosed family car is too smelly for a 25 minute drive. We've also had to buy a quality rubber mat to contain leaks when it's been necessary to take the family car.

Despite our already hefty investment in the necessary tip paraphernalia and being well practised in tip runs, we are more than happy to pay the very reasonable proposed rates increase to replace the current tiresome and regular burden.

My husband would save his back from having to lift heavy bags, especially ones that contain nappies.

DOGS MAULED cherished ambassador Muscovy duck 'Mr Grace' at the Deloraine Apex Caravan Park on Sunday 3rd March. The two local dogs, both Dachshunds, one dark in colour, the other tan, mauled Mr Grace who has lived in the Deloraine Apex Caravan Park for 12 plus years and is cherished by residents and travellers alike.

The male owner of these two Dachshunds is in his mid 20s-30s, tall, slender build, with dark hair and dark olive skin. He doesn't understand a lead is supposed to be attached to each dog and his hand must be attached to the other end of those leads. These two dogs are also known to be very aggressive to other dogs. After Mr Grace's mauling, the spineless, pitiful, moron of a man ran off with his dogs to the most southern exit of the caravan park, hiding out in the pathways at the rear of the showgrounds. When he finally came out, he was confronted by permanent residents of the caravan park. Of course, he denied everything then 'high-tailed' it up West Goderich Street, one dog now on a lead, the other still running

AS I am sure you are aware, The Day at the Creek attracted approx. 2500 people and well over 300 caravans to Mole Creek and to the area from Sheffield to Deloraine.

It was a great success and great follow up to the Car Show in Deloraine which was excellent.

Shows like these don't just happen and it would be great if you could publicise some of the efforts and benefits by Lions,

Having three children of varying ages, despite best intentions, we cannot eliminate all waste. Also, our recycling builds quickly.

The wastage charge component has gone up significantly this year, but those without rubbish collection are not getting any extra benefit, plus we spend more on fuel and still pay tip fees.

Those not willing to pay for the increase need to consider others in the community who may not have the time or benefits of being a less waste generating household.

There are people who don't have appropriate transport, or a capable and willing person to do tip runs on their behalf if they can't do it themselves. We are lucky to own appropriate transport but it's annoying to take the trailer to the supermarket while trying to make the most of the 50 minute round trip.

The consequences of no collection can mean that people try to burn their putrid rubbish, dump it illegally, or leave it at the

free. Too gutless and weak to go and take a look at the damage inflicted by his dogs.

Mr Grace was in shock, traumatised, with terrible puncture wounds to his rear. Feathers were also torn out in clumps around the wounds as well as from his back, between his wings. People within the campground came to his aid, firstly capturing, then providing care, which is going to be lengthy.

The police and Meander Valley Council have been advised. The Ranger should be able to find the man and his dogs easily. After all, the dogs must be registered?! People in the Deloraine community will know of these two dogs and the couple who have them. Please, please, dob them in to the Ranger. Others and I will be ever watchful for 'gutless' and your dogs. No doubt the Ranger will be better to deal with than us.

A big thank you to all of the kind, caring people who assisted with Mr Grace and continue to enquire as to his welfare.

Denise Pretty
Deloraine Apex Caravan Park

Rotary, Mole Creek Swimming Pool committee, local farmer Mr Green who allowed his farm to be used as parking, etc.

Apart from local businesses and B&Bs that benefited directly, lots of money was collected to be used for the benefit of a much wider group of Tasmanians.

Whilst as volunteers, no one is looking for major rewards, a public recognition would be great.

Michal Frydrych

local community hall. Sadly, I've seen examples of this in my neighbourhood.

Because of my profession in the health and community sector, I'm of the belief that people who aren't managing to dispose of their rubbish regularly due to social and physical barriers are probably hoarding it, making their homes and properties less liveable and unsafe.

Guests regularly offer to take away rubbish when we're entertaining. It's embarrassing to have to always decline politely. Conversations are lightened with jokes about our council not caring or wanting to come this far out, but that is how it actually feels.

I therefore applaud the council for looking into this important issue. I would urge them to make the decision that will make the most difference. Let's bring Meander Valley in line with other councils that are living in 2019 and not 1989. Everyone could enjoy more time that doesn't involve making tip runs.

Time poor family of five

EST.
2013

Meander Valley Gazette

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Letters In...

WITH THE advent of a new Council, the Meander Valley Council Ordinary Meetings have become astonishingly brief, averaging just 52 minutes as opposed to an average of 2 hours, 10 minutes under the leadership of the previous mayor.

During the March meeting, eight motions were passed in a record 39 minutes, on matters ranging from a contested Planning Application; Code of Conduct for councillors; Community Strategic Plan to 2024; Capital Works Program budget, and substantial amendments to Councillor Entitlements.

The only motion attracting any debate was the Hagley RV Farm Stay application – everything else was passed with minimal or no discussion.

The question has to be asked: are the new councillors simply more efficient at dealing with motions put before them; are discussion and decision making occurring behind closed doors instead; or is debate no longer encouraged in the council chamber?

Melanie Roberts
Prospect Vale



Westbury Primary School enjoying traditional maypole dancing in front of an appreciative audience on the Village Green.

Westbury craick

UNDER THE leafy spread of trees, the Village Green provided a cool, green backdrop for a day of music, dancing and singing at the 2019 St Patrick's Day Festival.

Rehearsing or performing on the stage, or around the maypole, local children and artists from near and far created a pleasant soundtrack for the day's activities.



'The Wheels', John and Kathy Hickey of Hobart and Lou Barber of Launceston, warm up before their performance on stage. Photos by Mike Moores

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Church moves to mend parish rift

By Sharon Webb

ONLY SIX weeks into his job, Tasmania's Catholic Archdiocese has moved to mend a rift in the Meander Valley parish.

According to some parishioners, Nicholas Rynne has already sacked the local board of the Westbury and Deloraine congregations and decreed that mass will be in Latin at Westbury.

One lifetime Catholic said, "People's attitude is that he has taken our church and parish from us," describing how

Father Rynne had replaced the board with people who support his traditionalist views.

The parishioner said congregations halved to about 30 people after the dispute. Two parish chairs and two sacristans (who prepare the church for mass) have also left.

In late March, the archdiocese sent retired Melbourne bishop Peter Elliott to attempt to reconcile the antagonists. Staying five days, appointments with him were booked out by distressed parishioners, well before he arrived.

A spokesperson for the Hobart Archdiocese said Archbishop Julian Porteus was "aware of tension within the parish" since Father Rynne's appointment. "Archbishop Porteus has instigated a process to clarify the situation. His primary responsibility in this situation is to ensure the pastoral care of all concerned in the Meander Valley Parish."

Father Rynne, aged 38, said he had been instructed by the archdiocese not to make media comment.

Preferring to wear the very traditional soutane or cassock, Father Rynne has worked in several Sydney parishes and is now seconded to Meander Valley for a year.

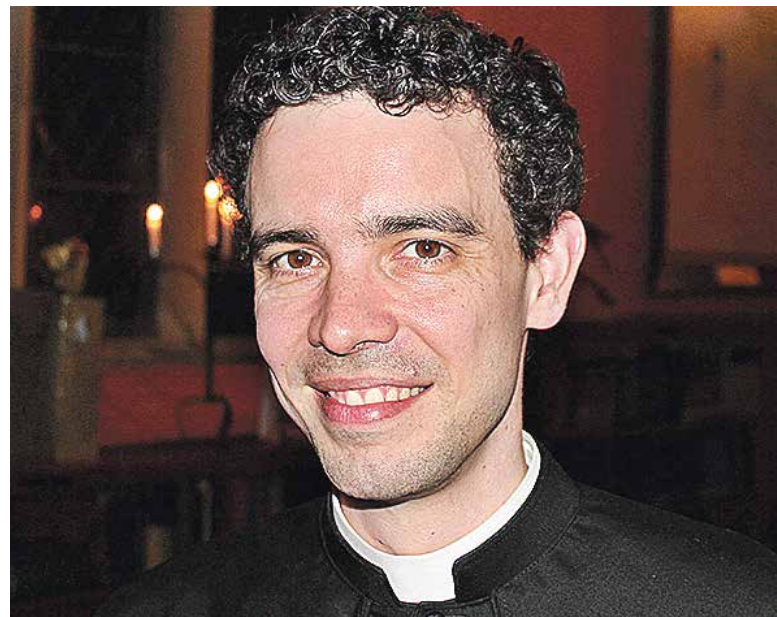
One parishioner said that of 62 people attended a meeting on 3rd March to discuss the conflict, only one supported the changes. A second meeting on 17th March attracted 40 people at short notice.

"The new priest is an ultra-conservative and most of the parish does not want to follow his line," another parishioner said. "There is a lot of unrest; people say their health is being impacted by his changes."

"For 50 years we were encouraged to participate in our parish but the laity is irrelevant in the church he is trying to impose on us. And he is supported by Archbishop Julian Porteus."

Another parishioner branded Father Rynne's actions divisive: "We seem to have gone back a few generations. The well-being of the community is at risk and it's sad to see how upset everyone is."

Father Rynne was ordained a deacon in St Peter's Basilica in Rome in 2012. He served at Pope Francis' first Pontifical Mass in March 2013, the year he was ordained a priest in front of Cardinal George Pell at St Mary's Cathedral. Using the 1570 Latin version, he celebrated his first mass that same afternoon.



Father Nicholas Rynne has replaced Father Richard Ross as the new Meander Valley priest, causing friction only six weeks after his arrival. Photo by Sharon Webb



Rose Turtle Ertler in the doorway of The Complimentary Caravan

Spreading kindly words

Story and photo by Emma Hodgkinson

ROSE TURTLE Ertler first started thinking about the power of compliments when she was praised for a performance done 20 years ago.

Since then she has been thinking of ways to spread positivity. So, years later, she started a project that aimed to give people the open opportunity to spread kind words.

Starting at the Village Winter Festival in Central Victoria in 2016, as an experiment, Rose began collecting auditory compliments in a caravan. Since then, The Complimentary Caravan has collected over 13,000 written, and 400 audio compliments.

"The goal is to spread positivity and to remind people of the impact that words have on others."

Originally from Devonport, Rose has recently moved back to Tasmania where the Caravan has already made a positive impact.

On the 1st & 2nd of March, Rose celebrated World Compliment Day outside Chudleigh Hall and at the Deloraine Market with her caravan full of compliments.

People are invited to sit

inside the caravan and absorb the kind words inside, then she encourages them to write a compliment of their own.

"When you sit in the caravan and can hear and read the compliments, you know that they're not for you but still absorb the positivity from it."

"I've done variations of this project without the caravan, such as Complimentary Lane; which was a soundtrack that played in an arcade as a part of a project that was looking for sound installations."

Rose chose a caravan for the body of her project because of its ability to become a peaceful and welcoming space.

The Caravan is decorated inside and outside with yellow cards where people have written compliments. Inside, there is cushioned seating, where people can sit comfortably whilst absorbing the positive space around them.

Rose hopes that everyone who has visited The Complimentary Caravan has been more able to share compliments in their day-to-day lives, to further spread positivity. She hopes that World Compliment Day will be celebrated more in the future.

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Pop in to the pop-up at the Westbury Willows

By Wai Lin Coultas

WESTBURY HAS a few surprises for antique lovers, so over the next few months, the *Gazette* will shine a light on some of the undiscovered treasures.

Rick Prevost and Sally Spencer's personable antiques and collectables have been collected over a lifetime, its broad spectrum appealing to a wide variety of tastes.

The antique business is a pop-up sited in the historic Georgian property 'The Willows', bought two years ago by Sally's daughter Fiona, Bracknell born-and-bred.

Currently based in Melbourne, Fiona, husband and family are waiting for permits and building approval for the much-needed restoration.

During the wait, Sally and Rick are the building's caretakers.

Realising the building's historical significance in Westbury, Rick and Sally encourage people browsing their shop to explore, happy to meet the huge range of visitors who show an interest in its history.

"Having the antique store has become incidental to

that," shares Sally. "Like the community in Westbury, we want to ensure the history of the town is kept and looked after."

Hence, they are taking great pains to ensure the "Willows" is restored to former glory of 1837.

Over years to come, they plan on not only furnishing it with 1830s to 1850s antiques, but to keep updating with better finds.

In the end, Fiona and family will be custodians of a home that best preserves the history of Westbury and Tasmania.

Rick has only ever collected quality antiques in good condition, restoring them if needed, paying particular attention to the finish to avoiding the pitfall of "over polishing to an inch of its life."

Rick's furniture hails from the colonial period right through to the modern.

Cedar, Huon Pine, Mahogany - built all over Australia, and acquired from local and Hobart auctions - Rick was drawn to either its history, material or builder's signature.

"Preferably a Tasmanian builder," adds Rick.



Sally Spencer of 'The Willows' with some of the beautiful antique glassware on display and for sale at their pop-up antique shop in their home in Westbury. Photo by Mike Moores

From "brown" or "rusty" furniture, jewellery, china, ceramics and glassware of all eras, including chalices done for Prince Charles and Diana Spencer's wedding, 'The Willows' is filled with eclectic period items that would still enhance a modern home.

Rick's interest in history extends to the military, hence a propeller from a World War II training aircraft is on offer.

Metal tools, rabbit traps, handmade convict bolts and hinges - a pair of convict leg

irons - rare in Tasmania as the rare stuff "all goes to the museums and collectors ... in Sydney."

There is even a John Glover painting of an English lake and castle - 1806, before his time in colonial Tasmania.

Customers come look at the house and go away with a piece of it. Westbury customers recount long lost memories relating to the history of the 'The Willows'. They may have lived there once or have family who did.

Interested in Rick and Sally's pop-up store? Better pop by before spring, when building restorations are likely to start.

Cannot find that specific antique you are looking for? Prepared to wait? Let auction experts Rick and Sally find it for you.

The Westbury Willows pop-up can be found at 115 Meander Valley Road, Westbury.

Sally Spencer can be contacted on 0408 570 830 and Rick Prevost on 0408 135 510.

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Authorised by Brian Mitchell MP 53B Main Road Perth

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Sophie Poke

Putting on a great Show

LARGELY OUT of sight of the majority of residents, the Westbury Showgrounds can be found at the northern end of Westbury.

The Showgrounds are under the ownership of the Westbury Agricultural Society Inc. – a volunteer committee dedicated to running the very successful Westbury Show (now in its 156th year) as well as providing a venue for many other events.

The Showgrounds are home to horse shows, dog shows, horse training, dog training and are a venue for various community group fundraisers.

Five local community groups are also provided with storage facilities for their equipment.

As with all committees, W.A.S.I. is always looking for new people to join and bring fresh ideas.

In particular, they are now looking for a new secretary, as the current secretary is looking to step down after five years of excellent administration.

With many new people moving to Westbury, the committee hopes to make



Bracknell hops to it!

Story and photo by Hayley Manning

BRACKNELL PRIMARY School's annual sports carnival was held on 6th March. The students had their game faces on for the traditional events but these soon dissolved to laughter during the egg-and-spoon and three-legged races.

A baton relay wrapped up the program of events with victory for Leonard House.

Some students shared snippets of school life between

Isabella Sullivan-Taylor (8) and Katalina Wynn (9) competing in the 3 legged race at Bracknell Primary School Sports Carnival.

activities, with Paige Spencer (7) describing her school as fun: "Ms Fare tried to use the remote control to rub out the whiteboard."

Aiden Leon Hardy Shaw (9) said he was proud of "the sportsmanship that goes around..." while Isabella Taylor (8) describes her school as "caring and helpful".

Phoebe Johnson commented that "We probably need a better football team. We don't have enough girls to make our own team so we mix in the boys. For netball we have heaps of people rotating in one team instead of making two teams."

them aware of W.A.S.I. and the benefit it is to the community.

"It is a great feeling seeing the many smiling faces at the show, or a hundred horses using the arena, or hundreds of well-groomed dogs strutting around the dog arena, knowing you are part of the organisation of these events."

If anyone would be interested in joining the W.A.S.I. committee, please contact President Kevin Lattin on 0417 104 520, or Secretary Shannon Barwick on 0438 636 149.

They would be very pleased to hear from you.



Meander dairy is a clear winner in the 2019 Tasmanian Dairy awards

TWO LOCAL dairy properties won awards at the recent Tasmanian Dairy Awards.

Clear Springs Dairy at Meander, operated by Tim and Fiona Salter and converted from a beef farm, was named as the 2019 Tasmanian Dairy Business of the Year.

Rushy Lagoon farmers Damien and Brooke Cocker took out the Share Dairy Farmers of the Year category, having increased production on two farms by 40 per cent.

Minister for Primary Industries and Water, Guy Barnett said Tasmania's dairy industry rebounded strongly from difficulties in 2016 to set a new production record of over 910 million litres in 2017-18.

Above left: Tim and Fiona Salter from Clear Springs Dairy at Meander, named as 2019 Tasmanian Dairy Business of the Year. Photo supplied

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Happy Valley

HOW TO measure happiness? Well, one way is to conduct a survey.

RateMyAgent is a reviews website for real estate agents in Australia. Using reviews from genuine property sellers and buyers, the website provides review information unique to the agent.

A Price Expectation Report produced by RateMyAgent is the largest home seller survey conducted in Australia, with more than 36,000 replies.

Looking specifically at the past six months, the survey asked successful sellers across Australia how their sale prices matched their expectations.

Results showed a steady decline nationally in overall sale price satisfaction, from

42% in April 2018 to a low of 29% in December last year.

Of the top ten 'happiest' locations, seven were regional and two were in Tasmania.

From 1 to 10, the regions were Clarence, Moorabool, Hobart, Surf Coast, Playford, Yass Valley, Mitcham, Greater Geelong, Meander Valley and Lithgow.

Meander Valley was listed as the ninth happiest location in Australia when referring to property sales prices.

Sellers in the Meander Valley were "achieving the ninth highest rate of above expectation property sale prices, making them 46% happier than home sellers in prized metropolitan locations."

This could give regional Tasmanians something to smile about, but only if they're planning to sell up!

Mobile Service Centre

THE AUSTRALIAN Government Mobile Service Centre will be visiting Meander Valley this month, offering a wide range of face-to-face and self-service assistance.

Information about Veterans' affairs and relevant services will also be available.

Experienced staff will provide friendly service, support and information.

For more information, go to humanservices.gov.au and search for Mobile Service centre or call 132 316.

Deloraine: Woolworths car park, off Emu Bay Road on Thursday 11th April 2019, from 9.00am until 4.00pm.

Westbury: Sports Centre car park, Franklin Street on Monday 15th April, 9.00am until 4.00pm.

World's greatest shave!

By Hayley Manning

ONLOOKERS DECLARE without a doubt that four fearless people had a close shave outside the Empire Hotel on the 22nd March.

Friends, family and supporters all gathered around to spur on hairdresser Liz Walker, as she took to the three sponsored entrants and one passerby with her clippers.

The head-shaving event was for the Leukemia Foundation's 21st World's Greatest Shave campaign.

Kim Lord, maintenance at Deloraine Primary School, was motivated by his own current cancer treatment to do the shave. "My hair was going to come out anyway!" Kim said.

"I was walking down the street two days ago, when I saw a Greatest Shave sign and then decided to do it. It is the best thing I have done."

Kim has raised around \$1,200, thanks largely to

Outside the Empire Hotel for the 21st World's Greatest Shave, hairdresser Liz Walker wields her clippers on Mole Creek cave guide Angela Enright. Photo by Hayley Manning

the staff at the School and Timber World.

Mole Creek cave guides Angela Enright and Shannon McMonagle were next in the chair. Angela credits Shannon for getting her involved in the campaign, which she decided to do because her dad suffered a blood condition and she had lost a good friend to leukemia.

"The aim of the annual campaign is to raise money for blood cancer research, so every little bit we do helps," Angela said. Shannon and Angela raised \$1,300, not including donations on the night.

All participants gave a heartfelt thank you to Liz, the Empire Hotel, and all their sponsors and supporters.





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Advertorial

Hearing loss link to dementia in new international study

ADDRESSING HEARING loss can play a major role in preventing dementia, a new international study published in the Lancet has found, mid-life hearing loss tops nine risk factors that contribute to the risk of dementia.

The Lancet report shows that almost a quarter of the risk that individuals can manage for themselves is linked to hearing loss. For the first time they raise the importance of addressing this in middle age, not when it has been left untreated to later life and the damage has already been done.

The study says hearing loss can deny people a cognitively rich environment and lead to isolation and depression, which are among the other potentially modifiable risk factors for dementia. The Lancet study is the latest in a growing body of evidence that links hearing loss and cognitive decline. However, this particular report has put the spotlight on the crucial importance of addressing hearing loss at a much earlier age - between 45 and 65.

In a public statement, BSHAA Chief Executive Prof David Welbourn today repeated the Society's call for people to look after their hearing and to get a hearing test as an important step to maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Reacting to the new study, he said: "For far too long, hearing loss has been considered unimportant by too many in the medical community. It has often been passed off as an inevitable consequence of aging. Neither of these are true. The Lancet commission on dementia is the latest, and perhaps the most definitive of a growing body of evidence pointing to an important truth: the risk of dementia can be significantly reduced if people take good care of their hearing,

"This is a real wake-up call to people who can and should do something for themselves by getting their hearing tested and taking advice. This is such an easy way in which people can invest in their long-term health. Just as they do by joining a gym or taking other steps towards a healthier lifestyle."

The Lancet, 2nd December 2017

The importance of talking rubbish

Rubbish and recycling collection are core functions of Council. Achieving balance between the financial and environmental costs associated with waste management and managing the service level expectation of a diverse community can be challenging.

Council's proposal to extend rubbish and recycling collection services to include rural households is an initiative carried over from the previous Council. It stems from representations from the community, broader discussions around illegal dumping, improved environmental outcomes and equitable service delivery.

Investigations into the suitability of the rural road network was undertaken last year as part of Council's evaluation of the initiative's potential.

"Council has a responsibility to continue to investigate opportunities to improve services and sustainable waste management," Mayor Wayne Johnston said.

Feedback received in response to a recent letter from Council outlining the proposal was varied and wide ranging.

"Council appreciates and thanks all residents who have participated in the discussion. Your feedback

is valued and informs our decision making," Mayor Wayne Johnston said.

Feedback on the proposal was received for approximately six weeks.

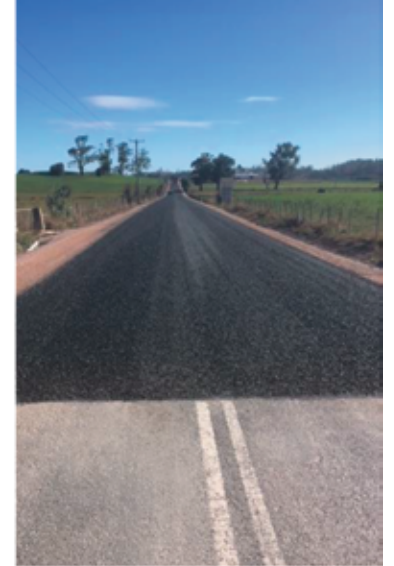
"These are important conversations to have and Council would also like to thank the Mole Creek Progress Association for inviting one of Council's Officers to attend a meeting where approximately sixty people participated in the discussion," Mayor Wayne Johnston said.

The feedback was reviewed at Council's March Workshop.

Works crew on track with road reconstructions across Meander Valley

Council's Works Department has recently completed significant rural road reconstruction work. The works, which have involved pavement strengthening and resealing were included in the capital works program.

Reconstructions have been undertaken along Railton, Dunorlan, Black Hills, Glenore and Jackys Marsh Roads over the last few months.



Above (left to right): Jackeys Marsh Road reconstruction and bridge approach sealing and Railton Road reconstruction.

Glitz and glamour to descend upon Deloraine's Community Complex

Each year since 1960, the national Square Dance community, together with dancers from overseas have gathered in alternating Australian states to hold a National Convention.

The Convention is an opportunity for Square Dance callers to hold workshops, Round Dance Cuers to showcase the latest dance routines and Cloggers to gather and engender their enthusiasm for music.

This year, the 60th National Square Dance Convention will be held at the Deloraine Community Complex.

From 24-28 April, Deloraine will be transformed as over 500 delegates arrive to enjoy dancing, friendship and plan for the future.

A local committee under the authority of the Australian National Square Dance Board Inc. was established and planning for this event has been well under way for a number of years.

"An event of this scale requires considerable lead

in time and commitment from many people," event organisers said.

Most of the work is undertaken by volunteers with conventions of this size requiring hundreds of hours of dedication.

Over 550 delegates are registered to attend the event with organisers hoping to attract a final number of 600.

The event encompasses dance genres of Square Dancing, Round Dancing, Contra Dancing and Clogging.

Delegations from across Tasmania and Australia will all be in attendance, in addition to a number of international attendees from Germany, Japan and New Zealand.

Square Dancing has a high participation rate with over a quarter of a million dancers world wide.

Interestingly, despite it's international appeal, Square Dancing is always called in



just one language - English.

"Glitz, Glamour, Diamonds & Bling" is a fitting theme for the Convention's Diamond Jubilee and delegates are poised to "dress it up in 2019".

In this inclusive sport, dancers range in age from nine to ninety-nine and the Convention seeks to celebrate this diversity.

Spectators are invited to experience this Square Dance resurgence for themselves from 24-28 April at the Deloraine Community Complex in Alveston Drive.

For those wanting to give Modern Square dancing a try, a public session will be held on Sunday, 28 April from 2pm. All are welcome!

Community forums off to a great start at Parkham

Council's first community forum of the year was held at Parkham Community Hall on Tuesday 19 March.

Approximately forty residents from Elizabeth Town, Parkham and surrounding areas met with elected members and Council officers to discuss matters of local interest.

Some of the topics that led discussion included waste management, bushfire preparedness, roadside spraying and road safety. It was a cordial gathering with all attendees appreciating the opportunity to meet and share ideas and information.

Mayor Wayne Johnston

took the opportunity to introduce the seven Councillors present and stressed how important these community conversations were in helping Council better understand local issues.

Council would like to thank the Parkham Community Association for kindly hosting the event and providing refreshments.

Council holds quarterly community forums in different townships throughout the year. The next forum is to be held in June in Carrick.



Panorama Road benefits from stormwater infrastructure

Council recently approved a quotation received from contractor J&JM Williams to undertake stormwater drainage work along Panorama Road in Blackstone Heights.

The work will involve the installation of over 170 metres of pipework to transform the open drain on the eastern side of Panorama Road, between Neptune Drive and Glover Avenue.

This project is being undertaken as a commitment of Council to improve roadside drainage across the municipality, with approved funding from the open drainage works program.

The work along Panorama Road will improve safety, reduce erosion in the existing drain, improve the aesthetics of the streetscape and accessibility for maintenance.

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 undertakes property checks and owners can be fined 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.





Lights on ahead of schedule

Sports lighting at Prospect Vale Park AFL ground has been completed ahead of schedule and just in time for the winter months.

"Council has worked with the local AFL clubs in order to progress the project which has resulted in the facility having one of the first match standard LED lit grounds in the state," Mayor Johnston said.

The new lights are significantly more energy efficient resulting in less power consumption and the upgrade is an important component in the drive to improve the facility, encourage participation and meet the growing demand of the women's AFL competition.



Make sure winter is all that's in the air

The quality of air we breathe is of utmost importance, particularly over winter as we settle down in front of a roaring fire.

Smoke emitted from your chimney says a lot about how you use your wood heater and what you burn. Wood heater smoke can produce concentrations of fine particles that can adversely affect air quality and the health of you and your neighbours.

The good news is, it's an easy problem to fix.

Firstly, always ensure that you use dry, seasoned wood. When storing your wood, stack it to maximise air flow between logs and keep it dry and covered.

When filling your wood heater, take care not to overload it - a space of about 2cm between each log is adequate.

Ensure you have your flue cleaned every year. A flue that is clogged with creosote (black, sticky or sooty material) will be unable to draw air effectively. This will make your fire difficult to light and smoke may enter the room.

Lastly, burn your wood heater with the air vent fully open for at least 20 minutes before turning it down, especially before going to bed for the night.

More information on how to burn brighter this winter can be found on Council's website at www.meander.tas.gov.au. Just type "Burn Brighter" into the search function located at the top of the home page.

The EPA Tasmania website also has a number of resources, including Real Time Air Quality Data. Visit www.epa.tas.gov.au for more information.



Bridges of Bankton well underway

Work has commenced on bridge replacements along Bankton Road at Dairy Plains.

The first of three bridges are almost complete with piling work on the second now underway.

The three new bridges replace timber structures and are part of Council's ongoing bridge renewal program.

MEANDER VALLEY APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Grades 6-12



Bike Maintenance Workshop

Monday 15 April
1pm - 4pm
Westbury Sports Centre
Franklin Street, Westbury
Cost: \$5.00
Bring your own bike if you like and join Ian Howard for an afternoon of practical know-how. Numbers are limited.



Archery

Wednesday 17 April
1pm - 2.30pm
Paringa Archery Club
201 Reatta Road, Trevallyn
Cost: \$5.00
Numbers are limited. Transport is provided.

To register or for more information phone Vicki Jordan on 0400 155 690

Need to speak with a planner?

Depending on what planning rules and zones apply at your place, a Planning Permit may be required for proposals such as subdivision, building, alterations and changes of use.

Building, plumbing and other approvals may also be required, but these are generally issued after a Planning Permit has been granted.

Before starting any work, discuss your proposal with one of Council's Planners so you are fully aware of what is required.

Council's Planners are available for appointments between 10am and 1pm on Mondays and between 1pm and 4pm Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Meetings outside these times can be arranged by appointment by phoning 6393 5300



Anzac Day Services Thursday 25 April

Carrick
Carrick Cenotaph, Memorial Park
Morning service from 7am, complimentary breakfast following at the Carrick Inn.

Hagley
Hagley Cenotaph, Hagley Recreation Ground
Morning service from 9.45am

Westbury
Westbury Cenotaph, Westbury Village Green
Dawn service from 6am, morning service from 11am, with breakfast and light lunch following at the Westbury RSL and 2-Up from 2pm.

Deloraine
Deloraine Cenotaph
Dawn Service from 6am, morning service from 11am

Residents are reminded that for the purpose of conducting the Anzac Day march and services, the following roads will be closed to all traffic:

Deloraine: Emu Bay Road at the Highland Lakes Road junction to west of the bottom roundabout and West Parade from 5:45am to 6:30am and from 10:30am to 12:30pm.

Emu Bay Road between middle roundabout and West Parade from 5:45am to 6:30am.

Emu Bay Road between Parsonage Street and West Parade from 10:30am to 12:30pm.

Motorists who would normally use the Deloraine bridge and township during these times will need to divert via the Bass Highway.

Westbury: Lyall Street between the Town Hall car park and Lonsdale Promenade and Lonsdale Promenade between Meander Valley Road and King Street will be closed from 5.45am to 6.30am and from 10am to 12pm.

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

General Enquiries
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Email mail@mvc.tas.gov.au
Mail PO Box 102 Westbury
Tasmania 7303

Customer Service Office
8.30am - 5pm
Monday - Friday
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The slippery slope



AS THE home brewer progresses from K&K (kit and kilo) through kits and bits (kits with added hops and steeped specialty grains) to full all grain brewing, this transition is quite often referred to as the 'slippery slope'.

But is all grain beer that much better? In a nutshell – Yes! You can customise it to whatever style, outcome, ABV and colour you desire.

You will eventually make a nicer drop than most of the craft breweries that are popping up everywhere, because you won't have to skimp on any aspect of the brewing process or ingredients.

But before we descend the slope, is there a way to actually try the beer before we spend the time and dollars?

Well, fortunately, these days there is. Go to the brew shop and get yourself an FWK.

A Fresh Wort Kit is a 100% craft beer where all the time-consuming hard work has been done for you. Just tip it into your fermenter, add 5 litres of water and the yeast, brew it for the normal two weeks, then bottle or keg.

This is by far the very best beer that a home brewer can produce without the time and labour of making an all grain beer from scratch. There is a large range to choose from as well. But as with everything there are trade-offs. The first is that most FWKs only make 20 litres of final product not 23 litres like K&K. The second is price – if you want true craft beer you will have to pay a little extra. A typical lager or pale ale will be around \$46.00.

Is it worth it? Totally.

You'll find that a lot of all grain brewers, myself included, do FWKs from time to time, especially when time-poor or if stocks are low.

FWKs have good instructions, with dry hopping options as well as a grist ratio. So if you really like the resultant beer, it is quite easy to make a clone in the future.

You can try the All Inn Brewery FWK beer at Dan Murphys, but the most inexpensive carton is \$108, up to \$120 for the IPAs.

You will see the savings if you decide to do your own. You will end up with about 25–26 bottles (750ml). Family and friends will be amazed that you made this beer at home.

Northern Home Brewing on Elphin Rd in Launceston has an excellent range of FWKs in store that include a quality yeast when purchased.

Recipe of the month

Here is a New England India Pale Ale (NEIPA) that came second in the IPA category at the state championships last year.

4 kg Golden Promise (79%)
455g flaked oats (11%)
350g wheat (7%)
150g CaraRed malt (3%)
10g Simcoe @ 60 min
15g Simcoe @ 20 min
25g Summer @ 10 min
25g Pacifica @ 10 min
25g Citra @ 5 min
25g Citra Dry hop
50g Cascade Dry hop
50g Simcoe Dry hop
Bitterness 41.1 IBU, colour 7.8 EBC, ABV 5.4%

This recipe has all the style features. The oats and wheat contribute to the hazy appearance. The CaraRed helps with the orange juice colour (although I would use a little more next time). The truck-load of hops give it that breakfast juice taste, without all the relatively high bitterness that IPAs are known for.



Halfway to Forth band members Dan and Kyle Lizotte will perform their signature blues and roots at the Little Laneway Fringe Festival.

Halfway to Forth go all the way in the Little Laneway

Story and photo by Sharon Webb

TWO HUGE NW Coast bands will lead a line-up of talent from the greater Deloraine area in the Little Laneway Fringe Festival on the weekend starting 26th April.

The entertainment in the laneway between the Empire Hotel and Seppenfelts coincides with the national square dancing convention in town on the same weekend – and Seppenfelts' 10th birthday.

Music kicks off on Friday night from 6.00pm; Halfway to Forth is the big name on Saturday night from 8.00pm – 10.00pm.

Band member Dan Lizotte said he and his brother Kyle will perform their signature contemporary folk and roots, with just a shade of blues.

"It's broad roots music with a bit of country sneaking in these days," he said.

Happiness is a smashed avocado

THIS MONTH, as part of their youth employment campaign, the Brotherhood of St Laurence has published a report 'Smashing the avocado debate', that looks at Australia's youth unemployment hotspots.

As at December 2018, the national youth unemployment rate is 11.2%, more than double the overall Australian unemployment rate of 5%.

Young people lacking in experience, training opportunities or higher educational qualifications are at significant risk of being left out of the work force altogether.

Despite 28 years of continuous economic growth, youth hotspots across the country have unemployment figures ranging from 14.3% to 25.7%, with significantly more unemployment in regional than urban areas.

"We like to put our spin on old songs but it's all in the American folk tradition – and an excuse for me to get Kyle playing the slide or banjo."

The Sheyana Band, which last year won the 2018 Chris Wilson Award for Emerging Act of the Year, perform on from 4 til 5pm followed by a local drumming circle jam.

Local musicians will perform alongside the two big bands, giving talented locals without a platform the opportunity to play in public.

Performance organiser Kat Jeffree said performers include Scotty O'Leary, Shani Saint Albans and choir members, Andi (from Deloraine's Shandi shop), Eddie Tuleja, Sheridan (from the Empire Hotel) and Canadian guitarist Tristan.

Janis Chaberka returns to LLFF this year, collaborating with a friend to perform folk music. Poet Yvonne Gluyas will bring eight performance poets from Launceston.

Kat Jeffree said classy burlesque dancer Miss Jessie G will once again perform her G-rated five-minute act where she removes her vintage-style outfits – creatively.

"It's a weekend where musicians come out of the hills and into the town."

"People should drop in any time – it's a free opportunity to see the creativity our area has to offer," Kat said.

The Little Laneway Fringe Festival is Friday 26th April, 6.00–10.00pm; Saturday 27th, 1.00–10.00pm; Sunday 28th, 1.00–6.00pm. See FB closer to the event for specific time details.

Back again, just them!



PLAYING A great selection of country, rock and dance, Just Us presented an afternoon of music and dancing at the Western Tiers Community Club on Sunday 24th February.

The two award-winning performers are members of a larger band called Live It Up. Sandra holds many awards for singing and songwriting. Wayne is an accomplished, guitarist with a great voice and repertoire. He has performed Australia wide

By popular demand, Just Us will perform once again at the Western Tiers Community Club on Sunday 5th May, from 1.00 – 5.00pm.

There will be dancing, raffles, lucky door prizes and lots of fun. Or you might prefer to just sit and enjoy the music. Cost is \$10.00 and afternoon tea is available.

For further details, ring Barry at the Community Club on 6362 3592.

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Authorised by Mark Shelton MP, 10A Marlborough Street, LONGFORD 7301

Vanilla risotto with mint and spiced apples

Story and photo by
Wai Lin Coultas

THIS SWEET, creamy and wickedly aromatic risotto does away with the actual vanilla bean by generously splashing natural organic vanilla essence and double cream into full cream milk.

Just off the hot stove, pair it with a minty and spicy chilled apple stew, garnished with some lusciously tart fresh berries – perfect for breakfast when family and special friends have stayed the night.

Ingredients: risotto

- 3/4 cup Arborio rice
- 2 1/2 tbs butter
- 2 1/4 plus 1/4 extra cups full cream milk
- 1/4 cup double cream
- 3-4 tbs caster sugar
- 8-12 tsp natural organic vanilla essence

Ingredients: spiced apple

- 2 sprigs apple mint
- 400 g Gala apples, peeled, cored and diced
- 2 1/2 tbs raw sugar
- 2 1/2 star anise, broken into bits
- 1 lemon, zested and juiced
- 3/4 tsp ground cinnamon
- 8 pinches ground nutmeg

- 1/3 tsp ground cardamom
- 1 2/3 tbs brandy

- 6 blue berries
- 8 raspberries
- mint sprigs and leaves

Method: spiced apples

To make spiced apples, bring all ingredients in saucepan to a boil before simmering covered for 15 minutes till apples are tender; turning them over every 5 minutes.

Puree contents of saucepan before refrigerating, covered, overnight.

Method: vanilla risotto

To make vanilla risotto, warm 2 1/4 cups milk in a saucepan.

Over medium heat, melt butter in 3rd saucepan before adding rice; stir until rice is well coated in butter.

Adding 1 ladle of warm milk at a time, stir rice until it has absorbed enough milk to become almost al dente.

Stir in 1/4 cup milk, double cream, sugar and vanilla essence to taste.

Stir 8 coarsely chopped mint leaves through chilled pureed spiced apples.

To plate individual serves, divide the hot vanilla risotto over half the mint and spiced



Vanilla risotto - perfect for breakfast when family and special friends have stayed the night.

apple puree, topping with half the blueberries and a mint sprig tip. Garnish each plate with half the raspberries and 3 mint leaves.
Serves 2



THERE CAN be few garden plants which can boast more varieties than the sages, or Salvias.

A search on line reveals countless species, and each one has a host of cultivars, in colours of red, white, or blue.

Salvia gregii seems to be amongst the most prolific in this department with varieties having a colour range from white to palest mauve, blue, purple and red. There is one yellow flowered variety, *S. aurea*, from South Africa.

The one pictured, *S. gregii* 'Hot Lips' in the street garden at the Deloraine Common-

wealth Bank, is a mixture of both white and red. These seem to do well in Deloraine, as there are some flourishing in the gardens of Grenoch in East Barrack Street.

The crushed leaves of most sages have deliciously spicy scents. The red flowered *S. legans* (Pineapple Sage), as the common name indicates, smells of pineapples. Most sages are frost and drought resistant – except for *S. uliginosa*, the American Bog Sage. *S. officinalis*, both the green and the purple-leaved culinary sages, bear attractive spikes of blue flowers.

A check with Meander Valley nurseries reveals that there is a good variety of Salvias available for sale.

In the vegie garden

Those who did not hear the frost warnings would have been shocked to find tomatoes, beans, and zucchinis suffering from an unusually early frost on March 13.

Since then, very hot weather has returned. By the end of third week in March, only 3.4mm of rain has been recorded, and no useful rain has fallen this year.

Broad beans may be sown in April, but make sure the bed is well watered before sowing. Onion seeds and spring onion seedlings can be planted over the next three months.



Salvia Gregii 'Hot Lips'.

Photo by Peter Ashton

Helping hands, having fun

DELORAIN E AGED Care Auxiliary held their Launceston Cup Luncheon at the RSL Club on February 27, with 65 people attending and raising \$1500 for residents of Grenoch and Kanangra.

Guests travelled all the way from Launceston for a very entertaining day, with a Mystery Race Sweep, Hat Parade, lucky door prizes and a raffle.

The Auxiliary also hold three raffles a year and all funds raised go to buy items to make resident's lives more comfortable.

Kiosks are run at Grenoch and Kanangra every week, where residents can purchase fresh fruit, sweets, toiletries and other items.

Everyone looks forward to Friendship Days when the Auxiliary visit residents with gifts of a home-made cookie.

President Maureen Hosken said the Auxiliary is always looking for new members and enquiries are always welcome.

The Auxiliary meets on the fourth Thursday every month. Anyone interested in helping out and having a good time



Maureen Hosken

should contact Maureen on 6362 4924 or 0459 366611 or at maudehosken@gmail.com.

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MLC**

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Mayor Wayne Johnson and Robyn Weare with her 'Essence of the Valley' award winner *Coalescence*.

Great art in the Western Tiers

By Wendy Laing

THE MEANDER Valley Council in conjunction with Launceston Art Society launched the Great Western Tiers Art Award 2019 at Deloraine Creative Studios on Friday, 1st March 2019.

This is an annual award for local artists in any medium, with the focus being the Meander Valley.

The aim of GWATA is to inspire skills, confidence and friendship through art – encouraging new and experienced exhibitors alike. It attracted thirty entries, and the theme for 2019 was 'Out of the blue'.

Presented by Mayor Wayne Johnson and spon-

sored by the Meander Valley Council, the highlight of the exhibition opening was the announcement of Keith Lane as the winner of the major prize of \$1,000 for his beautifully constructed triptych *Through the trees*.

Mr Lane said the painting had been inspired by the view from his house looking out towards Quamby Bluff. The judges felt that his acrylic/oil on marine ply best reflected the theme of the exhibition.

Mayor Wayne Johnson congratulated all the winners and officially opened the exhibition to the public.

Approximately 60 people attended the presentation and the judges were Lynn

Hasenkam and Dawn Oakford, who thanked all the artists for taking their concepts through to a conclusion.

The encouragement award was won by Lindy Bayley for *Dali goes Ape*.

This year, two artists received Highly Commended awards. These were presented to Brad Quinn for *Winter Morning, Westbury*, sponsored by the Deloraine and District Bank and Edna Broad for *Out of the Blue on Dark Mountain*, sponsored by the Great Western Tiers Tourism Association.

The 'Essence of the Valley' award, sponsored by 6ty° was won by Robyn Weare for *Coalescence*.

The last steam traction engine finds a new home

THE LAST steam traction engine manufactured by British company Marshall, Sons and Co. has been at Entally House since the early 1980s.

With no buildings large enough to house it, Engine No 87964 has spent many years out in the weather and is in need of major conservation.

Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service in partnership with Redwater Creek Steam and Heritage Society have finalised an agreement for the long-term loan of the Marshall engine to RCSHS, ensuring that this significant piece of industrial heritage will be preserved and will remain in Tasmania.

With no direct links to Entally, it will now be housed at Sheffield Steam and Heritage Centre alongside other historic engines.

"A conservation plan will be prepared and over time, works will be carried out with the intention of eventually returning it to an operational state," PWS General Manager Jason Jacobi said.



Made for the Tasmanian Public Works Department in 1937, Engine No 87964 crushed rocks for road works in the state's north until 1957 when all use of steam ceased in PWD quarries.



Engine No 87964, out in the weather at Entally, hiding behind other farm machinery. Photo supplied

Farewell to Meander Valley

To Meander Valley Gazette, from Marguerite McNeill

BY THE time many of you read this letter Alastair and I will be on our way to our new home on Flinders Island where we plan to indulge in our island dream.

After more than 30 years as visitors to Flinders we want to live the dream, discover the secrets of island life and experience what it is that keeps drawing people back.

As sad as we are to leave our farm in Meander and our friends around the district and beyond, we are looking forward to an exciting new adventure.

During my years of reporting news from across

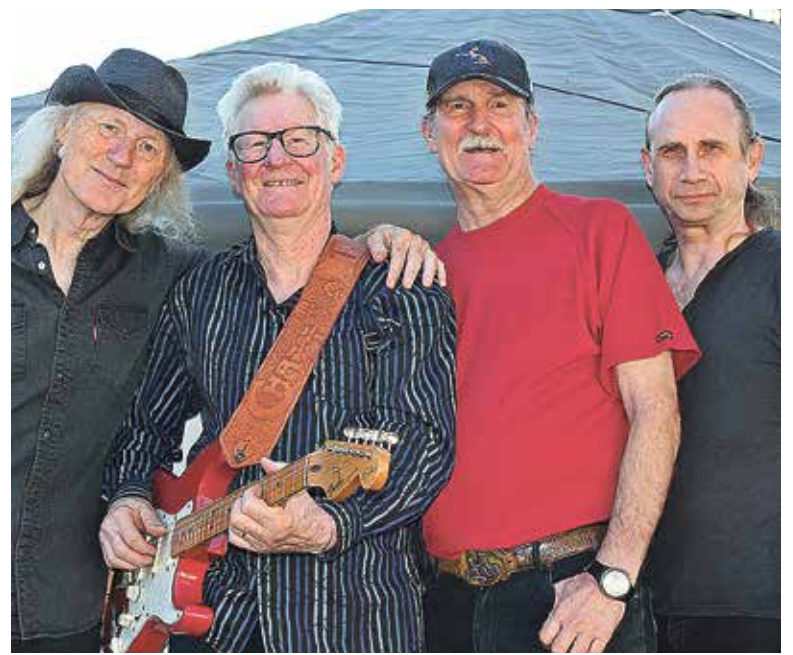
the Meander Valley I have enjoyed meeting so many people and would like to thank all those who have allowed me to share their stories that have appeared most recently in the *Meander Valley Gazette*.

What a great little paper! the *Gazette* has proven a great example of community spirit and I would like to congratulate all those who have helped make it such a success.

The story doesn't end here, we'll be back to visit and I'll most likely find some island stories to tell.

Maybe they will entice you to come and see Flinders Island for yourselves.

Best wishes
Marguerite McNeill



Legendary Australian rhythm and blues band Chain, celebrate 51 years as a band, appearing at the 22nd Forth Blues Festival in March. Photo by Hayley Manning

A lifetime of blues

By Hayley Manning

FOR SOME up and coming artists, the 22nd Forth Valley Blues Festival in March was their first big gig, while legendary Australian rhythm and blues outfit Chain celebrated their 51st year as a band.

Kylie Rogerson, newly appointed President of the Forth Valley Blues Committee, will be taking the long-running music festival into the next century with strategies to increase future attendance, including a new online ticketing system, fresh upcoming artists and prominent headline bands.

Outdoor music festivals are one of the few remaining platforms for young artists to perform live.

Music venues, especially on the mainland, are under threat due to noise restrictions, pokie invasions and increased scrutiny on drugs.

"Some festivals in NSW have been going for years and years and have never had any

overdose trouble," said Phil Manning, founding member of Chain.

"Music venues are a great outlet for people to get their tensions out, to get rid of stress from work or whatever, and if people don't have that, it will eventually explode in society in a negative way.

"Venues in Melbourne have been forced to close down by new residents who have moved into the area knowing a venue exists nearby. It is corrupt developers and the government..."

Phil credits Chain's longevity to a love of playing music and practice. "If you have a band, you've got to practice," he said.

"The more work you do, the more chemistry you will have on stage. And that is one thing Chain has always been really proud of ... the fact that we have always had quite a strong chemistry between the musicians."

Mole Creek ratepayers reject rubbish collection proposal

By Sharon Webb

AROUND 50 pensioners and retirees attending a Mole Creek public meeting in March were hostile to Meander Valley Council's proposed new rubbish and recyclables collection for rural areas.

Mole Creek pensioner Keith Cole stated the majority view: he does not want to pay more for the privilege of having his rubbish collected.

"In Queensland I paid \$4,000 a year in rates," he said. "I came here to get away from that. Here I pay \$400."

Another woman who lives on a rural road just outside Mole Creek said: "It doesn't fit, I don't want to pay for something I don't need or want and haven't asked for."

But a vote showed eight people attending would like the service.

Peter Sykes who lives in the town centre said he'd like the convenience of the rubbish collection because it's a problem for him to go to the tip. Robyn Grace and Ellen Scott also supported the proposal.

The public meeting was arranged by Mole Creek Ratepayers Association president Trudy Richards and addressed by council director of infrastructure, Dino De Paoli, who gave a run-down of current operations.

Mr De Paoli explained that councillors had suggested the collection to give equity to rural residents and cut illegal rubbish dumping.

He said of 400 ratepayer responses to the collection proposal, 330 had been against it and only 60 in favour. Of 272 Mole Creek ratepayers, 50 (18 per cent) had voiced their response: 43 against it and seven in favour.

Council's general manager Martin Gill wrote to "rural households in accessible areas", telling them the proposed service would begin July to September 2019. It would cost an extra \$206 a year.

Meeting attendees voiced their suspicions about the letter from the council. Mr De Paoli replied that a decision needed to be made soon for budget reasons.

DELORAINE WILL showcase some of what it has to offer in front of the nation in May.

A team from Channel Nine's Postcards recently visited several locations in search of good food, wine and knick knacks.

Postcards host, Rebecca Judd, has visited Tasmania several times before for work and weddings, but this time she got to experience the state in a different way.

"Our first stop was Brush Rabbit, a gorgeous home-ware store with beautiful art and knick knacks, then La Villa wines (a stunning Tuscan style villa showcasing delicious vino), then we stopped in at the Tasmanian Food and Wine Conservatory for the most incredible grazing platter I've ever seen," she said.

Her favourite place was "the Food and Wine Conservatory – the coffee and food was delicious and the interior decoration was to die for. The arch windows are heavenly."

Rebecca believes the reason people like Tasmania is for "its natural scenery, delicious food and wine, great road tripping, stunning accommodation and fresh air!"

According to the web-

Postcard from Tasmania



Channel Nine's lifestyle and travel show Postcards and host Rebecca Judd will feature Deloraine in May. Photo supplied

site, Postcards is Victoria's most popular travel and lifestyle show, airing every Sun-

day at 5:30pm on Nine and 9Now. The episode is due to air on 5th May.

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The course will be offered at no charge, with thanks to a Literacy Skills Grant from Libraries Tasmania.

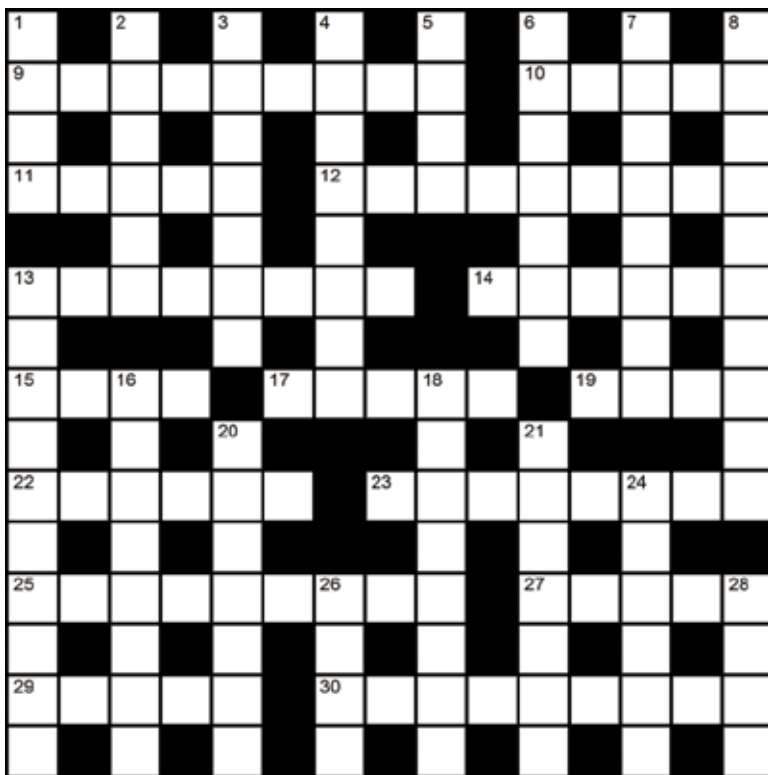
The sessions will run over two afternoons, from 1.00 – 4.00pm on Tuesday 16th and Thursday 18th April.

Local man Ian Howard, of Studio Be fame, will tutor participants in the art of creating short videos and then demonstrate how to improve the quality by using simple editing techniques.

Book your place on Eventbrite.

If you don't know how to do that, give the Online Centre a call on 6362 3537.

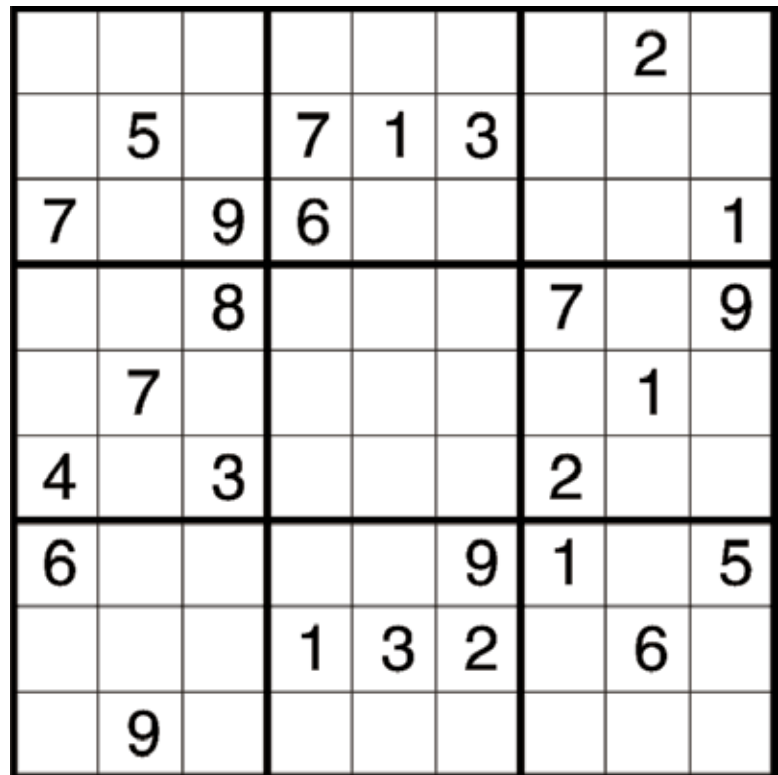
Crossword



Across

- 9 Capital (5,4)
 - 10 Maxim (5)
 - 11 Femoral region (5)
 - 12 Comparison standard (9)
 - 13 Unusual (8)
 - 14 Botch (6)
 - 15 Snug (4)
 - 17 Prepares for publication (5)
 - 19 Homework (4)
 - 22 Order to come (6)
 - 23 Comfortable piece of furniture (8)
 - 25 Misunderstanding (9)
 - 27 Paddled (5)
 - 29 Burdened (5)
 - 30 Form of hypnosis (9)
- Down**
- 1 Expel (4)
 - 2 Choice (6)
 - 3 Bow and arrow skill (7)
 - 4 UK biscuit brand sold as cookies (8)
 - 5 Tolerate (4)
 - 6 Serious collision (5-2)
 - 7 Longitudinal fuselage component (8)
 - 8 One who maintains accounts (10)
 - 13 Easy to reach (10)
 - 16 An unspecified person (8)
 - 18 Hare beater (8)
 - 20 Perfumed toilet water (7)
 - 21 Film: "The Hunt for Red ----" (7)
 - 24 Apprehensive (6)
 - 26 Gammy (4)
 - 28 10 U S cents (4)

Sudoku



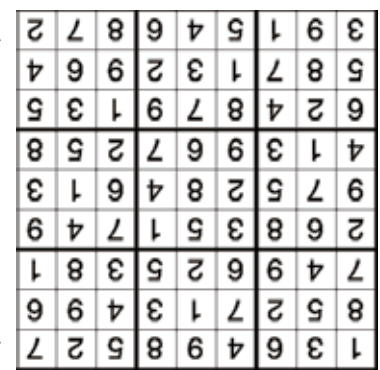
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How To Play: Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 x 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9. Best of luck!

Crossword - April 2019 Solution



Sudoku - April 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
APRIL/EARLY MAY		
Every Monday during school terms	Conversation Circle	Deloraine House 112 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine 2.00pm – 3.00pm Any topic covered Ph: 0417 120 671
Every Saturday from 4th May – 22nd June	Dance for Fun Classes 2–5yrs 5–9yrs	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine \$199 incl. free tutu & fairy wings 9.30am – 10.30am Ph: 0413 395 372
1st Monday of each month 12.00 – 2.00pm	Eating with Friends	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine Cost \$7.00 Bookings essential Ph: 6362 2678
Every Sunday 2.00pm – 4.00pm	New Memoir Group	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine \$2.00 per person/session Contact Kim at pemolotus56@gmail.com
Friday 5th April 7.00pm – 9.00pm	Gypsy Circle Dance	St Marks Hall, Westbury Pl, Deloraine Family \$10.00 Single \$5.00 Bring supper plate to share Ph: Linda 0417 081 671
Saturday 6th April 9.00am	Deloraine Showground Market	Deloraine Showgrounds, 14795 Highland Lakes Rd, Deloraine More info: 0409 695 321 or 6369 5321
Thursday 11th April 9.00am – 4.00pm	Australian Government Mobile Service Centre	Woolworths Car Park, Deloraine Assisting with Centrelink, Medicare, farmers, job seekers, carers etc. etc
Friday 12th April 6.30pm	Troubadours in Tasmania	Marakoopa Café, 186 Mayberry Rd, Mayberry Bookings essential Ph: 6363 5033 \$25.00
Saturday 13th April 9.00am – 1.00pm	Liffey Valley Market & Car Boot Sales	Liffey School 1443 Liffey Rd, Liffey Local honey, Baked goods, Plants, Crafts Enquiries Ph: Jen 0421 900 810
Saturday 13th April 9.00am	Freshmans Showjumping Practice Day	Westbury Showgrounds – info on Westbury Show website Contact Elizabeth Richards 0407 807 876
Saturday 13th April 7.30pm sharp	Western Tiers Film Society 'Leave No Trace'	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine G Drama USA 109m More info Ph: 0418 389 868
Sunday 14th April 10.00am – 4.00pm	Mindfulness Workshop with Christine	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine Free Registration essential Ph: 0488 064 228
Sunday 14th April	Julian James	Inside Marakoopa Caves, Mayberry Rd, Mayberry, meet top car park 3.15pm \$80.00 Booking essential 6363 5033
Tuesday 16th April 1.00pm – 4.00pm	Learn to use your phone to video, edit & share	Deloraine Online Access, 21 West Pde, Deloraine Day 1 of 2 day course Free Ph: 6362 3537 Bookings essential
Wednesday 17th April 9.00am–4.00pm	Mental Health First Aid Training (2 day course)	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine Free Catering provided For 18+ years old To register Ph: 6254 1092
Wednesday 17th April 10.00am – 2.00pm	Tasmanian Agricultural (TAPG) Precision Ag Expo	Hagley Farm School, 2508 Meander Valley Rd, Hagley issues of concern to levels of Tasmanian agriculture
Thursday 18th April 1.00pm – 4.00pm	Learn to use your phone to video, edit & share	Deloraine Online Access, 21 West Pde, Deloraine Free Day 2 of 2 day course Ph: 6362 3537 Bookings essential
Thursday 18th April – Tuesday 23rd April	Easter Retreat	Atma Darshan Yoga Centre, Western Creek For more info or to enrol Ph: 6367 8241 or 0497 025 308
Saturday 20th April 9.00am – 1.00pm	Mole Creek Market	Mole Creek Memorial Hall, cnr Pioneer Drive and Caveside Road. Contact Ross Quick 0413 681 252
Saturday 20th April 7.00pm sharp	Movie 'Mary Poppins Returns'	Mole Creek Memorial Hall \$5.00 BYO Alcohol/Chair Popcorn, Icecreams etc avail. Ph: Ken Philpott 0419 242 285
Saturday 20th April 8.00am – 1.00pm	Westbury Market	Anglican Hall, 11 Lonsdale Prom, Westbury vegetables, home made products, plants Ph: 0417 931 619
Saturday 24th – Sunday 28th April	60th National Square Dance Convention	Deloraine Community Complex, Alveston Drv, Deloraine Spectators welcome everyday
Thursday 2nd May 8.00am – 5.00pm	Agfest	Quercus Park, 415 Oaks Rd, Carrick
Saturday 4th May 7.00 sharp	Movie "A Star is Born"	Mole Creek Memorial Hall \$5.00 BYO alcohol/chair, popcorn, icecreams etc avail. Ph: Ken Philpott 0419 242 285
Saturday 4th May 9.00am	Deloraine Showground Market	Deloraine Showgrounds, 14795 Highland Lakes Rd, Deloraine More info: 0409 695 321 or 6369 5321
Saturday 4th May 9.30am – 10.30am	Dance for Fun Classes 2–5yrs 5–9yrs	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine \$199 incl. free Tutu & Fairy Wings Ph: Courtney 0413 395 372
Sunday 5th May 1.00pm – 5.00pm	Afternoon of music and dancing featuring Just Us	Western Tiers Community Club, Parsonage St, Deloraine \$10.00 Afternoon tea available Ph: Barry 6362 3592

Hagley RV homestay conditional approval

By Sharon Webb

MEANDER VALLEY councillors have placed a condition on an application for a caravan park in Hagley to protect intrusion on a young family living across the road.

Annette and Stephen Camino, who own a farming property at 62 Meander Valley Rd in Hagley applied for a permit to establish an RV homestay for 20 self-contained recreational vehicles.

It will operate seasonally at \$10 a night for each RV and no facilities other than van space and a 3m high sign. The Caminos envisage setup to cost them \$500-10,000..

Council officers had recommended the permit be approved but after councillors heard objections from Shaun and Danika Leatherbarrow they amended the permit.

The amendment ensures RV locations directly opposite the Leatherbarrow residence will be filled only after all other spots had been filled.

Mr Leatherbarrow told council at the March meeting that he and his wife were distressed by the proposed land use and its location.

"We stand to lose quite a considerable amount if this venture is to go ahead as planned.

"The current plan has a caravan park directly opposite our house, with campers to be located no more than 30 meters from our toddler's bedroom. Not only does this propose noise issues but also privacy and the risk of strangers almost on our doorstep on a regular basis.

"Whilst the caravans are planned to be behind a row of trees, to state that 20 RVs parked alongside of the road would not adversely impact the current charm of our little village is misguided.

"I would never have bought this property if it was located opposite what is being proposed. We love this area, but have talked about selling up if our dream of a beautiful quiet home in the country is ruined."

Making the cut for the Glover



Piers Greville of Victoria with his painting, *Pedder Prime Cuts*, the winner of the 2019 Glover Prize. Photo supplied

Lake Pedder outlined in deep blue-black to reflect tannin coloured waters. A dystopian view of a man-made lake impacting landscape, had it been more beautiful, more finished and less of a political statement!

The People's Choice award went to *Monument of Memory* (Jennifer Riddle, Vic), a realist painting of Celery Top Islands, a pristine environment where trees emerge from a promontory shining above dark waters.

A more dramatic scene, *The Day of the Mountain* (Jason Cordero, SA) won the Young People's Choice award – a surreal representation of a floating vermilion Cradle Mountain in an ethereal landscape.

And finally (and importantly) the Hanger's Prize, *Surfers are the Worst* (Sebastian Toast NSW) – a smashing of colour and paint, fanciful waves crashing against Shipstern's Bluff.

Well deserved, as were all the awards.

Cllr John Temple said he found Mr Leatherbarrow's comments "more than reasonable", and he worked with Cllrs Tanya King and Stephanie Cameron to come up with the solution.

"We're happier now knowing the vans won't be across the road from us unless there's a real need for it," he said.

"I felt listened to by the council, which was a positive."

Mr and Mrs Camino were not available for comment on the compromise solution.

By Antonia Howarth-Wass

THE MUCH anticipated Glover Prize 2019 did not disappoint. The criteria for landscape referencing Tasmania saw 42 paintings chosen from 482 entries, attracting nationwide attention.

The diptych, *Pedder Prime Cuts* (Piers Greville, Vic) was the winner with a presentation in oils, acrylic and concrete representing mountains and hills on a flat grey board,

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SPORT



A bigger splash!

Patrick Munnings (right) and Dominic Grose paddling hard, without a pony in sight!

Story and photos
by Chris Grose

NESTLED IN the hills behind Lilydale is a picturesque and peaceful farm dam.

Peaceful, that is, except when the ducks and platypus give way to a small group of dedicated and enthusiastic people busy training for the National Canoe Polo Championships in Penrith NSW, where they will represent Tasmania over Easter.

"It's been twenty years since Tasmania last sent a team to the Nationals," says team manager Jenny Purtell as she watches what appears to be the chaos of a dozen or so kayakers bumping and bashing as their occupants attempt to toss a ball into a goal set 2 metres above the water, or wrestle the ball from the opposing team.

"This year we are sending a Masters and a Junior team,

with the emphasis on participation, learning new skills and having an enjoyable time."

Dominic Grose, 17, from Blackstone Heights, has been selected for the Junior team and is excited to be representing his home state.

"I only started playing canoe polo with Tamar Canoe Club last year," explained Dominic, "but there is only a relatively small number of players around in my age group so I put my hand up and was fortunate enough to be selected."

Sending 17 athletes and kayaking gear interstate is proving to be a challenge but the teams feel it will definitely be worth the trouble and are busy fund-raising to purchase new, competition-standard gear.

With financial support from Tamar Canoe Club and local businesses, the group are also receiving help from an unexpected quar-

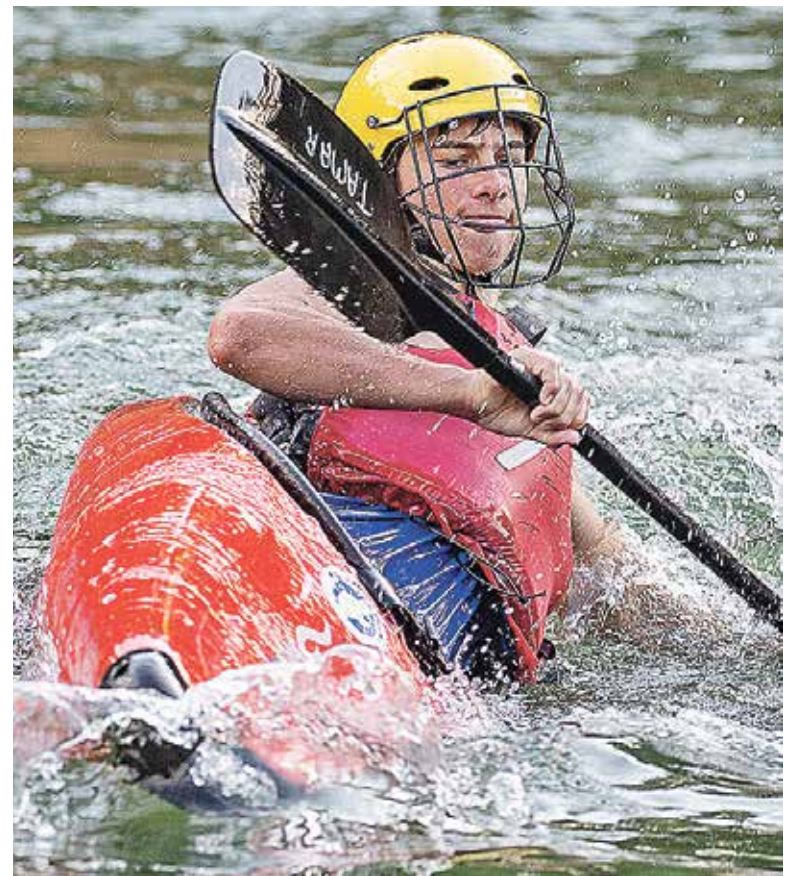
ter. "We are so lucky to have the support of Australian canoe polo team member Jade Kerber," says Dominic.

Jade has volunteered his time to give extra coaching in the month prior to the competition.

"Jade's dedication and generosity sets a great example for our junior players as they start their journey towards high level sport," Jenny adds.

"The forming of the team has had many more benefits than purely physical gains – it has built friendships, a sense of camaraderie, developed team work and built self-confidence within its members."

Canoe polo is a relatively low-profile sport, particularly in Tasmania. While not anticipating great success this year, Jenny hopes that the experience will stand the teams in good stead for the future competitions and boost interest in the sport.



Dominic Grose has been selected for Tasmania's Junior Team at the National Canoe Polo Championships held over Easter.

Senator Steve Martin

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