



DELORAINE'S RIVERBANK
Local residents have ongoing concerns

▶ **PAGE 7**



THOSE WERE THE DAYS
Jackeys Marsh festivals revisited in pictures

▶ **PAGES 10-11**



WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DAYLILY MAKES!
Birrilee garden and nursery opens

▶ **PAGE 16**

Meander Valley Gazette

Free every month

January 2021

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper

Justin Pinner and the mighty Quinn



Justin Pinner of Westbury and his champion sheepdog Quinn have gone through many trials together, coming up winners, both in competition and in life. For the full story of their success, go to page 3. *Photo supplied*

Government message on Birrilee Road is prison spin, say residents

Sharon Webb

BIRRALEE RESIDENTS say the State Government's use of a nine year-old plan to upgrade Birrilee Road to spruik the merits of a new prison is spin.

And they say the money allocated to upgrading the road is clearly not enough.

Birrilee Road residents ridiculed an advertisement in December's Gazette saying \$55m in joint state and federal funding has been allocated to upgrade the road, to be widened to accommodate the entry to the prison site.

CROWPS spokesperson Aaron Reader accused the

government of recycling money allocated to the upgrade year after year, with nothing happening on the ground.

'In no way should the Birrilee Road upgrade be used as a spin by the Justice Department as a sweetener around the proposed new prison', he said.

'This \$55m has been allocated several times from both federal elections and state government promises for many years with no actual works commencing.

'Given that Birrilee Road is already a significant freight route now, CROWPS welcomes any money spent on Birrilee Road to make it safer.'

Justice Minister Elise Archer's attempted sleight of hand gets worse.

A spokesperson for State Growth Minister Michael Ferguson has confirmed that the \$55m is actually to upgrade the freight route from Bell Bay to the Bass Highway via

the Frankford Highway and Birrilee Road.

The Birrilee Road section is just 19km of a 53km route.

'\$55m to spend on 53km won't go far,' Mr Reader said.

'Given the cost of recent road and bypass upgrades at Perth and the Midlands highway, anyone would realise \$55m is a little light on for such a long stretch of road in poor condition.'

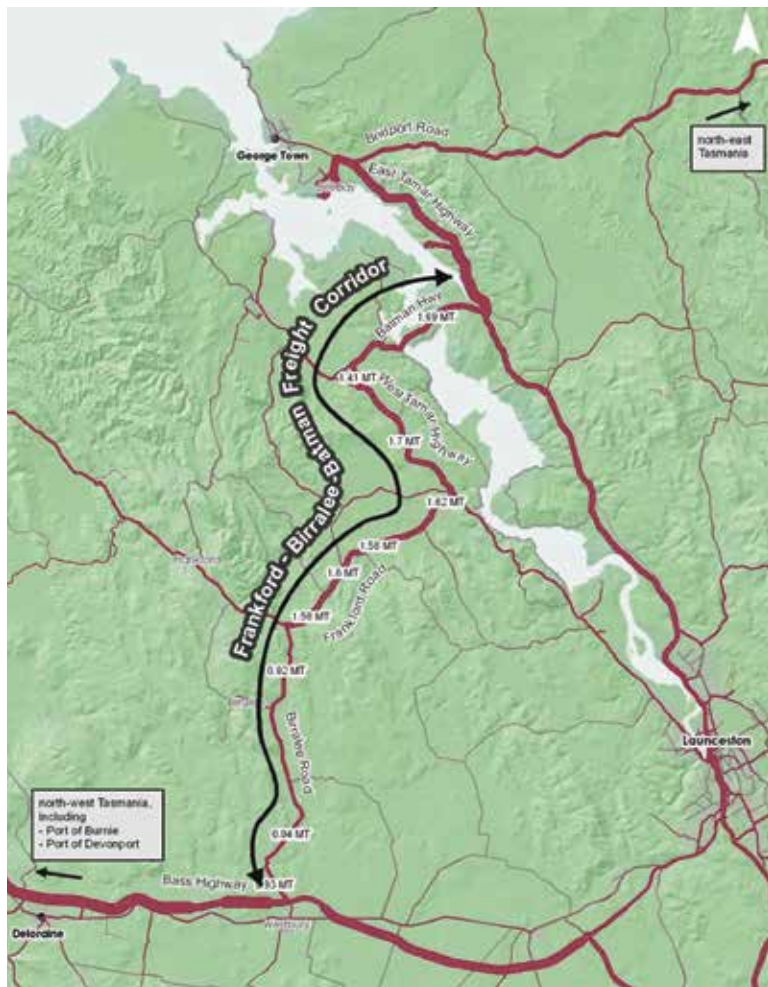
Story continues on page 2

A very Deloraine Christmas



A mix of families, friends and generations celebrate Christmas, picnicking on the riverbank at Deloraine. *Photo supplied*

Frankford–Birralelee–Batman Freight Corridor in limbo for over a decade



The planned upgrade of Birralelee Road is only a section of a planned freight route from Bell Bay to the NW Coast via the Frankford Highway and Birralelee Road. *Map from 2012 Tasmanian Government Submission to Nation Building 2 Program*

Continued from page 1

The spokesperson for a second group of Birralelee residents concerned about the road, Torey Taylor, said she had contacted Mr Ferguson asking specifically about whether extra money would be allocated for Birralelee Road but he hadn't replied.

'Does the government have more money to make the entrance to the proposed prison site safe, or are they going to dip into what's already been allocated for the Birralelee–Frankford–Batman Bridge corridor?' she asked.

'What will be left for the rest of Birralelee Road that also needs so much attention?'

Ms Taylor pointed to the Tasmanian Government's 2012 submission to the Federal Government's Nation Building 2 program, which said that the Batman Highway, Frankford Main Road and Birralelee Main Road do not meet the Tasmanian road geometry guidelines for higher productivity vehicles (HPVs).

'Further analysis of the Frankford–Birralelee–Batman

Freight Corridor found the Batman Highway and Frankford Road were fit for current purpose but Birralelee Road will require significant asset rehabilitation in the short-term,' the 2012 report said.

'The Tasmanian Government has identified upgrading the Birralelee Road as the key priority for the Frankford–Birralelee–Batman Freight Corridor.

'Projections indicate that freight volumes on Birralelee Road will increase significantly, reaching nearly 2.5 million tonnes by 2030. Much of this task is likely to be driven by changes in forestry freight movements along with significant growth in agricultural commodities.'

The report described Birralelee Road as having 'a poor asset condition.'

'The road has evolved from a gravel surface to a sealed surface but has had relatively little works on the road formation over its life.

'With the increased heavy traffic, there has been significant deterioration in asset condition and Birralelee Road will require significant rehabilitation

works in the near future. Given that asset rehabilitation is a relatively major investment, it is sensible that the road is upgraded to an appropriate standard at the same time.'

Despite this clear need nine years ago and a new prison to be built on Birralelee Road, the State Growth spokesperson said the road upgrade was still in the planning stage.

According to the spokesman, upgrading on the Frankford and Birralelee roads is not expected to be complete until 2024, twelve years after the State Government said the work needed to be done to support Tasmanian productivity.

Far from upgrading Birralelee Road to make it safe during the prison construction, he confirmed work is scheduled to start this month on the other end of the freight corridor with construction of a sealed shoulder on Batman Highway between the East Tamar Highway and Batman Bridge.

The best Birralelee residents can expect in 2021 is a public display and an opportunity to provide feedback on the project.



PJS Financial
Accountants and Business Advisors

Supporting the Deloraine and Meander Valley community with personal quality advice for more than 30 years.

Employing a friendly team of local staff.

Accredited specialists in cloud based accounting.

Institute of Public Accounting Practice of the Year 2016.



Your Local Accountants & Business Advisors.

21 West Barrack St
Deloraine

Cnr of York & Bathurst Sts
Launceston

T (03) 6362 2346
E info@pjsfinancial.com.au

Good dog!

Sharon Webb

THE SUPREME is coming to Tasmania in October and so is The Test. Westbury's Justin Pinner wants to win both.

The skilled sheep dog trialler who won December's Northern Championships at Exeter is honing his skills with dogs Quinn and Leesa to compete against Australia's best in The Supreme, in Campbell Town in October.

And at the same time and location, Australia's international competition, The Test, will be held against New Zealand.

For Australia there's ground to be made up in The Test, where four triallers from each country pit their expertise against each other.

'New Zealand has been kicking Australia's arse for several years now', said Justin ruefully.

'But they're great events. People come from all over Australia with their caravans. There'll be people driving from WA for it. It's a great venue at the Campbell Town football ground; they've spent millions on those clubrooms.'

Justin Pinner's 'Chickenfeed' aorta got him into sheepdog trialling.

The self employed farrier's career came to a halt when he was aged 30. His aorta exploded and life changed forever.

'I told the surgeon to give it to me in simple terms. He said, 'You were born with a Chickenfeed aorta instead of a Harvey Norman one.' I needed an aortic dissection', he said.

According to Justin, the aorta, the largest artery in the human body, has three layers – and two of his are now sleeved with spacesuit material.

He was flown from the Launceston to Hobart for the operation, arriving with 14 minutes to spare before he would have died. Melbourne was out of the question.

Justin became a retired farrier. The counterweighting required to take the balance of a horse to shoe it could rupture his aorta. No doubt it was a disappointment for a young man descended from generations of horse people.

He'd ridden trackwork in Devonport for his horse trainer grandfather when he was in year eight at Reece High.

Then his work for Spreyton trainer Michael Trinder earned him an apprenticeship as a farrier, leading to hugely successful international competition shoeing in the US and other countries with fellow students



Justin Pinner and his partner Cecilia Archer may be starting a sheep dog trialler dynasty, with the help of champion dog Quinn. Photos supplied

from the North Melbourne Institute of TAFE. They had 28 wins in 28 competitions.

Searching for an interest, Justin looked to his past for a new direction.

Lee Jamieson and Deloraine's Malcolm Taylor, who died in 2019, influenced him to do sheep trialling earlier in his life. He won his first event in 2010, at 23, the youngest to win the Tasmanian championship.

'I couldn't shoe horses, I couldn't train horses. I've gone, "Bugger it", and asked Jamieson to get me a dog.'

That dog was Quinn, with whom Justin won at Exeter.

Now there are 11 dogs at the Pinner's Westbury home – and his partner, newly graduated nurse Cecilia Archer, has taken up sheepdog trialling too.

'Take it from me, Justin lives and breathes dogs. It's a hot topic in the house', she grinned.

For sheepdog trialling you need a good dog.

Sheep, especially the notoriously tough ones at Exeter, can be challenging. According to Justin, they're likely to eyeball or headbutt the dog, or just run in the opposite direction.

The dog's job is to bring three sheep in a straight line within nine metre corridors from one end of the ground to his owner at the other end.

There are obstacles – races, bridges, pens – and it must be done within 15 minutes. Points are deducted from 100 if the sheep go off course or around obstacles. Ideally a skilled dog loses no sheep.

'A good dog can be male or female. You get them at 20 weeks old and train them for 15 or 20 minutes once a week



to get the desire to work into them', Justin said.

'How do you know whether a dog will be good? That's the million dollar question.

'Breeding is a big thing, like a good racehorse. And they're all border collies, black and white, yellow, tri-colour, chocolate.

'You work with them and sometimes you see the penny drop. But if they don't work out we have a list of people who are looking for a border collie as a pet.'

There are common commands. 'Get over' tells the dog to go anti-clockwise. 'Come right' means move clockwise.

There's 'Walk up' to break a confrontation with a tough sheep and 'Walk behind' to keep sheep within the nine metre corridors.

'Everyone has different commands. One guy constantly whistles. It's like he's got a canary in his hands', Justin said.

Justin uses a whistle at a distance and his voice close-up: 'You need a low voice. There's no room to move if you start at a high pitch.'

For Justin, the challenge in sheep dog trials is educating the dog.

'Every dog is different and every trainer handles dogs a different way. You never stop learning with different dogs because every dog is different. I never stop thinking about it.'

Justin's goal is to improve his trial every time he steps out

there. And of course, tantalisingly in the distance, is The Supreme.

'Everyone wants to win The Supreme, to be the Australian champion', he said.

Sheepdog trials will be held at the Westbury Showground on 27 and 28 March. The Supreme will be at Campbell Town in October.

ADVERTISEMENT

Proudly serving the Meander Valley!

6398 1115 (Perth)
6263 3721 (Bridgewater)
brian.mitchell.mp
@aph.gov.au

f t

Labor

Brian Mitchell MP
Your Federal Member for Lyons

Authorised by Rebecca White MP 33 Cole St Sorell

Letter from the Editor

ANOTHER YEAR just begun! Let's hope it's a good one.

Many things that make up a good year were drastically curtailed in 2020. Sport, entertainment, travel, visiting family and friends, toilet paper! So much we took for granted.

Travelling interstate recently, I spent four days wearing a mask just about everywhere.

Hot, sticky and more dishevelled than usual, it was so good to get back to cool, Covid free Tas once more.

But the new order of things will be with us for a long time.

And we need to learn some lessons from what is happening elsewhere, in case we have to deal with it here.

Liz Douglass

Letters to the Editor

THE HUGGER-MUGGER approval of the Reedy Marsh subdivision, reported by Sharon Webb (p2, Dec 2020), at least reassures us that the MV planning ethos has changed little from the days when it was seemingly run by the rampant woodchip industry.

Some may remember the days in the late nineties when the MVC was compelled to form a stakeholder committee, with a Hobart planning firm advising, to examine the virtually nonexistent planning measures for protecting MV's rapidly dwindling scenic amenity.

After a year or so of stalemate, the project was abandoned without explanation, with the MV mayor heading it eventually ascending to a seat in State Parliament.

Some years later that mayor's successor opined in an MVC meeting that conflicts of interest were matters solely to be determined by the councillor in question. No jaws were broken in collisions with the floor at the time, or when that mayor was later elected to State Parliament.

Now, at a time when the developed world is beginning to acknowledge the collapse of the earth's ecosystems, the MVC is sticking to its planning guns, save only for the sacrifice of a single letter.

It was left to the Deputy Mayor to suggest that the decision on Reedy Marsh was based on the financial interests of a private developer and possibly other, undisclosed, beneficiaries.

John Hayward, Weegen

I'M PUMPED about the proposed Pump Track at Alveston Drive (a track for building up skills and endurance for mountain biking).

First proposed by a group of young people from Deloraine, the idea has been warmly supported by Council through Youth Activities Officer Vicky Jordan. Cllr Susie Bower also lent her warm and professional support. Council subsequently engaged a professional pump track developer to do the plans, for the location at Alveston Drive. At a cost of roughly \$20,000, a contribution of \$2,500 from Deloraine Lyons Club was warmly welcomed.

The young people love the location at Alveston Drive. It's accessible without needing a key. It is very safe because it is visible and there are lovely neighbours around. It is close to the schools and there is a large neighbourhood with many children who love bike riding.

The Pump Track is just part of a bigger plan. There will also be a half-basketball court, playground, BBQ, climbing wall, exercise area and toilets. (The plan might be available on Council's website.)

What a wonderful proposal from our young people and many thanks to the Council for supporting it. However there seems to be a rumour about a different location.

Will it happen at Alveston Drive?

I have supported the youth group, but am worried that an idea of a different location (at the old Racetrack), could displace the current plan at Alveston Drive.

Out of sight, further away from homes and schools, it could suffer the same fate as the ill-located skate ramp behind the Deloraine Police Station, which has been underutilised since its inception.

The important factor for young people is, to feel they are in the thick of it, not hidden away out of sight. That's why Alveston Drive is such a good location and I think parents would be relaxed, knowing their kids are at Alveston Drive.

I am very grateful for the support of Council. They have shown a wonderful attitude towards young people and their needs. But the Racetrack would be the wrong place. The young people don't like it, and if they don't like it, it won't be used.

Puzzled by the lack of recent action on the project, I am looking for community feedback. Are you in favour of the project in itself? Do you love the site at Alveston Drive? To have your say, contact and lobby your Councillor or send me an email at harryschrepfer@yahoo.com.au.

Harry Schrepfer, Deloraine

Peter Stuart Talbot

September 11th 1941–December 5th 2020

To family, friends and neighbours, thank you for your love, support, kindness and friendship that you have shown to me during the sad loss of my partner Peter.

The cards, emails, phone calls, donations to Wheelchairs for Kids and flowers were appreciated.

Thank you to Dr Russell McDougall for his daily care, and to the nurses at Deloraine Hospital, the Palliative care team and ambulance teams; you were all exceptional, very professional, sensitive and caring.

May he rest in peace with his Wollemi Pine at Quamby Park.

My heartfelt thanks, Lois Beckwith.

VACCINATION APART, it is clear that social distancing and contact tracing will be with us for many months if not years.

Quamby Corner and other caravan parks have Covid-safe plans and have been collecting information from visitors for many months. This seemingly is not the case with freebie campsites such as at Liffey Falls. Freebie campsites controlled by the Council and Government appear to have been specifically excluded from the contact tracing regulations. To quote from government papers dated 16th December 2020, 'Tourist premises, venues and sites *where consideration (payment) is paid to enter the premise*' have to follow the contact tracing rules.

In effect it seems people can go in and out of freebie campsites at will without hindrance or any kind of registration. Few, if any, use the Government free contact tracing app and where there is a nominated venue for using permits and providing

contact details (such as at Deloraine) they are ignored or provide 'closed after hours' response.

I have asked both Minister Sarah Courtney and Jon Harme of MVC to provide details of the status of 'freebie camps' as regards use and contact tracing. To date I have had no reply.

It seems to be a case of 'do as I say, not as I do'. If local authorities and governments wish to run campsites at rate-payers and taxpayers expense then they should step up and enforce standards that will help protect Tasmanians in the event of any new outbreak which is almost inevitable at some time in the future.

Moreover, far from helping local businesses, local and government authorities are actively effecting the demise of private caravan parks, which provide essential services for many in the community as well as visitors.

Kevin Briggs, Golden Valley

CONGRATULATIONS AND thanks to the Meander Valley Gazette, for another informative and entertaining newspaper in the December edition.

Lots of local news presented in a timely manner. I was particularly taken with the full-page advertisement concerning the Northern Regional Prison.

The authors probably haven't been too concerned with the concept of 'truth in advertising', but the government and the justice department are the keepers of the rules, and we all now know that they don't appear to feel that they need to explain things with too much emphasis on transparency or even veracity.

It was a government spokesperson after all who stated that the drilling farce was halted due to the protesters, whilst in reality it was a combination of wet weather, poor planning and ineptitude, to which the observers (not protesters), the press and police were entertained and witnessed.

In the advertisement there is a section dealing with the survey of the eagle's nest. The authors write, 'As previously noted, no work will be undertaken within the 500 metre no disturbance zone or line of sight of the nest that is in place

for the duration of the wedge-tailed eagle breeding season.'

And goes on to tell a story of the helicopter that was sent to 'enable a visual inspection' on October 20th 2020.

Consider that the '500 metre line of site' might also be in an upwardly direction, especially to eagles, and the noise of a helicopter is horrendous. No mention was made of the fixed wing plane sent from Richmond directly to the nest site and returned on the same day. Why? Perhaps because whilst a helicopter can be used at certain times, a fixed wing plane is an absolute no-no.

The RFA regulations state that '*there should be no helicopters used within 1 km of a known nest during the management constraint period (July-Jan)*'. Do they not realise that October is within the management constraint period? Or do they think that we can't work that out? Perhaps this constitutes 'creative writing' in the author's mind. And whilst there is mention in the ad of the project team obtaining the 'necessary Works Authority from Parks and Wildlife Service', it is worth noting that the government's own ecologist consequently tendered his resignation. Peter Wileman, Westbury

EST.
2013

Meander
Valley
Gazette

This newspaper is published by Meander Valley Connect Inc., 21 West Parade, Deloraine 7304. ABN 89090614412.

9,400 copies are printed each month on paper made in Tasmania and delivered to all homes in the Meander Valley.

Editorial enquiries

Contributions welcome!

Email: editor@meandervalleygazette.com

Phone: 6286 8212 (Please leave a message – it will send an email.) For editorial, the closing date for the February 2021 edition is 22 January.

Advertising enquiries

Email: advertising@meandervalleygazette.com

Phone: 6286 8216 (Please leave a message – it will send an email.) For booking advertising, the closing date for the February 2021 edition is 18 January.

Photo sales

Many of the photos in this publication are available for sale in varying sizes. Please call 6286 8216 or email advertising@meandervalleygazette.com.

Home delivery

If you live in the Meander Valley municipality and are not receiving the Meander Valley Gazette each month, you may have a 'No junk mail' notice on your letterbox. Drop in, call or email to get your free 'Please deliver Meander Valley Gazette' weatherproof sticker.

Email: general@meandervalleygazette.com
Phone: 6362 3537

Website and digital editions

Every month, the stories from the latest edition of the Gazette are posted on our website: www.meandervalleygazette.org.

Current stories can be read online or readers can search for older stories they may have missed.

All editions of the Gazette are available to be downloaded as PDFs from the website 'shop' free of charge.

To have a digital copy emailed to you, please email a request to general@meandervalleygazette.com.

Please note

While every care is taken, the producers of Meander Valley Gazette cannot be held liable for any publication errors in written material or advertisements. The opinions expressed, whether by paid advertisement or editorial content, do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper. Some material may be abbreviated due to lack of space.

Healthy land, healthy people, says Deloraine's award winning GP

Sharon Webb

NICOLE ANDERSON decided to work as a doctor in Deloraine so she could indulge her passion for landcare.

She works two days a week at the town's medical centre and spends the rest of her time rehabilitating her 26 hectare property bordering the Great Western Tiers National Park at Mayberry.

Nicole was announced as Tasmania's Rural Doctor of the Year in December in recognition of her medical contribution to the Circular Head community, based for 15 years in Smithton as an emergency doctor.

Dr Peter Arvier from the Rural Doctors Association of Tasmania said the award recognises Nicole's clinical expertise, skill in emergency and aged care, as well as in training medical students, doctors in training and ambulance personnel.

'Nicole has a wide range of capabilities that go beyond office based medical care,' he said.

'The Meander Valley is fortunate to have her capability and commitment.'

Nicole's previous years in medicine have given her a firm principle on which she bases her current lifestyle, that not taking care of the environment creates many of our health problems.

'We're seeing really bad examples of that. For example, the worst hayfever season ever, caused by the northern hemisphere grasses we plant,' she said.

'This is a massive burden for 20 per cent of the population. Australian native grasses don't cause allergies anywhere near the northern hemisphere grasses.'

Nicole also sees bushfire seasons increasingly creating air pollutants.

'In the last nine years we've had three major bushfires in the North West in 2015-16, we

had to move out people for medical reasons.

'With bushfires we just react. No real mitigation measures are put in place, removing flammable vegetation, creating green breaks and sprinkler systems.

'It's just too hard and too difficult politically.'

Nicole's work in Smithton saw her often on call, a busy life connecting her tightly to the community.

'It was cradle to grave work, caring for neighbours and people in the community.

'My job in Deloraine is more relaxed, less responsibility, and more sleep!' she grinned.

Her work at Mayberry involves the rehabilitation of degraded land. Formerly used as a sheep paddock, the property is gradually being revitalised by the removal of weeds and introduced species, planting native vegetation and renewing waterways degraded by cattle trampling.

Nicole is taking advice from interested locals, including Caveside's Deb Hunter.

'No one I've ever met knows this place as well as Deb,' she said. 'She's brilliant on what's above ground but her

knowledge of the subterranean environment is really rare, and she needs to be listened to.

'For a lot of people what's under the ground is out of sight, out of mind. If they can't see it they don't care.'

Nicole's award, made by the Rural Doctors Association of Tasmania, came as a surprise to her. 'When they phoned to tell me I said: An award? How?'

The award considers feedback from other doctors, trainee doctors and nursing staff, who inevitably would admire Dr Anderson's holistic view of the healthcare she provides.

Commenting on the health problems she sees at the Deloraine and Westbury Medical Centre, Nicole said, 'Unfortunately Tasmania has a sad record of cancers and chronic nontransmissible disease: diabetes, heart and lung disease and obesity.

'It's sad, because we have the freshest air in the world, outdoor areas for exercise and we can grow our own food.

'But health comes down to lifestyle choices and education. In rural areas you get generational poor health and people have difficulty breaking out of those cycles.'

Dr Nicole Anderson balances her passion for landcare with her career as a GP, splitting her time between Deloraine and her 26 hectare property at Mayberry Photo by Sharon Webb



New GP a mental health expert

NATIONAL RURAL Registrar of the Year award winner Dr Aaron Hawkins brings his mental health expertise to Deloraine Medical Centre this month.

He joins the centre as a GP but isn't new to Deloraine, having lived there for a year.

As he gained knowledge of the mental health area he worked in Burnie and

Devonport for the North-West Mental Health Service; previously he worked in Smithton.

Aaron's award was made by the Rural Doctors Association of Australia and the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine.

Dr Peter Arvier of the Rural Doctors Association of Tasmania said Aaron brings

Dr Aaron Hawkins joins the team at the Deloraine & Westbury Medical Centre this month. Photo supplied

significant training and expertise to Deloraine.

'He's been recognised as the most outstanding doctor in training in Australia,' he said.

'That he and Nicole Anderson have chosen to work in Deloraine is a feather in the cap of that medical centre.

'I strongly suspect they have chosen to go there because of the practice's good reputation and collegial atmosphere.

'Deloraine ticks a lot of those boxes and doctors who work there are voting with their feet.'



Are you benefiting from personalised advice to help you become financially well organised and reach your business goals?

At ALA, we work in unison with each of our clients to ensure our advice is tailor-made, valuable and outcome driven.

If you are looking for a new business mentor, please contact Sophie or Thane on 6331 5555 or email:

sophie@alapartners.com.au or thane@alapartners.com.au
www.alapartners.com.au

Thane Bardenhagen

Sophie Poke

We have 3 locations: 90 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine · 17 King Street, Scottsdale · 41 York Street, Launceston

A forgotten environmental initiative?

The Natural Heritage Trust, Westbury Reserve and Meander Valley Council

Sarah Lloyd OAM

IN 1996 John Howard won the federal election, but had to contend with a finely balanced senate. Independent Senator Brian Harradine often had the casting vote, putting him in a powerful position to benefit Tasmania.

In return for his support for the \$1.35 billion partial sale of Telstra, Tasmania got \$3 million.

The Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) was the Howard government's environmental initiative established with some of the Telstra money.

In its preamble, the *Natural Heritage Trust of Australia Act 1997* notes, 'There is a national crisis in land and water degradation and in the loss of biodiversity. There is a need for the Commonwealth to provide national leadership and work in partnership with all levels of Government and the whole community ...'

Tasmania's natural heritage benefited greatly from this injection of funds.

The Parks and Wildlife office at Prospect (now deserted) was abuzz with botanists and biologists, and there was a Flora and a Fauna Conservation Branch within the Nature Conservation Branch of the Parks and Wildlife Service in Hobart.

Meander Valley Council had a Natural Resource Management Committee.

In 1999, NHT funds were used to purchase Westbury Reserve to protect its Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative (CAR) natural values.

The contract between the state and federal governments states that any activities that cause major or irreversible damage to nature conservation values should be excluded from CAR reserves. The proposed prison would undoubtedly cause such damage.

Meander Valley Council also received NHT funds – a \$2 million grant for the management of natural resources, specifically, the 'Meander Project' which received \$883,000 from the NHT, \$214,000 cash contribution from landholders and \$950,000 in kind support.

Priorities included the protection, enhancement and restoration of priority vegetation types and the improvement of stream and river health. It was conditional on having an agreed (\$35,000) Natural Resource Management Strategy that was 'adopted by council' in 2000.

The excellent strategy won a national award, but few, if any, recommendations were implemented. Why not?

And what are the obligations and responsibilities of state and local governments to abide by contractual arrangements?

What obligations does council have to those financial and



Westbury Reserve is still a haven for rare and endangered native plants and animals. Photo by Hayley Manning

in kind supporters who contributed \$1.5 million to the project, no doubt many (myself included) still living in the municipality?

And surely if the strategy was a requirement of receiving NHT funds, there is some obligation to implement it? Or at least make a token gesture towards some of its excellent recommendations?

Imagine the Meander Valley if the recommendations had been implemented. Healthy

weed-free native bush throughout the municipality, and much less silt in the Tamar River as a result of improved practices in the catchment.

All documents relating to the Meander Valley NHT project classify the Grassy Eucalyptus amygdalina forest on dolerite at Westbury Reserve as 'important'. Furthermore, it was deemed of 'critical priority for conservation of old growth'. That was 20 years ago. It is even more important now.

Transport depot will not cause more Elizabeth Town crashes, says expert

Sharon Webb

MEANDER VALLEY Council has approved a transport depot development that local residents believe could contribute to the already high numbers of traffic accidents at Elizabeth Town.

Speaking about the development at the December council meeting, resident Amelia Reynolds said there had been one serious crash and two other accidents that locals were aware of at the intersection of Bass Highway and Griffins Road in the past five years.

'There have been six crashes, including fatalities, nearby at the intersection of Bass Highway and Christmas Hills Road, which is in close proximity to the Griffins Road intersection', she said.

Ms Reynolds, speaking on behalf of local residents Harry Haines, Darren Rumble, Mark Reynolds, Barry Reynolds and Jacqueline Reynolds, said, 'We are concerned about the

prospect of 26m B-doubles and large machinery such as 19.5m tri-axle semi-trailers turning into Griffins Road from the Bass Highway in a 110km zone.'

Dornauf Contracting owner, Selena Scott and Chris Dornauf, applied to the council to formalise the use of the 3.3 hectare property at 5271 Bass Highway as a transport depot.

They will build two new accesses off Griffins Road and a machinery shed, use a shipping container for storage and park trucks, utes, trailers, a forklift, tractors and a wheel loader.

The business, operating since 2014, opens from 6am to 6pm, employing three people.

Council planner Natasha Whiteley said in her report that transport and distribution is a discretionary use in the rural resource zone but that Dornauf Contracting's proposal is considered in keeping with the zone purpose and is considered to be satisfactory in relation to the performance criteria and concerns raised by neighbours.

'Conditions are recommended to establish a vegetation screen, construct accesses to the site to the relevant standards including localised widening of Griffins Road to enable vehicle turning paths, and to manage potential intensification of the use.

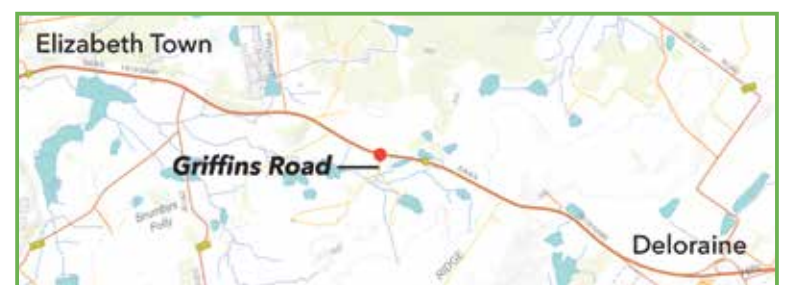
A 1.8m high colorbond fence along the boundary with Griffins Road is proposed.

The fence would not block all views of the machinery but the view of the location from the highway was fleeting, Ms Whiteley told councillors.

A traffic impact assessment by Richard Burk of Traffic and Civil Services, concluded that the proposal is safe, will not create any traffic issues and is supported subject to council recommendations.

He said there was no evidence of a crash propensity on Griffins Road or at the Bass Highway junction.

Dornauf Contracting's proposal is expected to generate up to four vehicle movements



The Griffins Road intersection with the Bass Highway.

per day, with two vehicle movements during peak hours.

Mr Burk said the existing basic right and left junction layout is adequate.

The two formal objections to the development said the site was already crowded.

Ms Reynolds said on numerous occasions B-doubles had been parked on the verge of Griffins Road, and she believed the business would soon outgrow the present site.

'This historic area contains some of the best agricultural land in Tasmania and the aesthetic impact of this proposal is concerning to us personally and for growing numbers of tourists to the Meander Valley.'

Business owner Selina Scott told the council her business was established around agricultural production, transport

of crop produce, livestock, stock feeds and machinery.

'We run a private yard for a young, small business in a tough industry and we're happy to do what's reasonable.'

Cllr Stephanie Cameron said her primary concern was safety. 'I think the applicants are going to have to do some quite substantial upgrades at their cost to rectify some of those safety issues.'

She said eight conditions imposed by the planner alleviated her concerns, and that if Dornauf Transport owners wished to expand in the future they would need to submit another application to the council.

The council approved the development application with only Cllrs Temple and Synfield voting against it.

THE FOREST FOLK PRESENTS

SOMETHING IN THE VALLEY

BERT SPINKS, MEANDER
KIM & KENNA CLARK, JACKEYS MARSH
THOMAS MITCHELL & HENRY RIPPON, JACKEYS MARSH
EDDIE TULEJA, MEANDER
RACCOON DOG, LILYDALE
SUNDAZE, LAUNCESTON

JAN 30TH 2021 | 6PM TIL LATE | MEANDER HALL | \$30 | THEFORESTFOLK.COM.AU
MUSIC | STORIES | FOOD & DRINKS | LOCAL PRODUCE RAFFLE

ADVERTISEMENT

SENATOR WENDY ASKEW

LIBERAL SENATOR FOR TASMANIA

46 Cameron Street (PO Box 97)
Launceston TAS 7250
03 6331 8501
Senator.Askew@aph.gov.au
SenatorAskew

Deloraine concern over Meander River platypus site



The removal of five willows from Deloraine's riverbank is raising more questions about potential erosion, reduced platypus habitat and the negative effect on the visual aesthetics. Photo supplied

Sharon Webb

TASMANIAN WILDLIFE rangers believe no breeding platypus burrows were damaged on Deloraine's riverbank when Meander Valley Council axed and burnt five willows there in November.

Deloraine wildlife photographer Joy Kachina asked two DPIWWE rangers and a biologist to check the location after an excavator repeatedly ran over the burrows area and the large willow wood burn off heated the riverbank over the burrows.

'They waded into the river to check whether the burrows were collapsed.

'The platypus is a protected species but they said they felt there wasn't a case to fine the council', Ms Kachina said.

'They told me there was a lack of due diligence by the council and said they would speak to them because it had not been done correctly.

'I'm hoping this will not happen again. The council needs to take guidance from those with more knowledge in these situations.'

Council manager John Jordan has batted off protests from some Deloraine residents concerned about the trees, platypus habitat and the effect on the riverbank's visual aesthetics.

Initially, resident Ken Philpott said he reported to the council one broken willow that was a safety risk.

That ballooned into council works director Matthew Millwood instructing contractor Woodland Management to cut down and burn five willows on the eastern bank of the Meander River.

In a letter to Ms Kachina, Mr Jordan would not countenance a lack of planning by the council and implied the decision to remove the willows was a forced choice of public safety over the willows and the platypuses.

'I am satisfied that protection of natural values at the site remained at the front of mind of the officers assessing the fallen willow hazard', he wrote.

'The work was ultimately arranged with all due regard to each of the important (but competing) issues around environmental protection, public safety and workers' health and safety. Given the location and use of the site as an open space, council's view is that public safety was the primary concern.'

Mr Jordan implied that Ms Kachina was wrong in her assertion that four of the trees

were healthy and did not need removal.

'When classic signs of decay became apparent in a small stand of willows adjacent to the fallen tree a decision had to be made', he wrote.

'Whether all trees were at the same stage of decay is not a relevant consideration for this purpose. Upon inspection the useful life of the four standing trees was assessed as short, and risk of failure high.'

However Deloraine residents are concerned about what remains on the riverbank – tree stumps and raked dirt.

In a letter to Ms Kachina wildlife ranger Matt Byrne from DPIWWE's investigations and enforcement section emphasised the stumps must stay.

'The immediate concern was whether there were potentially any plans afoot to remove or disturb the remaining stumps (that essentially provide a structural safe haven for the burrows) but we have since confirmed that there are no immediate risks associated with this and have advised, of course, that legislation dictates that the presence of burrows must be factored into any future planning.

'There is further work to be done in the above space.'

Ms Kachina said the overhanging willows were habitat for platypuses, giving coverage for an animal needing to feed many hours a day.

'There is a need to reestablish some sort of habitat otherwise the platypuses will go elsewhere', she said. 'But there seem to be no plans to do anything further. I emailed a number of councillors but none replied.'

Since June 2019, Deloraine citizen scientist Ann Gilles has logged 1100 scans of platypus locations on the Meander River in Deloraine for the Australian Platypus Conservancy.

She is among residents dismayed at the destruction of the willows.

'We know platypus numbers are declining and I am contributing to data so we can follow their progress', she said.

'Revegetation is a way to preserve the riverbank. There is quite a bit of erosion. How can we have the best of all worlds – trees and wildlife?'

Readers interested in the platypus can see videos made by citizen scientist Pete Walsh at the Hobart Rivulet Platypus Facebook site.

From Daytona to Iona – new names in the Meander Valley

PROSPECT VALE drivers could be forgiven for gunning their vehicles when they drive down a newly named road in the area.

In a flurry of road nomenclature, Meander Valley councillors have agreed that a new road on the eastern side of Classic Drive in Prospect Vale be named Daytona Drive, after the annual motorbike race in Daytona Beach, Florida.

Other roads in the area have also followed a motorbike theme: Harley Parade, Belt Drive, Classic Drive, Buell Drive and Sturgis Place.

Two roads in the new Hadspen Hills Estate have been named Bushfield Rise and Baron Street.

Bushfield Rise is located off Scott Street, and Baron Rise is accessed off Bushfield Rise.

The proposed road names have been put forward by the Estate developers, Barry Sproal and Tony Saunders.

The name 'Baron' is a combination of the developer's names, Barry (Bar) and Tony (on) to create Baron.

'Bushfield' is the name of an area close to Mr Sproal's home town in Victoria.

In Carrick, Poppy Lane was created as part of a seven lot subdivision. The new road off Bishopsbourne Road will access the new lots.

Poppy Lane's name was suggested by the family members who developed the Carrick subdivision.

It recognises the family's grandfather who served in World War II and their father, named Poppy by his grandchildren, who served in Vietnam.

A tiny road in Meander is to be called Iona Lane.

The unsealed 390m road off Barbers Road was informally called Johnstone's Lane but cannot have that name as it is already used elsewhere.

Iona Lane was named by the only resident living there and the adjoining property owner.

The southern property was originally owned in the 1890's by the first landowners, George and Harry Bradford. The house they built was named 'Iona Homestead'.

Retire with us
Wherever you are.

Tasplan
Super
tasplan.com.au

Issued by Tasplan Pty Ltd. For further information in relation to whether to acquire or hold the products referred to, please read our guides at tasplan.com.au/pds. The trustee of Tasplan Super (ABN 14 602 032 302) is Tasplan Pty Ltd (ABN 13 009 563 062). AFSL 235391. © 2020 Tasplan Pty Ltd. All rights reserved.



Planner says no to Westbury residents' rezoning objections

Sharon Webb

MEANDER VALLEY Council senior planner Jo Oliver has rejected residents' objections to rezoning Westbury land parcels providing more housing options for potential residents of the town.

And she flatly denied the timing of zone changes was to facilitate support for the State Government's proposed new prison on Birrallee Road, a claim made by resident Emma Hamilton, who is president of Westbury Region Against the Prison.

At its December meeting, the council considered Ms Oliver's report on representations on the rezonings, received from ten residents, Taswater, Tasrail and the Department of State Growth.

Mayor Wayne Johnston said for the council to be looking at subdividing prime agricultural land was a worry.

'But looking at the progress of Westbury, I guess this is an ideal opportunity to make sure future building lots are available', he said.

Ms Oliver told the December council meeting she predicted

only four years of land supply available in the town.

'Possibly less if higher rates of development prevail and landowners with larger blocks don't seek to subdivide one or two lots', she said.

'Currently Tasmania is experiencing higher levels of demand with interstate migration. Meander Valley is no exception.'

But residents are concerned about the township's character being affected by more traffic and poor quality future dwellings, small lot sizes being incompatible with the character of Westbury, impacts on wildlife and loss of agricultural land.

Emma Hamilton questioned the need for additional land when all zoned land is not yet developed and Anne-Marie Loader maintained there were not enough services to support population growth.

Seven residents said infrastructure such as roads, pathways and sewer services are not at a standard to support increased population. Residents also commented on the council's lack of consultation on the changes.

Ms Oliver's report responded to residents' comments, saying more houses would not adversely affect Westbury's amenity, in fact the town is a well serviced district centre.

She maintained the General Residential Zone's allowed small lots of 450 sq metres allowed were not likely to eventuate and that the rezonings were needed to plan for the future.

Ms Oliver acknowledged minor road widening would be needed but said Taswater had confirmed adequate sewer capacity for increased household numbers.

On the issue of consultation, she maintained that population growth had been 'supported by the majority of the community' in council consultations with the Westbury community 'over the years'.

The council must report representations about the zone changes to the Tasmanian Planning Commission, who will hold hearings into representations before approving or rejecting them.

Map based on public rezoning information – boundaries are approximate.

Main Westbury rezoning locations

- A** Land bound by Lyttleton, William, Taylor and Waterloo Streets
Rural Resource Zone to General Residential Zone
- B** Land at 12 Lyttleton Street
Rural Resource Zone to Rural Living Zone
- C** Land at 1 William Street
- D** 9 and 10 Quamby Street, 113A Meander Valley Road
Rural Resource Zone to Low Density Residential Zone
- E** Land at 115 Meander Valley Road
Rural Resource Zone to Village Zone
- F** Land bound by Dexter, Jones, Taylor & Shadforth Streets
Low Density Residential Zone to General Residential Zone

Parcels of crown land are also rezoned from Rural Resource Zone to Village Zone, Low Density Residential Zone and Utilities Zone, consequential to the proposed rezoning of land described above.

A Specific Area Plan is applied to the land bound by Lyttleton, William, Taylor and Waterloo Streets (Location A).

Teething problems with Westbury subdivision being resolved, says developer

Sharon Webb

WESTBURY DEVELOPER Dale Badcock has told Meander Valley councillors he is adjusting his Westbury subdivision plans to meet objections by residents.

Mr Badcock said he had found a solution to retain a hedge on land he wants to subdivide to the north of the town.

He proposes a subdivision of 150 homes on land bounded by Lyttleton, William, Taylor and Waterloo Streets (see *rezone Location A on map above*).

In their response to rezoning needed for the subdivision to go ahead, Westbury residents

Roger and Wendy Travis expressed concern about the impact on the hedge near 41 Waterloo Street.

Mr Badcock said he would leave a tract of land large enough for council machinery to access and maintain the hedge.

Following up on concerns from the Westbury Agricultural Society on impacts on the showground, road reserve fencing and potential future purchase of road reserve, Mr Badcock said he'd had discussions with society president Kevin Lattin.

'We spoke about issues such as traffic', Mr Badcock said.

'The initial traffic plan has traffic coming out onto Lyttleton, Taylor and Waterloo Streets.

'The new plan is for everything to come out onto Lyttleton Street and nothing onto the other two.

'We may need to adapt that or keep going until everyone's happy.'

Cllr Frank Nott said the 700 sq metre lots planned for the subdivision rather than 450 sq metres were a positive and Cllr Michael Kelly commented that Mr Badcock was 'bold to go down this path'.

'His timing is spot on in making new lots available. We're heading in the right direction with a sensible development.'

Key to Westbury Reserve species shown in poster on page 9, opposite

- 1 Spotted pardalote
- 2 Leaf beetle (Calomela Curtisi)
- 3 Spotted sun orchid (Thelymitra sp.)
- 4 Narrow-waisted wasp on onion orchid
- 5 Pale vanilla-lily (Arthropodium milleflorum)
- 6 Tasmania Wedge-tailed eagle
- 7 Hoverfly on orchid bud
- 8 Cuckoo wasp (Chrysidini)

- 9 Blue pincushion (Brunonia australis)
- 10 Bulbine lily (Bulbine bulbosa)
- 11 Dwarf boronia (Boronia nana)
- 12 Red-bellied pademelon
- 13 Dragonfly Tau emerald (Hemicordulia tau)
- 14 Blue bottle-daisy (Lagenophora stipitata)
- 15 Bluebell (Wahlenbergia gracilis)
- 16 Tasmanian masked owl
- 17 Slime mould (Trichia sp.)
- 18 Potato orchid (Gastrodia procera)

19 Slender ringtail (Austrolestes analis)

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	
8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19



What do you think the Tasmanian Government could do to support carers?

Have your say...

The Tasmanian Carer Action Plan expresses the Government's commitment to family and friend carers. A new plan is being developed for the next three years.

What would you like to see in the plan? What would help you in your caring role? Come and share your thoughts.

RSVP: peak@carerstasmania.org / 03 6144 3703

If you can't make it, feel free to email your ideas (peak@carerstasmania.org) or chat to us on Facebook facebook.com/CarersTasmania

When:
2 February
2.00pm–3.30pm

Where:

112 Emu Bay Road,
Deloraine,
Tasmania 7304



**Preserve Our
Westbury Reserve
(POWR)**

For more information about this biodiversity hotspot:
disjunctnaturalists.com/westbury



Back to Jackeys Marsh



JACKEYS MARSH has grown into a diverse and vibrant community over the course of many decades.

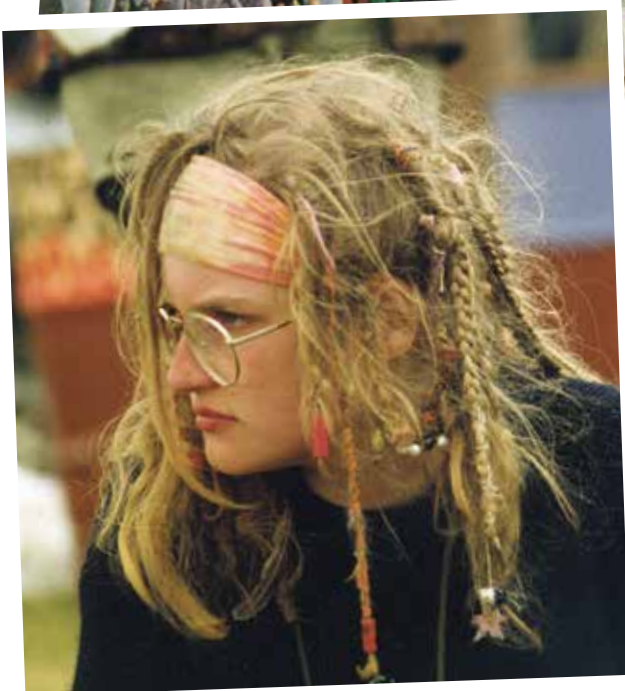
These recently discovered photos are from the Jackeys Marsh Forest Festival in 1991 (on Max Herron's land) and 1992 (further up the Valley on Dr Tredinick's land). An annual event from 1983 till 1996, every Australia Day long weekend, the festivals recommenced from 2006–2014 at the property now known as Forest Walks Lodge.

Drawing people from Tasmania, interstate and overseas, the festivals celebrated Tasmania's forests and supported their protection from logging. Visitors participated in workshops and enjoyed amazing music performances, highlights including Yothu Yindi and Wild Pumpkins at Midnight. The festivals featured local musicians, supported local businesses and attracted many folk to move to the area.

Do you recognise anyone? Friends, neighbours, family?

If you have stories and photos to share about life in the Meander Valley, we would love to hear from you.

Email: editor@meandervalleygazette.com.



TANIA RATTRAY MLC INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR MCINTYRE

Your full-time,
independent
Legislative Council
Member
representing the
Meander Valley
community



Contact details Mobile: 0427 523 412
Office phone: 03 6350 5000
Email: tania.rattray@parliament.tas.gov.au

... do you remember?



Festivals at Jackeys Marsh and the surrounding area are still fondly remembered by local residents. Photographs supplied



TOOSEY Caring for our community

Toosey offers Meander Valley and Northern Midlands community residents and others from surrounding areas the opportunity to stay close to their families and friends and to age in the community they have lived and worked in during their life.

Services offered to the community include:

- Residential Care
- Respite Care
- Day Centre
- Home Care/ Commonwealth Home Support Services/ DVA Nursing
- Rural Medical Beds
- Toosey Catering and Meal Delivery
- Independent Living Units
- Allied Health Services such as podiatrists, physiotherapists, exercise physiologists, hydrotherapy and music therapy are available by appointment.



Contact reception
Phone 6391 1202
or email
reception@toosey.org.au
10 Archer St, Longford
PO Box 135, Longford 7301



ADVERTISEMENT

Northern Regional Prison Project Update - January 2021

Northern Regional Prison Project Team focus for 2021

Following is a broad summary of tasks required through the planning stage:

- Finalising due diligence investigations identified to date, and collation of all information obtained;
- Continuing environmental assessments;
- Developing a procurement plan for approval by the Northern Regional Prison Steering Committee to inform the sourcing of architectural services;
- Preparing a design brief for the architectural procurement containing information on accommodation, operational principles, funding and timeframes;
- Preparing a Request for Tender to be advertised, at a date to be determined, for consultancy services to progress the prison design;
- Assessing submissions following the advertised procurement and appointment of consultants to progress the Prison design and associated documentation, including development of a Master Plan;
- Forming Particular Purpose Zone and Development Application for submission to Meander Valley Council;
- Detailing the operating model for the new prison, including workforce planning.

There is significant work to occur to inform the preparation of the Particular Purpose Zone and Development Application, and this will be the priority for the project team in 2021. Infrastructure development projects of this size can take time and Government is committed to suitable preparations.

The detailed design is required for the construction procurement for the prison build. This work will take into account the characteristics of the site in determining the most appropriate design for the development. This will enable the production of images that will be published as part of the development application process. It is important to note the project will be subject to all regulatory approvals and management measures during both construction and operation of the correctional facility.

Where to find out more

For more information visit www.justice.tas.gov.au/strategic-infrastructure-projects/new-northern-prison

Or you can register to receive project updates by emailing the project team northern.prison@justice.tas.gov.au

For more information, visit
www.justice.tas.gov.au



Tasmanian Fire Service puts Meander Valley residents on alert

Get ready for bushfire season

THE TASMANIAN Fire Service has reminded Meander Valley residents to prepare for summer bushfires by cleaning up their properties and taking five minutes to make a fire plan.

TFS manager of bushfire risk mitigation, Chris Collins, said while this summer is predicted to have 'normal fire season potential', this still means the possibility of two or three significant bushfires across the State.

'Spring and early summer rainfall has promoted significant growth in fine fuels, such as grasses. Once these fuels cure in the new year, they may contribute to an increased fire potential', he said.

'The risk modelling undertaken by the Tasmania Fire Service indicates that Meander Valley, like all municipal areas in Tasmania, is at risk from bushfire.'

TFS group officer Errol Gleeson, who has responsibility for fire brigades in Mole Creek, Chudleigh, Elizabeth Town, Deloraine, Golden Valley and Meander, said it's essential that residents in risk areas take five minutes to plan what they will do if they are threatened by a bushfire.

'People should decide if they will stay and defend their property or leave. And if they leave, they need to have decided where to go and what they will take with them', he said.

'Residents need to be aware they need to be prepared and that fire is their enemy.'

'A lot of people sit back and think it won't happen to them. Then bang! A fire is upon them and it's too late.'

The government has bumped up the state's firefighting capacity with \$2.1m in the 2020-21 budget to establish firefighting teams capable of being winched into remote area fire grounds.

Two five-person, winch capable teams are available for deployment now and 25 Parks and Wildlife Service firefighting staff have volunteered to train to do the work.

In addition, 11 aircraft will be located in Launceston and Hobart so they can respond to

fires quickly around the State. The seven helicopters and four fixed wing aircraft include a mix of firebombing, air supervision and aerial intelligence gathering aircraft, taking the total firefighting aircraft available in Tasmania to 28. This will ensure a rapid response to bushfires that do start, keeping fires small until ground crews arrive.

And at a cost of \$3.75m the government has bought three aerial firefighting appliances equipped with an aerial boom and platform. These will raise firefighters to heights to enable them to rescue people or to tackle blazes in tall buildings.

Mr Gleeson said at this stage this bushfire season appeared

not to be as dangerous as previous seasons because growth hadn't dried out quickly.

'We've still got a chance to be well prepared.'

He recommended that residents needing advice on how best to prepare themselves and their properties speak to their local brigade. He said posters and leaflets on the subject had been distributed by brigades.

Mr Collins said, 'It is vitally important that Tasmanians prepare themselves and their property for bushfire every fire season, and this includes residents of the Meander Valley.'

'The mitigation of bushfire risk is truly a collective responsibility.'



Minister Mark Shelton with new aerial firefighting equipment for rescuing people or tackling blazes in tall buildings. Photo supplied

Prepare for a bushfire

- 🔥 Clean up dry fuel on your property, especially under trees
- 🔥 Ensure your property has a prominent identifying number
- 🔥 Make a plan to stay or go
- 🔥 Plan what to do with pets and livestock
- 🔥 Get a solar power pack and a battery operated radio for ABC updates
- 🔥 Find out whether you have a local fire phone tree
- 🔥 Contact your local brigade for extra fire-ready advice

ADVERTISEMENT

JOBS. HEALTH. COMMUNITY.

Rebecca White MP

Labor Member for Lyons

6212 2225
rebecca.white@parliament.tas.gov.au

Authorised by REBECCA WHITE, 33 COLE ST, SORELL

Notification of proposal to upgrade nbn™ Radio Network Base Station Facility

As part of the fixed radio (wireless) component of the Network, nbn is proposing to expand the existing radio network base stations at the following location:

- CCA Tower, Birralee Road, Westbury TAS 7303 (Lot 1 on Plan 160990) (NBN Site ref: Westbury R04-7LAZ-7DEL-5106, RFNSA No: 7303001)

The proposed works on site will involve the upgrade of existing technology upon the facility including and not limited to the replacement and installation of new antennas, radiocommunication dishes and associated ancillary equipment to enhance transmitting technology. Furthermore the works will involve the replacement and addition of equipment shelters/outdoor units adjacent to the facility.

nbn regards the proposed installations as a Low Impact Facility under the Telecommunications (Low-Impact Facilities) Determination 2018. In these circumstances, it does not require planning approval from Council.

Further information on this specific proposal can be obtained by calling Melita Brown on (07) 3173 9177.

Written submissions can be sent to address or via email to melita.brown@aurecongroup.com

The closing date for submissions is 21-01-2021.

For general info on the nbn, email info@nbn.com.au, or visit our website at www.nbnco.com.au

Australia Day Community Breakfast

Chudleigh Hall and Garden
January 26th, 8.00am-11.00am
\$20 per person (under 10 free)

Tickets available from:
Meander Valley Council Offices, Westbury;
Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre, Deloraine;
or phone 0407 810 150.

Numbers restricted for Covid requirements. No door sales.

Councillors approve small lots in subdivision at Reedy Marsh

Sharon Webb

MEANDER VALLEY councillors have approved a second subdivision of land in Reedy Marsh using their discretion to ratify lot sizes well below the 15 sq hectares recommended for the zone.

The move allows Paul and Samantha Heathcote at 259 Wadley's Road to subdivide their land into lots sized 5.1, 4.7 and 15.7 hectares, with tight conditions.

A third Reedy Marsh subdivision application is in waiting at 610 River Road, part of the rush to subdivide land there before introduction of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme this year. This will likely mandate lots of 12 hectares, removing councillors' ability to use discretion on Reedy Marsh subdivisions.

The 259 Wadley's Road approval comes after it was

initially discussed in the November council meeting. Difficulties with removal of protected trees and visibility of house sites from the road led to a 25 minute private meeting outside the council chamber among general manager John Jordan, mayor Wayne Johnston, planner Jo Oliver and Mr Heathcote.

The subdivision motion was subsequently withdrawn and re-presented at December's council meeting.

In the interim, conditions were drawn up on the application.

- Boundary reallocations to protect eucalyptus ovata stands and other vegetation.
- Designated development areas for two house sites so houses cannot be seen from the road and do not require removal of standing vegetation.

Cllr Tanya King, who proposed the motion containing the conditions said, 'I think this amendment gives the application more strength with regards to compliance with the planning scheme.'

Cllr Michael Kelly said it was a win-win situation: 'It's good we took the extra month to work through a few issues.'

Cllr Frank Nott, who was ready to refuse the application in November but approved it with the new conditions, commented that it could well be a test case for Reedy Marsh subdivisions.

'Timing is everything. This is a window of opportunity; in the new planning scheme Reedy Marsh lot size will be a mandatory 12 hectares', he said.

All councillors except Cllr John Temple voted for the subdivision.



The property at 259 Wadleys Road, Reedy Marsh (highlighted in blue) will be divided into lots smaller than the 15 hectares recommended for the zone. Image supplied

Licence changes to develop safe driving for life

A NEW campaign, *Plates Plus: Safer driving for life*, has been launched to highlight changes to obtaining a driving licence in Tasmania.

Michael Ferguson, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, said the changes are about more than getting L and P plates.

'They'll enable new drivers to develop the lifelong knowledge and skills they need to ensure they and the Tasmanian community are safer on the road.'

'The changes, which came into effect on 1 December, will improve the road safety of our new drivers, streamline the process of getting a licence and save up to \$114 per driver.'

'Plus, those who complete their full provisional stage

offence-free will be rewarded with a full three year licence for free, worth a further \$75.'

Seven key elements to the driver safety campaign are:

- 80 mandatory logbook hours for L drivers, including 15 at night
- single licence card for learner and provisional licence periods.
- new maximum speed limits of 90km/h for learners and 100km/h for P1 holders
- a total ban on mobile phone use, including hands free, for all learners and P1s
- P1 drivers under 25 can carry only one peer passenger.
- new green P plates for P2 licence holders
- a new Safer Driver Reward.



Westbury teams can look forward to some big scores on their new big scoreboard. Photo supplied

To help get the 80 hours in the learner stage, drivers will be able to:

- attend a Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA) program and gain five hours for the learner logbook
- get a one-hour lesson with a certified driving instructor and gain two hours for the learner logbook – this is capped at 10 lessons (totalling up to 20 hours' credit)
- get a free Keys2drive lesson funded by the Federal Government, plus a second free lesson funded by the Tasmanian Government.

The Denture Centre

Looking good, feeling great

Nikki Sabok visits Deloraine every Tuesday morning.

Specialising in full dentures, partial dentures, Oral Armour mouthguards, repairs and relines.

22 Tower Hill Street, Deloraine

For appointments, please telephone 63 317 240 or 63 622 266

www.thedenturecentre.com.au

COOPER ACCOUNTING PLUS

Tanya Cooper Principal

Annette Powell Senior Accountant

Small & Large Businesses
Detailed and sensitive personal attention

Specialising in:

- Taxation, Accounting & Audit Services
- BAS, GST & Fringe Benefits Tax
- Self Managed Superannuation
- Retirement & Succession Planning
- Primary Production
- Retailers
- Trades and Construction

Now in Deloraine at 3/58 Emu Bay Road 6331 5838
Also in Launceston at G1, 26 Elizabeth Street 6331 5838

Senator Claire **CHANDLER**
Senator for Tasmania

Get in touch with your ideas about how we can get...

Tasmania BACK IN BUSINESS

03 6260 2018
Senator.Chandler@aph.gov.au
SenatorChandler

senatorchandler.com.au

Authorised by Senator Claire Chandler, Liberal Party of Australia, 42 Bridge St, Richmond TAS 7005

Courses for horses – all for a good cause



Deloraine District Pony Club President Cindy Clark hands over a cheque for \$1500 to Sophie Roles at the Pony Club's recent Christmas Rally. *Photo supplied*

IN NOVEMBER last year, the FightMND 27 Challenge Open Show Jumping Twilight event contributed \$5000 to FightMND, an organisation that funds research and provides care to those suffering from Motor Neurone Disease. The event consisted of 3 rounds of 9 jumps = 27. The significance of the number 27 is that 27 months is the average life expectancy after diagnosis with MND.

The Challenge 27 campaign was launched to promote 'fun and physical activity in challenging times' while creating greater awareness of the consequences of MND.

MND has impacted many Tasmanians, including locals Terry Roles and Cath Baker. The Roles and Baker families were instrumental in working with local equestrian and other clubs to provide an evening of activities for both riders and non-riders.

Deloraine and District Pony Club, the Tasmanian Mountain Cattleman's Association, the Deloraine Women's Football Club and the Lions Club of Deloraine all helped make the event a success.

Graeme Page, Cath Baker's father was the leader of the team organising the event which was generously supported by local businesses, families and individuals who

contributed their time or made donations of money or prizes.

The Deloraine and District Pony Club held their Christmas Rally on the 20th December.

A cheque for \$1500 from the pony club was handed to Sophie Roles to pass on to FightMND to assist in their work to find a cure for MND.

Fly fishing campaign to hook travellers

TOURISM TASMANIA is following up last year's 39th World Fly Fishing Championship held in the Meander Valley with a new campaign to entice fly fishing enthusiasts to the state.



The campaign includes Central Plateau top fly fishing spots such as the Meander River, Little Pine Lagoon and 19 Lagoons, inviting fly fishers to 'fish like a local'.

The Tasmanian international championships' competitor, Christopher Bassano, shares local tips and techniques for catching trout.

The Minister for Primary Industries and Water, Guy Barnett, said Tasmania has some of the best fly fishing spots in the world.

'We know that visitors that come to Tasmania to pursue interests such as fly fishing are



Georgia Baker participating in the FightMND 27 Challenge Open Show Jumping Twilight event. *Photo supplied*

more likely to stay longer and spend more, benefiting our regional communities and the broader visitor economy.

'This is more important than ever as we continue to recover from COVID-19', he said.

'The campaign is designed to appeal to both male and female fly fishers and includes advertising across a number of digital and print channels that specifically target fishing enthusiasts, enticing them to experience fly fishing in Tasmania.'

The campaign forms part of Tourism Tasmania's program of Unordinary Adventures which targets visitors who travel to pursue their passions, including fly fishing, mountain biking, golf and walking.

More information on fly fishing in Tasmania can be found here: www.discovertasmania.com.au/fly-fishing.



Love doing craft with your child but cannot handle the MESS? This fun sensory program is just for you!

Deloraine Seventh-day Adventist Church
4445 Meander Valley Road, Deloraine
Tues 10am – Book now for Term 1, 2021

Limited placings! \$8.80 p/class payable for term

www.happyhandsart.com.au



Delightful daylilies



Daylilies on display in Sue Gebicki's Birralees garden. Left, Fickle Lady and above, Cherry Eyed Pumpkin. *Photos supplied*

Sue Gebicki

TWENTY YEARS ago, I ordered a handful of daylilies from the mainland. I found them to be very easy to care for, and they travelled happily in pots when I moved to Birralees.

There I set up a temporary garden, and spent much time learning more about them and exploring the huge range that has been propagated in the USA, where they are very popular.

So began an obsession with the purchase of hundreds more from the mainland, and developing my own breeding plans, aiming for plants that are more suited to Tasmanian conditions than the warmer climates from which most cultivars available in Australia originated.

The original species of daylilies, *Hemerocallis*, grow in China, Korea and Japan. Most are yellow, but some have a brownish colour.

Brought to Europe in the 1850s, then later to the USA, it wasn't until the early 1900s that species hybridisation produced new colours and forms.

By 1938 daylily colours had expanded to pink, red and purple, petals were wider and ruffled edges were appearing.

In the 1960s, increased knowledge of genetics and manipulation of chromosomes gave richer colours, new patterns, distinctive eyes and edges, resistance to sun, diseases and insects, and greater stamina.



Daylily clubs formed across North America and Europe, and the American Hemerocallis Society was registering hundreds of new cultivars. Today there are hundreds of thousands.

Daylilies are very easy to care for, and when necessary can survive drought and bushfires, springing back when good conditions return. Given extra pampering, they will reward with greater growth and flushes of beautiful flowers.

I grow mine organically. The only fertilizers used are pelleted chicken manure, horse manure, blood and bone and

sulphate of potash. Daylilies prefer a pH of 6–7 so I have to lime my very acid soil. They readily grow in any soil type.

Flowering occurs at different times of the growing season for each cultivar. They are classified as flowering extra early, early, mid or late, and some produce a second flush of flowers. They are limited by the length of the growth season, but even Canadians with only three warm months a year have managed to develop free flowering plants.

Daylilies are also classified according to their foliage habit, which is evergreen,

semi-evergreen or dormant. Evergreens perform much better in warm climates, dormant in cold, although all three grow well here.

We live at the bottom of a valley, so every evening cold air descends from on high and sits all night. Frost is guaranteed if the predicted minimum temperature for Deloraine is 4°C.

The plants don't suffer at all. If damaged by frost, the flowering spikes (scapes) will lose flowers. They can be protected from all but the very worst of frosts by covering them.

Another problem on cold mornings is that some flowers refuse to open, or the petals don't fully unfurl. I am trying to breed plants that flower later in the season when there is little risk of frost, and for flowers that open on cold mornings.

Daylilies gained their name from their habit of each flower only opening for one day. Modern plants produce flowers copiously, so flowers can present continuously for up to six

weeks. Some plants have flowers that last for two days.

Flowers shapes range from spiders with long, thin petals, to fully rounded petals. Some have ruffled edges, some toothed, and some are bearded. There are doubles and polypetals which have four or more petals. They can be any colour except blue, although some now have blue eyes.

I have found my plants to be relatively pest and disease free. Some are affected by a fungus called leaf streak, which discolours the leaves but doesn't seem to harm the plant overall.

In early spring they are attacked by aphids, but I grit my teeth and ignore them as I have found that the ladybird population builds up very quickly, feasting on the aphids.

We don't have big problems that the mainland and North America have – spring rot and rust. Hopefully our excellent quarantine service will keep us rust free. Do be warned though – wallabies love them!

ADVERTISEMENT

Jen
Butler MP
Your Local Member for Lyons

7A Wellington Street Longford
03 63242070
jen.butler@parliament.tas.gov.au

Labor

Daylily and garden lovers!

Sue Gebicki's garden and nursery are now open to the public at 369 Priestleys Lane, Birralees, 10am to 4pm, Wednesday to Saturday every week until the end of February, then from Thursday to Saturday during autumn. There are perennials for sale too. For more information, call Sue Gebicki on 0400 860 651.

Zucchini or courgette? Easy to grow, harder to use up!

Wendy Hays

AH, THE poor maligned zucchini. Often considered the ultimate unglamorous vegetable and rarely seen on the menus of trendy restaurants, zucchini have so many good qualities it is a shame to overlook them.

In terms of ease of growing and productivity to space occupied, you really can't go past having at least one zucchini plant in the backyard.

Zucchini are exceptionally versatile and with a water content of around 95% are very low in kilojoules.

They are high in vitamins, minerals and antioxidants which may protect the body from damage by free radicals thereby benefiting eye, skin and heart health.

However, at a time when they are coming into full production and increase from thumb size to torpedo size in a matter of a few days, it is often difficult to know what to do with them.

Zucchini can be grated, diced, chopped and frozen in small batches for use in cakes, muffins, slices, soups, casseroles and loaves throughout the year. If using in baking, drain the thawed zucchini in a colander before using.

If the zucchini is to be added to soups and casseroles, just add the whole lot and you will conserve many of the nutrients that are dissolved in the thawing liquid.

This month's recipe for zucchini rolls is just one way to use surplus zucchini.



Zucchini rolls are the perfect way to use up summer's bounty and are an excellent substitute for sausage rolls if you have vegetarians to entertain. Photo supplied

An internet search will reveal many other creative and interesting ways to use this useful and nutritious vegetable.

Zucchini rolls

Ingredients

- 1 medium carrot, peeled and grated
- 1 medium onion, peeled and chopped finely
- 1/2 red capsicum, finely chopped

- 1 medium zucchini, grated
- 250g canned creamed corn
- 3/4C seasoned stuffing mix or dry breadcrumbs with 1/2 tsp of dried mixed herbs
- 1 tsp curry powder (optional and to taste)
- 1/4 tsp minced chilli (optional)
- 1 small vegetable stock cube, crumbled
- 2 tbl fresh parsley, finely chopped
- 1 tbl soy sauce
- pepper to taste
- 4 sheets of puff pastry

- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 1 tbl sesame seeds or poppy seeds

Method

- 1 Line two oven trays with baking paper.
- 2 Turn oven on to 200°C.
- 3 Combine all prepared vegetables, stuffing mix/ bread crumbs, stock power, pepper, minced chilli, curry powder, pepper, parsley, soy sauce and most of the egg in a large bowl. Mix well. If you have one, spoon the filling into a large piping bag without a nozzle.
- 4 Cut each sheet of pastry in half.

- 5 Mound or pipe mixture evenly along the longest edge of each piece of pastry. Moisten the other long edge with a little of the leftover beaten egg.
- 6 Roll up pastry from the long side to enclose the filling.
- 7 Brush with reserved beaten egg, sprinkle with seeds and cut into desired lengths.
- 8 Place rolls on oven tray, seam side down. Rolls can be frozen at this stage.
- 9 Bake for about 30-45 minutes or until pastry is brown and puffed.

Serve with sweet chilli sauce or tomato relish.

At the movies with the Western Tiers Film Society

by Clare Andersen

February 13 **DARK WATERS**

2019 PG13, Documentary/drama, USA, 127m Director Todd Haynes

Based on a real-life legal case, Mark Ruffalo plays a tenacious attorney who becomes a crusader uncovering a dark secret that connects a growing number of unexplained deaths to one of the world's largest corporations. While trying to expose the truth, he soon finds himself risking his future, his family and his own life.

'This gripping tale in the vein of Eric Brockovich, will have you rushing home, throwing out your Teflon pans and ripping up your carpets.'

Top Critic, news.com.au



We celebrated the end of this crazy year with a glass of bubbly on arrival, in lieu of our usual Christmas supper. This 2020 conclusion allowed engaging chat and members' feedback, with many voicing commitment to the 'traditional' viewing platform of local community cinema: 'a social outing'; 'a meeting place of common interest'; 'relaxing, friendly people and surrounds'.

However, the chance for an outing wasn't the only plus that members commented on. Several long-term members are there for the diverse spectrum of films, many of which have won international awards.

Starting in January 2014, the WTFS has shown films from an extensive range of countries, genres and themes. Films from the US, France and the UK predominate, but other nations, from Sweden to Iran, Brazil to Japan, to Australia, are also well represented. The choices are virtually unlimited, with the 'bean' voting system enhancing our understanding of audience preferences and guiding future selections. Thank you to all our members for their participation, and welcome to new members who want to try us out!

For information about the WTFS, email them at westerntiersfilmsociety@gmail.com or call 0418 389 868 for a membership application and program



Little Laneway Music Festival

is back with Seven for Summer starting on Sunday 17 January, local live music

Open for dinner, 5.30-8.30, 7 days a week
Open for lunch, 12-3, Wednesday to Sunday
Dine in or take away

Ask us about functions and catering
Call us to place an order or to book a table

6362 1029

Places are limited, so bookings are recommended
Liquor Licence No 71107455

A little Something in the Valley for lovers of the blues and food



Jackey's Marsh blues duo Thomas Mitchell and Henry Rippon will perform at Something in the Valley at Meander Hall on 30 January. Photo by Jasmine Rocca

IF YOU want folk and blues with your Mexican or Italian food you'll need to be quick to get your ticket to Something in the Valley at the Meander Hall on January 30.

The music event features five bands and storytelling and is a departure for Jackey's Marsh resident, Jasmine Rocca. She

usually runs bushcraft workshops for her business, The Forest Folk.

'I'm new to the area. We've only lived here two years', she said. 'But I'm constantly surprised by the talent here and how local businesses are close-knit and support each other. I wanted to showcase that.'

Carols by the river

THEY CAME.

They picnicked.

They sang.

And what they sang were Christmas carols.

Despite some restrictions, people flocked down to the riverside in Deloraine on Saturday 12 December to take part in the annual 'Carols by the River', hosted, for the 31st time, by the Combined Churches of Deloraine and District.

The Meander Men were the first singers off the rank.

Charlotte Wickham, Cecilia Wickham and Becky Walters sang and played.

Josh Skeat sang.

Hannah Beck sang.



And, led by the Carols Choir, the crowd all sang those well known and much loved carols, 'Joy to the world', 'Silent night' and all the others.

Tony Parsons was the MC and kept everything moving smoothly and gave a message of hope.

One non-carol that was sung by everybody towards the end of the evening was 'Try a little kindness', surely a very apt message for us all at Christmas time, 2020.

The music starts at 6pm featuring locals Kim and Kenna Clark from Jackey's Marsh, Thomas Mitchell and Henry Rippon from Jackey's Marsh and Eddie Tuleja from Meander.

Racoon Dog from Lilydale and Sundaze from Launceston will perform and Bert Spinks will take his storytelling skills to the stage.

Tasmanian Organic Wine and Red Brick Road will run bars and food will include Siento Fuego Mexican and Pirrizani's Cucina Italian.

Bookings are essential; \$30 tickets available from thefor-estfolk.com.au.

Council calls for feuding Meander groups to work together on school plan

Sharon Webb

MEANDER COMMUNITY groups polarised on the issue of future use of the former school property will need 'to get over themselves', Mayor Wayne Johnston said.

Following Meander Valley Council's December decision in a closed session to terminate the property's lease to drug rehabilitation group Teen Challenge, Cllr Johnston said it was time to focus on alternative possibilities for the site.

'The council will establish a community evaluation committee, comprising a representative from local community organisations,' he said.

'This committee will help with the development of a shortlist of proposals for broader community feedback before the council decides on a preferred option.'

According to the mayor, general manager John Jordan will chair the committee. It is not known how community representatives will be chosen and the process has not yet started.

But the council's decision to hand over the former Meander School property to Teen



The voices of MVFM

John Phelps

'EVERYONE JUST calls me Bloss', she says and she is one of the very knowledgeable presenters with Meander Valley Community Radio.

Bloss has lived in Australia for half her life and the other half in places around the world where there were significant West African and Latin American communities.

And that is how she came to know and love the music from those cultures.

Bloss says that the key thing about such music is dancing. She recalls occasions in Jamaica, for instance, where one person would produce some music device and a group would start dancing at a bus-stop while waiting for the bus to arrive.

'That's what you do with African and Latin music - you

dance. The salsa is not the neat, ordered salsa we know in Australia. It is slower and much more casual and sensual. The feeling is the key thing about this music.'

And, fortunately for listeners to MVFM 96.9, Bloss shares her love for and knowledge about African and Latin music in her program called 'Global Grooves'. It may be heard on Sundays at Six (pm, that is).

As the station broadcasts livestream, people all over the world can hear her programs and some of Bloss's friends around the globe actually do listen, even if they have to get out of bed at 3am to do so.

Among her musical achievements, Bloss plays several percussion instruments not often heard in Deloraine - the conga, the clave and the djembe. She also sings in several languages but, most of all, she loves to dance.

Challenge four years ago has caused significant rifts in the community and it is uncertain whether Meander community organisations will be able to work together effectively.

The Meander Progress Association supported Teen Challenge's use of the property; at one stage many Meander front gardens displayed posters of support. An element of their support was Teen Challenge's religious base.

In the face of the Meander Valley Council's allocation of the property to Teen Challenge for a peppercorn rent, residents who disagreed with the move established MARRA, the Meander Residents and Ratepayers Association.

MARRA and the council faced off on six occasions in Tasmania's planning tribunal and the Supreme Court with both groups spending big on legal representation.

MARRA won, with a Supreme Court decision in June last year that the site was not suitable for Teen Challenge's use on bush-fire protection grounds.

In August, Teen Challenge signalled it no longer wanted to use the property.

At that time Cllr Johnston, who lives in Meander, said he was disappointed the proposal had 'polarised' the community, referring to MARRA as a 'small group' that had 'pursued a war of attrition'.

Now Cllr Johnston has said, 'The groups will have to get over themselves. We all live in the one community.'

'We are looking for organisations who are open and inclusive to represent the views of Meander residents.'

'It is hoped this new engagement process will be respected by all and results in a proposal to secure the long term viability of the site.'

Indications of potential trouble ahead came from both MARRA and the Meander Progress Association.

MARRA president Bodhi McSweeney said, 'An independent mediator needs to be involved because of the level of conflict in Meander on the issue.'

'MARRA looks forward to being included in a process that involves the whole community.'

When contacted by the Gazette, Meander Progress Association president Andrea Berne said, 'We have no comment at the moment.'

ADVERTISEMENT

Guy **Barnett** Liberal Member for Lyons

Listening
Caring
Delivering

P | (03) 6701 2170 W | www.guybarnett.com.au
E | guy.barnett@dpac.tas.gov.au @GuyBarnettMP

Authorised by Guy Barnett, 76 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine TAS 7304

Humble sheep poo playing its role

THE PRESIDENT of Westbury Lions Club Phil Steers has thanked the Westbury community for its support during the past year.

'The Covid period has really restricted fund-raising, but we have been able to continue our signature activity of collecting and bagging sheep manure.'

In the early stages of the pandemic, people were spending more time than usual in their gardens and demand for the manure was strong.

Mr Steers said that this demand has not abated. He estimates that the Club has collected well over 1000 bags of manure during 2020.



'This has allowed us to continue our support of local causes and charities.'

The Club has a strong connection with the Westbury Purple4Prostate group.

'They do such a wonderful job in assisting local men who have been diagnosed with this insidious form of cancer.'

Mr Steers also paid tribute to local farmers and Vicki Casey at Westbury Hardware, Home & Co, where the manure is sold.

'It's a real team effort. Local farmers very generously give us access to their sheds.'

'And, without Westbury Hardware, Home & Co's assistance in selling our product, we

wouldn't be able to lend a hand to Purple4Prostate and other local organizations.

'I'd like to express Lions' appreciation to the local community for buying the manure.'

'By doing so, they are indirectly making a donation to a local charity, school or other worthy cause.'

Back: Westbury Lions Chris Kilby and Geoff Harvey. Front: Vicki Casey of Westbury Hardware, Home & Co; Purple4Prostate ladies Anne, Katrina & Gay. Photo supplied



In the Ian Knight Room, Rotary Function Centre: the Carpet Cleaner; Community Director and Rotary Function Centre Committee Chairman Andrew Dare; President-Elect and Club Service Director Tony Jones. Photo supplied



movable raised stage, overhead projector, screen and access to wi-fi.

It is owned, maintained and managed by the Rotary Club of Deloraine and is regularly hired by local community groups, various functions. It is a site for the Tasmanian Craft Fair that is organised by the Rotary Club of Deloraine.

For information call Ann on 03 6362 2325 or go to: www.rotaryfunctioncentre.com.au, www.rotaryclubofdeloraine.org.au, www.tascraftfair.com.au.

Many hands make rotary work



'WE MAY not be able to travel overseas but we can still make a difference.'

The Rotary Function Centre is being prepared for a function in February organised by the Rotary Club of Deloraine International Services Director Tim Biggs who, with the club, is planning a special dinner of international dishes in the Ian Knight Room to raise funds for an international project.

The club is able to make use of the commercial kitchen, tables and chairs and a very good supply of table settings.

The building was purchased many years ago by the Rotary Club of Deloraine from a local family when the popular indoor cricket roster finished.

The Function Centre includes the Rotary Big Hall where many locals would remember having a lot of fun playing indoor cricket, the Ian Knight Room, commercial kitchen,

THERAPIES DIRECTORY

Advertising enquiries to advertising@meandervalleygazette.com

Phone 6286 8216

RETAIL DIRECTORY

Advertising enquiries to advertising@meandervalleygazette.com

Phone 6286 8216

Opening 12th January!

The Quilters Corner

@ Deloraine Creative Studios
59-61 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine

✓ classes
✓ fabrics
✓ patterns

10am - 4pm
Tuesdays to Saturdays

0403 862 286

www.facebook.com/thequilterscorner

Meander Valley Yoga

Weekly classes
Private classes
Weekend retreats
Seminars

Phone Kristina
63 678 241/ 0497 025 308
kristinakm@bordnet.com.au
www.meandervalleyyoga.com

Acacia Healing

Remedial & Relaxation
MASSAGE

Deloraine based
10 years professional experience
Health rebates available

For bookings call or text Chris
P: 0459 322 171

www.acaciahealingtherapies.com

CARRICK MILL ANTIQUES

One of Meander Valley's newest businesses in one of its oldest buildings.

A treasure trove of the old and interesting!

Featuring a huge range of antiques and collectables, curios and books.

Weekends only, until further notice
11.00 am to 5.00 pm

67 Meander Valley Road, Carrick

Willis & Friends

CLOTHING

Bisley WORKWEAR

20-22 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine, Tas

[willisandfriendsdeloraine/](https://www.facebook.com/willisandfriendsdeloraine/)

Natural Self Counselling

- ✓ confidential
- ✓ trusting
- ✓ professional

Invest in yourself, your happiness, your future.

Call Darren for a free 15 minute initial chat.

0422 949 502

Based in Deloraine



MEANDER VALLEY
Community Radio

tune in to MVFM 96.9
live streaming on mvfm.com.au

MVFM station: 59-61 Emu Bay Road
Phone: 03 6362 4969

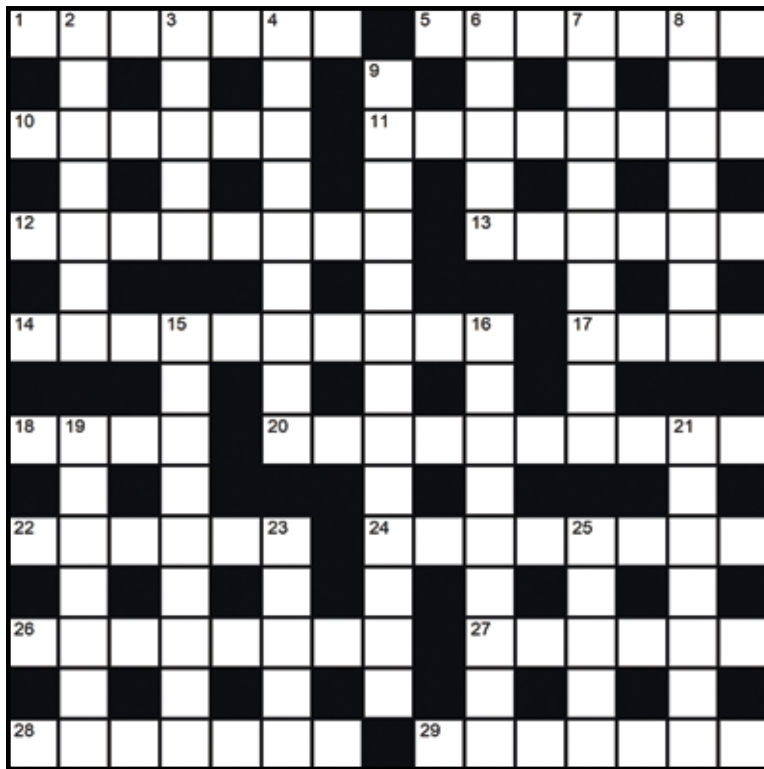
deloraine online access centre

wifi, computer access, printing, scanning & friendly assistance

open from 10am-4pm Monday to Friday
11am-3pm Saturday

(03) 6362 3537
deloraine.oac
@education.tas.gov.au
21 West Parade, Deloraine

Crossword



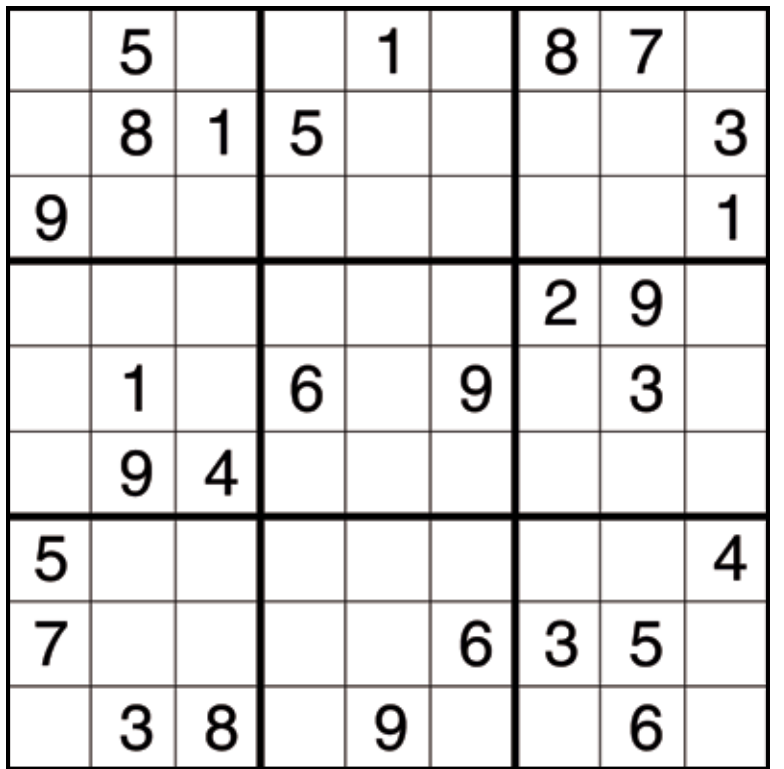
Across

- 1 Realm (7)
- 5 Makeshift (7)
- 10 Top gear for a biker (6)
- 11 In being (8)
- 12 Set upon (8)
- 13 Adequate (6)
- 14 Olympic gold-winning Melbourne Hockeyroo (5, 5)
- 17 Such as Perth or Brisbane (4)
- 18 Chital or Rusa, perhaps (4)
- 20 11, to 121 (6, 4)
- 22 Red grape variety (3, 3)
- 24 Enoch ate out, finding nothing to drink (3, 5)
- 26 Abnormally dilated (8)
- 27 '9 to 5' actress Lily ___ (6)
- 28 How Leda wrong-footed a tennis champ (3, 4)
- 29 Magnates (7)

Down

- 2 Sluggishness (7)
- 3 High-energy radiation (5)
- 4 Fringe areas (9)
- 6 Nonsense (5)
- 7 Cop carrier (6, 3)
- 8 When bats fly (2, 5)
- 9 Pioneer Sydney, NSW and national rugby footballer (5, 8)
- 15 Often called the father of Australian Rules football coaching (4, 5)
- 16 With deep sincerity (9)
- 19 Proceed (7)
- 21 Sort out Ontario address (7)
- 23 Tenor violin (5)
- 25 Injury payment (5)

Sudoku



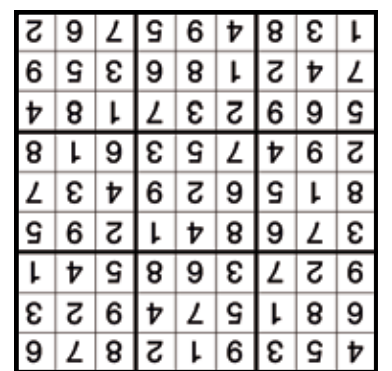
© 2021 Syndicated Puzzles

How to play Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9, each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9 and each set of 3 x 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9. Best of luck!

Crossword January 2021 solution



Sudoku January 2021 solution



Meander Valley Gazette is looking for anyone with suitable office or administration skills. We are accredited for Centrelink, so if you are thinking of volunteering then please get in touch. You can find us at the office we share with the Deloraine Online Access Centre, 21 West Parade, Deloraine. Call 6286 8212 or email us at general@meandervalleygazette.com.



Events diary

GREAT WESTERN TIERS VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE
Incorporating Yarns Artwork in Silk and Deloraine & Districts Folk Museum
98-100 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine, Tasmania 7304
Phone 03 6362 5280 www.greatwesterntiers.net.au



NOTE that events listed here may be cancelled or changed after publication, especially if they are affected by Covid-19 restrictions. If you have an event you wish to publicise, email the details to advertising@meandervalleygazette.com and we will add them to the list.

Date	Event or business	Details
Any time	Bonorong Wildlife Rescue	Call to report finding injured & orphaned birds & wildlife 0447 264 625
Every Monday, 1.30-3pm	Music therapy for NDIS participants	Magic of Music Deloraine High School Music Room Info Dee 0499 179 055 or Alex 0409 891 118, booking essential
Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm	Community House	Deloraine House, 112 Emu Bay Rd Call 6362 2678 for advice on a wide range of services & programs
Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm	Community Health Centre	Westbury Community Health Centre & Day Centre Call 6701 2150 for health & community services
Every Tuesday, 10am-12 noon	Hadspen Playgroup	During school term Uniting Church Hall, corner of Clare & Main St Contact Andrew Keena 6393 6324
Every Tuesday, 10-11.30am	Happy Hands Art Time for 1-5 year olds	During school term Deloraine Seventh-Day Adventist Church Hall, 4445 Meander Valley Rd www.happyhandsart.com.au
Every Thursday, 10-11am	CHAT Westbury Play Gym for 0-5 year olds	During school term Westbury Sports Centre, Franklin St \$3.50 per child (under 12 months free) 1st visit free
Sat 9 January, 9am-1pm	Liffey Valley Market	Old Liffey School Phone (03) 6397 3670 or email quentonhiggs@gmail.com
Sat 16 January, 9am-1pm	Mole Creek Market	Mole Creek Memorial Hall, cnr Pioneer Drv & Caveside Rd Ross Quick 0413 681 252
Sat 16 January, 9am-1pm	Westbury Market	Anglican Church Hall, 11 Lonsdale Prom, Westbury Rob Menzie 0417 931 619
Sun 17 January 1-6pm	Little Laneway Summer Sessions	Live music in the laneway between Seppenfelts and The Empire Hotel, Deloraine by donation
Sat 30 January 6-11.45pm	Something in the Valley	Meander Hall music, stories, food & drink \$30 booking essential 0422 193 971 theforestfolk.com.au
Tues 2 February, 10-11.45am	Meander Valley U3A	Membership and Enrolment Day Westbury RSL, Lonsdale Prom, Westbury Info 0407 951 823, 0414 891 793, 6397 3169
Sat 6 February, 9am-1pm	Deloraine Market	Showgrounds, Highland Lakes Rd, Deloraine Bodhi McSweeney 0409 695 321
Sat 13 February 2021	Carrick Harness Racing	East St, Carrick For information call 0400 635 070
Sat 13 February, 7pm sharp	Western Tiers Film Society <i>Dark Waters</i>	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine PG13 documentary/drama 2019 USA 127m Info 0418 389 868
Mon 15 February	Meander Valley U3A	Term 1 commences enquiries to meandervalleyu3a@gmail.com Phone 0407 951 823, 0414 891 793 or 6397 3169
Sat 20 February 1-4pm	Westbury Garden Club Summer Flower Show	Westbury Town Hall, Lyall St \$2 entry Karen Mackenzie 0455932342

HomeBuilder grant changes and extension

HOMEBUILDERS IN Tasmania can obtain \$35,000 in State and Federal grants with the scheme being extended until 31 March this year.

Amounts and criteria have slightly changed from those of 2020 but the grants will be available for contracts entered up to 31 March.

The Minister for Finance, Michael Ferguson, said all new home builds will have six months to commence construction.

Builders registered up to 29 November 2020 will be eligible under both schemes.

As of the end of November last year, 858 applications for the Federal HomeBuilder Grant were received, 736 of the applications were for new home builds and 122 were for substantial renovations.

The Tasmanian HomeBuilder Grant scheme received 530 applications.

A further 206 first home builders had applied for the First Home Owner Grant, in conjunction with the HomeBuilder Grant.

Blackstone Heights sizzles despite the drizzle



Despite inclement weather the Blackstone Heights Christmas Sausage Sizzle still went ahead. From left, Susie Bower, Janelle Dehle, Irma Peters, Wendy Peychers, Graham Houghton, Stephen Peters, Linnie Westlake and Sally Poke. Photo by Andrew Shepherd

David Claridge

EACH YEAR before Christmas, Blackstone Heights residents host a market, allowing the community to come together and reflect on the past year.

This year, a Covid-19 restricted event looked to be further hampered by bad weather, but that still didn't stop the locals from getting out and making the most of it.

Linnie Westlake, committee member with the Blackstone Heights Community News Association explained how Covid-19 had affected their event planning.

'There is normally a market in Blackstone Park. Because of Covid, it was too difficult. We still wanted to do something else though and bring the residents together. We were hoping for the weather to ease up,

but the clouds came over and it rained. It didn't stop locals who still came with their umbrellas.

'Bringing the community together, that's the whole idea of our committee.

'We are grateful to the Meander Valley Council for their help which enabled us to put the event on.'

The event was modelled after the Blackstone Heights Easter event, a sausage sizzle and

Easter egg hunt, with lolly bags available for the children.

'We love getting in there, cooking sausages and giving away the lollies', said Linnie.

The committee is hoping they can host the market again next year, with the Easter event already in the planning stages.

To stay informed on local matters, residents can join the Facebook page 'Blackstone Heights Community News'.

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

Proudly sponsored by
 DELORAINE & WESTBURY MEDICAL CENTRE

Not-for-profit ads, phone 6286 8216

Connecting people with people. Across Tasmania, across Australia and around the world.



Meander Valley Connect supports the Meander Valley community by

- providing two online centres for internet and training in Deloraine and Mole Creek
- providing valley-wide IT support for individuals, homes and small business
- publishing the community newspaper, the Meander Valley Gazette

Meander Valley
CONNECT
 Digital & Press • Training & Access

Western Tiers Film Society

See award-winning films each month at the Little Theatre Cinema

Memberships available now at:
westerntiersfilmsociety@gmail.com
 or call 0418 389 868



Arts Deloraine

Promoting the arts in the valley - concerts, plays and exhibitions

Join to become involved as well as to get discounted entry prices.

For information, call Di Tuleja on 0439 695 126 or email artsdeloraine@gmail.com or find us on 



2021 Enrolments and memberships



Tuesday 2 February, 10-11.45am, Westbury RSL, Lonsdale Promenade.

Classes commence week beginning 15 February.

Enquiries: email meandervalleyu3a@gmail.com or phone 0407 951 823, 0414 891 793 or 6397 3169.

New Friends, New Skills, U3A 



DELORAINE HOUSE INC

THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY

PHONE: 03 63 622 678

Meet New People | Volunteer | Learn New Skills

Come and visit us at 112 Emu Bay Road Deloraine Visiting Services

Regular Groups and Activities
 Email, Phone, Photocopy and Scanning facilities
 Room Hire

Visit our Facebook page [DeloraineHouse](https://www.facebook.com/DeloraineHouse)
 Check out our website www.delorainehouse.com.au
 Or email us at info@delorainehouse.com.au

Open: Monday - Friday 10am-4pm

SUPPORTED BY  Tasmanian Government

Deloraine & Westbury Medical Centre

would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year in 2021



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

'committed to comprehensive, compassionate, community health care'

SERVICES DIRECTORY

Advertising enquiries to advertising@meandervalleygazette.com Phone 6286 8216

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SPONSOR OF THE MEANDER VALLEY GAZETTE? Your company logo could go right here. Call or email us for details.



C&S GLAZING
0408 979 110

@another computer store (03) 6344 4423
solutions@another.com.au

The Ultimate Gaming Build Experience



Give your kids a fun, hands on experience building their very own gaming rig from scratch or have our experts build it with them.

To book in the experience, call 6344 4423 or email sales@another.com.au

Don't Just Play It, Build It!

Are you thinking of selling your Meander Valley home?

You may be surprised to learn what your home is worth in this seller's market.



For a no obligation free market appraisal ...

Call the Meander Valley experts today – Lee Jamieson's Real Estate on 6393 1037

Westbury Agency of the Year

Western Tiers Heating & Cooling Solutions

0423 797 835

Heat Pumps

Heat Pump Services – Residential & Commercial – Refrigeration & Air Conditioning

Installations, Repairs & Maintenance

AU 35438

Mark Griffiths Painting

For All Your Painting Needs
Renovation & Restoration
Free Quotes

Professional Reliable Affordable

0429 111 340
markgriffithspainting@gmail.com



Tiling
Bricklaying
Gyprocking
Rendering
Bathroom & Kitchen Renovations

Over 30 years' experience

Contact: Mark
0487 742 112


PAUL MALERBI
Electrical Contractor – Hadspen
0418 124 426



• DOMESTIC • COMMERCIAL
INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE
• DATA

pmalerbi@bigpond.net.au

E.C. License No. 108063



sunrise hire

Locally owned & operated equipment hire including trailers, ride on mowers, mini excavators and more.

10 West Barrack Street
Deloraine, Tasmania
(03) 6362 3707
enquiries@sunrisehire.com.au

The Weeding Man

Derek Lewis
Phone 0475 047 707
Fully Insured

Pensioners discount available



Quality Hedging • Pruning • Mowing • Brushcutting
Yard Clean-ups • Weeding • **And Much More!**

D&L TYRES
MOBILE TYRE & BATTERY SERVICE
PUNCTURE REPAIR



0499 037 892
dnltyres@gmail.com

D&L Tyres Pty Ltd for all your tyre sales needs, fitting and balancing, at home or business premises,

WE COME TO YOU

sunrise trailers

trailers, trailer components & steel sales
111 Emu Bay Road
Deloraine, Tasmania 7304
phone: Ricky 0409 052 761
Michelle 0407 052 701
email: sales@sunrisetrailers.com.au
web: www.sunrisetrailers.com.au

RADIATORS PLUS
the cool guys

- ✓ Radiator repairs, cleanouts, new radiator assemblies
- ✓ Truck and industrial radiators
- ✓ Custom made alloy radiators
- ✓ Tig welding fabrications
- ✓ Fuel tank repairs
- ✓ Fast friendly service
- ✓ Brand new clean enviro friendly workshop



6 Shamrock Street, South Launceston
Phone 6334 8722
www.radiatorsplus.com.au email: radiatorsplus@bigpond.com



RIDGELINE FENCING


Paul Chilcott
P: 0459 622 551 E: ridgelinefencingtas@gmail.com

- HYD Post Rammer
- Game Fencing
- Rural
- Commercial
- Paling
- Picket
- Colourbond
- Vineyards

Calling a service or retail business advertising in these pages?
Let them know you found them in the *Meander Valley Gazette*.
And thank you for supporting local businesses!

GRAHAM AUTOMOTIVE & FABRICATION
Now at 11 West Barrack Street, DELORAINÉ
Ph: 6362 2955

- All mechanical repairs
- Log book and warranty servicing
- Approved inspection station
- Metal Fabrication & Welding



Call in anytime for your free battery check. Large range of batteries in stock.



DEVONPORT SEPTIC TANK CLEANING

Septic tanks, treatment plants, grease traps, portable toilets.
Reliable service at a competitive price.

SERVICING ALL AREAS 0432 124 316

Locally owned and operated, we'll clear your blockage.



Banking on Westbury Scouts!

THE DELORAINE branch of the Commonwealth Bank took great pleasure in presenting the Westbury Scout Group with a donation as part of the bank's National Community Donations program.

Westbury Scouts will use the donation to purchase some new outdoor cooking and play-ground equipment.

Branch Manager Kassie Denmen noted that it was a fantastic opportunity for the local CommBank branch to donate to a local organisation given the Scouts have been unable to complete their normal fundraising activities (such as the Westbury Show and Rodeo) due to Covid-19 and the restrictions.

Scouting is a worldwide, nonpolitical, voluntary and

educational organisation for both boys and girls from the age of 6 to 26 years of age.

It delivers an informal education system where children of all ages 'learn by doing'.

Scouts gain new skills, discover new interests and hobbies, and build self confidence in their own abilities.

Scouts work in small teams to challenge themselves and each other by having fun together and learning how to plan, implement and execute their varied activities in nature and the outdoors, supported by adult leaders.

Westbury Scouts will accept new enrolments once the school year begins in 2021.

Those interested in enrolling their children or who would like further information please contact Group Leader Margo Dobson on 0417 511 470.

Kassie presented the giant cheque to current scout leaders and junior members who were very appreciative of the support given by the local CommBank branch.

'It was a great pleasure to present this donation and to show our support to this local community group.'

From left, back: Scout Leader Pat Poulton, CommBank Deloraine Branch Manager Kassie Denmen, Scout Leader Lyn Young. Front, Scout Members Lily Ferguson and Celeste Triffitt. Photo supplied



Happy hardworking Hadspen

David Claridge

HADSPEN CRICKET Club are going into the Christmas break all smiles, celebrating onfield success and significant milestones for many of their players. Tommy Walker and Nick Young reached 150 matches while Liam Reynolds and Damian Woods reached 100 matches.

Cricket Club President, Corey Martin, expressed gratitude for the time loyal players have given to the club.

'Every year we have loyal players bring up some milestones and it just turns out that this year a crop of players are bringing up fairly significant ones. All of those players are loyal servants to Hadspen and

have been giving up their time. To etch their names in the honour books at Hadspen is a great achievement, something they should be proud of.

'When you add up 150 games of cricket it's a lot of weekends that players could be spending with their families. We're certainly grateful.'

'Most of the senior teams are in contention for finals around the halfway point. A good

reward for all the hard work the players have put in.'

Hadspen's Premier League finished before the break with a great T20 Grand Final win over Longford, 146-109.



CLASSIFIED ADS

Advertising enquiries to advertising@meandervalleygazette.com

Phone 6286 8216

ACCOUNTING & BOOKKEEPING

Deloraine Bean Counter looking after all your business accounts, MYOB, payroll and training needs. Call Zsuzsanna on 0427 362 058, delorainebeancounter@gmail.com. Central office located at Room 4, 62-64 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine Tas 7304.

COMPUTER REPAIRS

For computer repairs, upgrades, accessories & internet phone installation. Call Alistair Carr. Mobile: 0438 681 290. Email: ali_carr47@carrpar.biz.

FLUTE & GUITAR LESSONS

Private Music Tutor for Flute and Guitar. Now taking bookings. Email tonyandtita2015@icloud.com or leave a message on 0400 141 922.

CLASSICAL EUROPEAN PIANO LESSONS WITH ANNA:

Anna completed her classical music education in Poland, under the instruction of Polish and Russian music teachers. Her main instrument was piano, and her second instrument was flute. She took part in many national and international piano and choir competitions, with top placings in a number of those.

Anna is moving permanently to Deloraine in February 2021, where she will be offering piano lessons to adults and children of all ages, in the Launceston and Deloraine areas. Anna will be equally happy to provide the lessons in her home and in students' homes. Should you be interested in starting with Anna in February, please call her on 0400 654445, or email: brownmargaret117@gmail.com

SHERRIFF'S PLUMBING PTY. LTD.

SERVICING MEANDER VALLEY FOR OVER 40 YEARS

- All Plumbing and Drainage
- Sewer Jet Drain Cleaning
- Drainage Camera
- Cable and Drain Locations
- Solar Hot Water
- Backflow Prevention
- Concrete Cutting and Coring
- Filtered Water Systems

David 0417 104 467 - Simon 0408 622 279

Damien Buttery Land Clearing Services

-loaders diggers dozers-

All machines have stick rakes

Specialising in Irrigator Sites, Plantations Stumping, Gorse, etc

Phone: Damien 0428 622 294
Bac Tas Pty Ltd

(Currently working Cressy and Deloraine areas)

Walters CONTRACTING

NO JOB TOO BIG OR SMALL

- Driveways, Roads & Laneways
- Earthworks Excavation & Dam Building
- Bulldozer, Truck, Float, Roller & Grader Hire
- Road Bases & Materials

JOEY 0467 361 626 CHRIS 0418 370 646

SERVICING THE MEANDER VALLEY COMMUNITY FOR OVER 50 YEARS

NIGEL'S PUMPING SERVICE

Regularly servicing your area

Locally owned and operated

Avoid expensive plumbing bills - Have your septic tank pumped every 2 years

We offer:

- Septic tank and grease trap pumping
- Sludge removal
- Portalooos

For prompt and reliable service please call Nigel's today on

0419 154 475

DIG-EZI EXCAVATIONS

- Driveways
- Landscaping
- Drainage
- House sites
- Cartage
- General excavations

Greg 0408 543 132

MIGHTY SKIPS

Locally Owned & Operated

Skip Bin HIRE for Rubbish Removal

Tim Dawkins

Phone: 0400 087 854

Deloraine Kangas debut for women's team in 2021



Deloraine Kangaroos Senior Women's team will make their debut in 2021, under the guidance of two coaches, Brad Powe and Steve Clark.

From left, back row: Steve Clark, Bek Dornauf, Jessie Hovington, Jess Wall, Brad Powe, Caity Holmes, Crystal Manning, Tahlia Powe, Angelina Edwards, Renske Rombouts, Tahleah O'Garey, Adam Linford, Alice Lord, Jordan Loone.

From left, front row: Chelsea Rushton, Abbey Cox, Justin Hartman, Matt Dornauf, Renee Walker, Claudia Gardner.

Photo supplied by Don Tracey



David Claridge

THE DELORAINÉ Kangaroos will have a greater presence on the field next season with a Senior Women's team to debut in the NTFAW.

Adding to the presence of women's football in the region, they will join the league, expanding it to 11 sides in 2021.

Kangaroos President Don Tracey noted that around 25 recruits have already started to attend training on Monday and Thursday nights

'A lot of the girls haven't played before. It's an all-new experience for them. They are working on their core skills and of course learning to have a bit of fun', he said.

'They seem to be enjoying it so far.

'We are still looking for recruits across all age groups.

'Anyone is welcome to come and have a look.'

The team will be fortunate enough to have two coaches – Kangaroos veteran player and coach Brad Powe and U17's coach Steve Clark.

Powe has been quoted saying 'they will take a patient, long term approach to getting the team off the ground and employ an enjoyment first outlook.'

The 2021 roster is due to start in April, but a fixture is yet to be announced. The Kangaroos already field girl's teams in the u11's, u14's and u17's.



SUMMER IS HERE AND WE'RE READY

It's thanks to the hard work of every Tasmanian that we continue to keep on top of COVID.

It's time to celebrate, but as we get out and about during the festive season, we need to make sure we do the things that keep us safe:



WASH HANDS



KEEP YOUR DISTANCE



STAY HOME IF SICK



COVID SYMPTOMS? GET TESTED



FOLLOW CURRENT RESTRICTIONS

KEEP ON TOP OF COVID

www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au

Public Health Hotline 1800 671 738

