

CARING FOR THE

Tasmanian Landcarers were out in force in the Meander Valley

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KIDS SPORTS GRANT APPLICATIONS OPEN

"Grants of up to \$10,000 will be awarded," says MP Brian Mitchell

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PROTECTING YOUR DRINKING WATER

TasWater is utilising new technology to improve regional water quality

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Meander Valley Gazette

Free every month

January 2022

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper

Christmas spirit in the valley

At the Combined Churches of Deloraine's Carols by the River, Margot Malek kept the children enraptured with Christmas tales and incredible costumes all evening.

THERE WAS something for everyone at Carols by the River 2021.

Lovers of music and merriment from all over Meander Valley flocked to Deloraine on December 18 to enjoy a night of Christmas cheer.

Since 1987, carols have been hosted annually by Combined

Churches of Deloraine as a gift to the region, bringing people together in celebration and song.

Josh Skeat was the master of ceremonies, introducing and organising a wide variety of performers and entertainment throughout the night.

The Meander Men kicked

things off, followed by the Shakale Mamas, the Wickham Girls, a song from the MC himself, a children's choir and a combined choir.

Margot Malek brought costumed flair to the evening, dressing as an angel all in white and telling holiday tales to eager children.

It was great to see new

additions to the program this year, with spectacular cultural performances by Samoan and Timorese groups who call the valley home.

Attendees flooded the riverbank, bringing candles

and picnics, singing along and enjoying the free sausage sizzle.

With incredible events like this to look forward to, Christmas can't come soon enough!

▶ PHOTOS CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



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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

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Letter from the Gazette

Happy New Year!

WELCOME TO the new year, Meander Valley!

With 2021 behind us, we're looking forward to whatever 2022 has in store.

I personally hope the hottest day of the year is behind us, but I have a feeling there's still more sunburn in store for me this summer.

As a community newspaper, we wouldn't be able to function without the support and dedication of our incredible sponsors, advertisers, contributors and incredible volunteer network.

One of our goals for 2022 is to cast our net even wider to make sure that our region is well represented and connected.

We would love to hear from businesses, community groups and sporting clubs and learn all about what you have planned for this trip around the sun. We're sure the rest of the region would love to hear about it too!

If you're interested in contributing to the Gazette, reporting, submitting photos or helping out with distribution, please get in touch.

Abbey McNamara (artwork assistant turned administration whiz) and I are here to help with any enquiries you may have, from "How can I help?" to "How much for a full-page ad?"

If you're wondering who the man woman behind the curtain is, my name is April Underhill, and last year, I became involved with the Gazette when I created our new website.

If you haven't had a chance to see it yet, consider this

your queue! On it, you can find all our archives, read the latest editions, find out more about the Gazette and contact us with the click of a button.

I'm not from the Meander Valley, but I'm falling more and more in love with every visit!

Not only is the landscape incredible and history-rich, but the community is so spectacularly vibrant.

Beginning this month, I will be producing the newspaper in addition to continuing website maintenance.

Production involves designing and laying out the paper, creating ads for clients and seeing everything through to the printed (or e-published) product.

On that note, on behalf of the Gazette, I would like to give the biggest shout-out to Liz Douglass.

Liz has been at the helm of the Gazette as managing editor for three years, and her contributions have been immeasurable.

Liz handled not just production but the roles of editor, manager, photographer, writer, Jack-ofall-trades and comic relief.

It may not have always been smooth sailing, but who needs calm seas when you have a captain like Liz to right the ship?

Thank you, Liz! You've shown us how, so now we'll do our best to make you proud. Best of luck in all your endeavours! We'll miss you too.

April Underhill *Production manager*

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor may be edited for reasons of space or clarity. The thoughts and opinions expressed in letters published do not represent the Meander Valley Gazette or associated organisations.

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MEDICAL APARTHEID AND CHILD VACCINATION

It remains clear that vaccination does not prevent individuals catching, carrying and passing on Covid.

The Lancet medical journal published a July 2021 study showing that 74% Covid positive people were vaccinated and of these 79% were symptomatic and viral load was high amongst the vaccinated.

The Government, in claiming that 70%/80%/90% double vaccination will protect the individual and the community (which is clearly false) is unnecessarily creating a two class society with medical apartheid.

The omicron variant is set to produce the biggest Covid wave yet with vaccines quickly losing their efficacy.

Boosters are now clearly necessary to give the vaccines any credibility regarding their efficacy.

At best the vaccines may mitigate severe effects of the virus but this must be offset against adverse events in many people triggered by the vaccine, shown in studies but rarely communicated to the public by mainstream media such as the government-biased ABC.

Few of us have not had a family member, friend or neighbour who has experienced such things as collapse, convulsion, debilitating rash or malaise associated with the vaccine.

Now the TGA has approved the Pfizer Covid 19 vaccination rollout for young children in early January 2022.

The disease the vaccine is intended to minimise (not eliminate) is in general no threat to children.

A case fatality rate (CFR) chart by Health.gov.au statistics (4th Nov 2021)

reports no deaths for children under the age of 10.

A CFR of only 0.004% is reported for Australians under 20 (only those with significant co-morbidities have died) whereas many young people have had adverse events from the vaccines and particularly worrying, myocarditis.

Reports from Vietnam show that two days after starting vaccination for 15 to 17 year olds, 120 cases were hospitalised and 3 died. Are children are now expected to risk their lives to "protect" adults?

I am not anti-vax but I am anti mandatory vaccination which is contrary to all medical, moral, legal and convention principles in countries claiming to be free and democratic such as Australia.

Our government is guilty of both coercion ("no jab, no job") and manipulation through biased reporting.

Let us follow a new path forward free of bullying by government or business.

We should be slowly opening up at the end of a Covid cycle, not at the beginning as with omicron.

Free available rapid antigen tests; vaccinations for those who want them; home isolation whenever possible; free readily available treatment options.

The TGA should be promoting - not banning - the latter. The Government has bungled Covid control, forfeiting our freedom and negating personal responsibility.

I for my part, will stand against medical apartheid for adults and unnecessary vaccination of young children with an experimental vaccine.

Kevin Briggs, *Devonport*

Everyone has right to freedom of speech, however misinformation is dangerous. For official statistics and advice regarding Covid-19 and vaccinations visit any of the below websites:

- www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au
- www.health.gov.au/health-alerts/covid-19
- www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus



jen.butler@parliament.tas.gov.au



Sunday 26 January 2022 from 7.30am

Westbury RSL Club
7 Lonsdale Promenade, Westbury
(Opposite the Village Green)

\$12 per person \$25 per family

Proceeds to support Rotary Bush Fire Relief

Gluten free options available

Meander Valley Gazette January 2022

Landcare in the Meander Valley

IN OCTOBER, Landcarers from all over Tasmania gathered the 2021 Tasmanian Community Landcare Conference in Launceston.

One of four field trips took people to the Meander Valley, to showcase the work that eight Landcare Groups have done in the Meander Catchment in 2021.

To make these projects happen, Landcare Tasmania has partnered with the Tasmanian Government through Landcare the Action Grants Program, with additional funds from donations to the Tasmanian Landcare Fund by the JM Roberts Charitable Trust.

Attendees of the field trip looked at a number of sustainable farming properties, willow removal, and riparian restoration and listened to presentations from Forico's Adam Crook, Australian Hemp Council president Tim Schmidt and Herbert Staubmann of Habitat Plants Nursery.

The first stop on this trip was the banks of the Meander River, off Birralee Road, where attendees looked at revegetation sites of the Quamby Bend Landcare Group and private forestry company Forico.

Farmers of the Quamby Bend Landcare Group have controlled willows and other weeds on over 10 km of the Meander River north of Westbury over the last 20 years! These projects have been supported by Landcare Tasmania and have helped greatly to reduce the impact of floods and stabilize riverbanks by planting native vegetation instead.

They have put an amazing effort in planting out even steep river banks that they often had to access from

In 2021, the Quamby Bend Landcare Group got together with Forico, and planted over 2000 native plants to provide biodiverse habitat and reduce erosion.

It was great to see this project in action.





▶ Participants in the Meander Valley Field Trip learned about sustainable farming, willow removal, and riparian restoration, and more! Photos by Nick Hanson.

Recent months have been a real challenge, due to late and reoccurring high water levels that threatened to wash the new plants away.

Next stop - lunch! A delicious lunch was provided by 41 Degrees South Salmon Farm.

Attendees also learnt about the environmental practices of inland fish farming including their system to clean water

from the fishponds by running it through a wetlands area.

The next stop was Woodlands, just west of Deloraine, where farmer Tim Schmidt grows beef and a variety of crops.

Tim is also the president of the Australian Hemp Council, and told attendees about his hemp growing business.

He is selling his own grown

hemp as oil and other products in shops and on markets in Tasmania, as well as through his online shop, The Tassie Hemp Shop.

Tim has used different methods to stop erosion of the Meander River that flows through his farm, including heavy structures built from rocks and trees.

plants this year, funded through Landcare Tasmania.

These plantings will provide biodiversity benefits as well as benefits for the farm through shelter for stock and beneficial insects.

Herbert Staubmann from Habitat Plants Nursery in Liffey used Tim's planting to demonstrate to us how to He also planted over 1300 make such a planting a success!



New road crash rescue truck for Meander Valley SES

Jacquie Petrusma

Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management

THE MEANDER Valley SES has been handed the keys for a new custom-built fit-for-purpose road crash rescue truck, and equipment for other SES operations including for storm and flood rescue.

The SES truck has been custom designed and fabricated at the Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management workshop in Cambridge by the exceptionally talented engineering and fleet services who operate there.

The new truck also delivers a significant upgrade in capability for the Meander Valley SES Unit.

This truck and two further trucks which are being built in the same design, will significantly bolster the capability of the SES Units that provide support to the communities of Meander Valley, Queenstown and Sorell/South-East Tasmania.

The Meander Valley SES Unit



▶ The Meander Valley SES team is now better equipped than ever to respond to road crashes, floods and storms.

has 15 members who provide assistance to the communities between Deloraine, Hagley, Paramatta Creek and Birralee to Miena.

The Tasmanian Liberal

Government is committed to supporting Tasmania's emergency services, including the State Emergency Service (SES).

The dedicated and selfless

members of SES Tasmania provide invaluable services and support to our community, which includes road crash, flood and storm rescues in rural areas.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of our SES members for their ongoing dedication and service to the Tasmanian community.

Patsy Crawford scribbling away

HAVING BEEN immersed in the arid world of Dune from the minute Frank Herbert launched the first book into the reading stratosphere, I almost fell over myself in my rush to see the movie the other day.

I was overwhelmed by excitement, not least because the film articulated those parts of Dune (and there's plenty of them) that had become lost in the vast and, at times, arcane labyrinth of the Herbertian narrative.

Complexity was unravelled. Here was the sisterhood of the Bene Gesserit made real.

The jaw dropped as the giant sandworms wove their way towards death and destruction.

Sorry if this means nothing to non-Dune readers - I got a little carried away there.

It didn't matter that the science, weird philosophy and occasional kumbaya-ness of it all sometimes had me baffled.

The universe is such a vast template that anyone with a scintilla of astrophysical knowledge can bang on about it, and I'll listen.

And Dune isn't the only thing that's made me wish I'd paid closer heed in Mr Burke's phys-chem classes donkey's years ago.

Let's turn to Stephen Hawkins, he of the tinny voice and the brain the size of Jupiter.

I cannot hold hand to heart and say I didn't get a word of A Brief History of Time because I did understand some parts.

These were the prepositions, the conjunctions and the personal pronouns.

So long as the book stayed close to words such as 'and', 'to' and 'the' I was right across it.

The minute I struck sentences defining Pauli's exclusion principle on quarks, protons and neutrons, my grip on the story became about as solid as a ciggy paper.

I soldiered on, reading from cover to cover, totally mystified as to how the man could consider this intellectual food for the scientifically moronic.

However, the book's been shoved on the shelf, sandwiched between At the Tomb of the Inflatable Pig (surely the funniest travel yarn ever written) and The Fine Cotton Fiasco, Australia's dodgiest horse race.

To round out the trifecta of abject incomprehension, I give you Brian Cox and nothing less than the entire story of the entire universe.

Prof Cox is easy on the eye, has exuberance in spades and doesn't half know his white stars from his black holes.

Again, I found the intellectual challenge of his exposition about how the universe was formed and what

it contains a bit of a battle.
It didn't matter though.

Both the universe and the prof's big white teeth looked stunning.

The planetary journey was spectacular.

And as was the case with Dune and Stephen Hawkins, I only got a rough approximation of what was actually going on.

When the four eps were over and we'd been swept on such a magnificent journey through space and time, me and Crawford turned to one another and gave our assessment of it all.

We'd finally got out chops around it.

We'd nailed it at last.

'The universe is bloody big,' we said.



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T (03) 6362 2346 E info@pjsfinancial.com.au Meander Valley Gazette January 2022

Do you want to give back to the community, meet new people and enjoy it at the same time?

The Rotary Club of Deloraine has been working for the Meander Valley community for 64 years. We have a mixture of males and females, with members from long-established settlers to "newbies" to the area and backgrounds as varied as air hostess and architect.

The main fund-raising activity is the Tasmania Craft Fair (TCF), and through that, we have generated nearly \$4 million over its 41 years. The TCF provides benefits to the town, exhibitors, small businesses and other community groups who share in the surplus.



Projects of the Rotary Club that have benefitted from TCF funding include:

- development of the Meander River environs from weedinfested banks to grassy areas with walkways
- installation of both pedestrian bridges over the river
- financial assistance to the hospital and aged care facilities
- sponsorship of the local Giant Steps school for autistic children
- running the Model United Nations Assembly attended by children from around Tasmania
- running a Learn-to-Swim school for 40 years
- sponsoring children to attend programs designed to realise their potential
- funding tertiary scholarships, as well as apprentice and trainee awards
- volunteer teams sent to Tanzania, Nepal and Fiji to erect infrastructure, etc

Being a member of the Rotary Club of Deloraine isn't only about assisting the community. You can meet some great people – long-time locals and people new to the area – and have some fun.

If you would like to try us out, whether you have been here for two weeks or 25 years, **call John Dare on 0410 557 598** to arrange to come to one of our meetings as a guest.





Give it a go - we are friendly, and we all started out as the new faces in the Club.

For local knowledge & extensive experience selling property in the Meander Valley, be sure to talk to Lee and Kellie before listing your home.





Lee Jamieson 0439 931 037

> Kellie Challis 0437 841 842



New layers of protection for regional drinking water

ADDITIONAL WATER quality safeguards have been completed at a northern Tasmanian water treatment plant.

The Bracknell Water Treatment Plant now has an ultraviolet (UV) disinfection treatment facility on site which will add an additional layer of treatment.

TasWater Senior Project Manager Dheeraj Rajan said the UV disinfection does not affect the taste, colour or odour of the water, but adds an additional layer of protection, further reducing the risk of harmful microbes entering the water supply.

"These facilities will also be built at Scottsdale, Bridport, Deloraine, Westbury, St Helens, Longford, Glen Huon and Smithton." Mr Rajan said.

"It will further safeguard the quality of water at these small water treatment plants.

"We are pleased to announce that the facility is now online at Bracknell, with more soon to be complete."

TRILITY are the main contractor carrying out the works.

"The treatment will not slow down the water treatment process, and just means that water will pass through a UV light as it leaves the treatment plant," Mr Rajan said.

TasWater's priority is that water is safe to drink, and UV treatment helps ensures we can continue to do so and meet modern drinking water standards.

The project features a containerised plant being installed at five of the nine locations, while at the remaining sites the plants are being built within a steel framed building, which will be



► TRILITY's Tony Hourigan, TasWater Acting CEO Tony Willmott and TasWater Central North Coordinator Jake Ward. *Photo supplied*.

connected to the existing water treatment plant at each site.

"At each site a large amount of preparation work is being conducted to ensure the existing plants can be fitted out properly with the UV capabilities," Mr Rajan said.

"In addition, we will also be installing feed pumps and tanks at some of the locations so the new treatment facilities can be connected and operate effectively."

The remaining ultraviolet (UV) disinfection treatment facilities will be completed in the new year.





Tongerlongeter: a hero for all Australians

Jason MacLeod, Deloraine

A recently published book by fellow Tasmanians Henry Reynolds and Nick Clements gives Australians a new hero: Tongerlongeter, a man who defended his country with grit, grace, and fierce determination.

NOT SO long ago the Meander Valley was a frontline in a rapidly expanding war.

The conflict was so fierce that it came to define the meaning of the word genocide.

But massacres were only one feature of the war. Tasmanian Aboriginal people also led a fierce guerilla resistance.

Between 1823 and 1831 two hundred and fiftyeight Europeans were killed in fierce fighting across Tasmania's frontier.

In some places in Tasmania casualties were roughly 50/50, as convicts on the frontier were armed with muskets and rifles, and settlements were fortified with palisades.

When we put these numbers in perspective, the scale of the war is staggering.

Because of the low population levels in Tasmania at the time, per capita battle deaths during the Black War were 'greater than during the Second World War' and that 'the death toll overshadows the 340 Australian deaths in the Korean War and the 521 in Vietnam' (pg 210).

These startling numbers reposition Tasmania's Black War as one of Australia's most significant conflicts, even more so because it took place on home soil.

The key strategist in the Tasmanian war was Tongerlongeter, a war chief, coalition builder, and negotiator, who fought alongside Montpelliatta, and other warriors, to defend their country.

At the height of the war, in 1830 alone, there were 124 attacks against white settlements (pg 101).

Incredibly at the same time as this spike in Tasmanian Aboriginal resistance, the numbers of the Oyster Bay and Big River Nations, the alliance that Tongerlongeter led, had plummeted to just over two dozen people, including women and children.

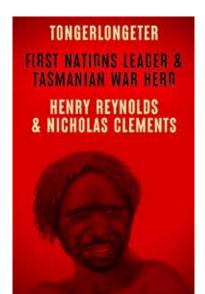
Despite this, Tongerlongeter and the other warriors not only continued to fight but escalated attacks on White settlement, making a mockery of Arthur's 'black line' and other military strategies designed to defeat the resistance.

As they carefully chart the progress and outcome of the war, Reynolds and Clements make it clear that there was no surrender, no defeat.

Towards the end of the war Tongerlongeter, and what was left of the Oyster Bay and Big River Tribes, retreated to the Plateau where they continued to wage hit and run raids.

Finally, at wits end and pressured by colonists, Governor Arthur Phillip entrusted the missionary George Augustus Robinson to broker a ceasefire.

Robinson guaranteed them safe passage and the survivors agreed to travel south to hammer



out the terms of settlement.

On Saturday 7 January 1832, Tongerlongeter and the remaining 25 men, women, and one child, walked down the centre of Hobart with their hunting dogs, spears, 'shrieked their war song' (pg 11) to meet the Governor.

We will never know what exactly transpired in the Treaty negotiations, but Reynolds and Clements, and Robinson's own records, make it clear that the Tasmanians understood they would be able to return to their country after a period of time on Flinders Island.

Framing Tongerlongeter as a hero for all Australians, as a person who defended and fought for country, is a stroke of genius.

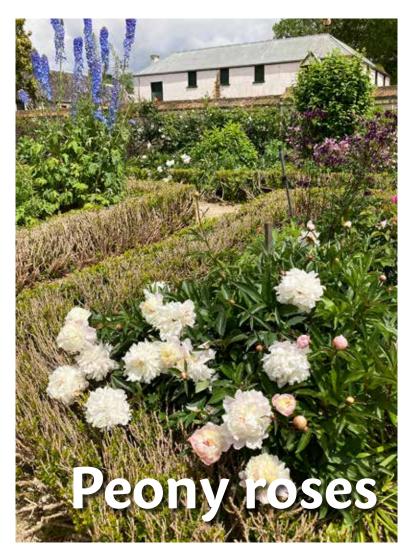
And it is a narrative that is gaining traction. When I went to the book launch in Launceston, Tasmanian's Premier, Peter Gutwein, launched the book.

This Liberal Party politician spoke at length with respect, even admiration, for Tongerlongeter.

All of us who love this country

– who would do what we can to
defend and protect Tasmania –
can admire him.

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Susan Haas

Herbaceous peonies

Many gardeners grow peony roses and peony trees. They are beautiful flowers in subtle shades of pink, mauve and white that many adore.

The only problem with them is that their scent is not at all pleasant.

For something so gorgeous, it is impossible to imagine that they stink. There is one peony that I refer to as the 'Deloraine Peony'.

This is a beautiful dark red/pink peony.

One of my clients has three in Mole Creek, and I have three of them myself.

One belonged to the original owners of my house, I bought one, and my old next-door neighbour gave me one.

As they generally take three years to flower, that is how I ended up with three.

Peonies are especially suited to our climate.

They love cold winters.

They are a bit like lavender and do not like to be too wet, or they will rot underground.

They also don't like being planted too deeply or moved after they have settled.

Growers recommend that they are mulched over the summer to avoid overheating.

What I didn't realise is that peonies are extremely greedy plants.

They love to be fed.

I was told of a woman who fed her peonies every week! That is a little over the top!

It is recommended that they are fed blood and bone when planted and a special rose plant food in autumn.

They could also have some potash at springtime to aid in flowering.

It is important to take away the mulch from the plants in winter so they can experience the full cold.

Tree peonies

Tree peonies are slow-growing and can reach two metres tall.

They don't need winters as cold as herbaceous peonies.

They will grow lower from September to November.

Tree peony flower colours range from white to yellows through to reds and black, with a darker blotch in the centre of the flowers.

Tree peonies are best planted in autumn and positioned to catch the morning sun.

Be patient. The blooms may be small and single and not true to colour.

Make sure they are fertilised, and the plants will be fine.

I have a tree peony on one of my client's properties.

It struggles although it has morning sun.

I think it needs some fertiliser at the correct times, and hopefully, it will show a marked improvement.

Happy growing!

Plant this month: chillies, zucchini, eggplant, sweet corn and rosella.

ADVERTORIAL

Harvesting rain with Raincube

WHEN ALISTAIR Rule purchased a block of land in the Meander Valley with no access to water and without any built structures to attach fixed water tanks, he decided to do something about it.

Alistair required a water supply so newly planted trees would survive and remembered seeing an abundance of IBCs sitting on rural properties all over Tasmania that were no longer in use. He thought these could be repurposed to turn them into a unique portable rainwater storage system.

Alistair used his skills as a builder to design and develop a portable rainwater harvesting system that captures rainfall, via a custom-built metal roofing

structure that directs rain from the roof into an IBC, which holds 1000 litres of rainwater.

Portability was a feature that Alistair wanted to incorporate in his design and the IBC ticked the box for this feature to become reality, aptly naming his innovation the Raincube.

What started out as one person's desire to find a water solution for his off grid property has evolved into a product with tremendous potential for people seeking an additional portable water storage system.

This system can be used for many purposes such as livestock, gardens, fire mitigation, prevention or even washing the dog. Water from a Raincube is not suitable for human consumption.

With the fire season fast approaching Alistair is expecting increased demand for Raincubes, particularly from off grid property owners.

A fire hose can be fed through the top opening or connected to the tap at the bottom of the IBC and Raincube provides two couplings – IBC-50mm bsp and an IBC to garden hose.

Farmers who already have IBCs may wish to purchase the Raincube roofing structure only.

Measurements on repurposed IBCs can differ, so each Raincube roofing structure needs to be made

and assembled specific to individual IBC measurements. Farmers can drop their IBC off to Alistair to be fitted

with the roofing structure. Alternatively, if 2 or more roofing kits are ordered, Alistair can construct and assemble them on site.

Raincube has a roof area of 3.2m². If annual rain fall was 1 metre, this would collect

approximately 3200 litres.

Raincube is also an ideal product for apartments and rooftop gardens.

A complete Raincube unit sells for \$1450 including 2 couplings. Raincube Roofing structure sells for \$1275 which includes the cost of assembly.

For all enquiries, please contact Alistair Rule at admin@raincube.com.au.





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Carols - and culture! - by the river

▶ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 - PHOTO GALLERY

Did we see you there? See more online at www.meandervalleygazette.org























Happy New Year from Aged Care Deloraine

As we step into another year, we hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and relaxing festive season.

We'd like to thank all our residents, families and representatives, staff, volunteers, contractors and suppliers, local businesses and the broader community for all your support and resilience during 2021. Your support made it possible for us to maintain the safest possible environment throughout another year of uncertainty.



Aged Care Deloraine Inc

Aged Care Deloraine supports the needs of individuals by providing quality residential aged care services and independent living units to the Meander Valley Community. Between our two facilities, Kanangra and Grenoch, we deliver care and support covering 95 permanent residential care beds with respite care also available. Both facilities cater for the same levels of care.

The decision to move into aged care may be a daunting one, but with the help of our team, it can be a seamless transition into a better life.

Call us today to see how we can help.

AGED CARE DELORAINE INC

Phone. 6362 8300 **Email.** info@agedcaredeloraine.org.au

Website. www.agedcaredeloraine.org.au



keep it COVID safe this SUMMEr.

Keep practising COVID safe behaviours this summer

There are measures to reduce the risk as we enjoy summer events and activities however, we can expect cases of COVID-19 to occur in our community.

The best way to protect yourself, your family and the community is to ensure you are fully vaccinated if eligible.

Reduce the risk - keep it COVID safe:

- Be fully vaccinated.
- Use Check in TAS at venues and events to help with contact tracing.
- Wear a mask when needed and stay up to date with latest rules and requirements.
- Stay home when unwell and get tested if you have any cold or flu symptoms.
- Wash / sanitise your hands regularly.
- Practise physical distancing 1.5 metres where possible.

Find out more at:

coronavirus.tas.gov.au



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At the movies with the **Western Tiers** Film Society

Clare Andersen

At the February 5 Deloraine Markets look for the Western Tiers Film Society banner. WTFS invites cinema goers to come to our stand and say hello: we will be happy to pique your interest and answer queries you may have on membership and our monthly screenings.

The Term 1, 2022 program, comprising 7 films (one being the bonus) is available. The team welcome suggestions of your favourites and feedback. You can join on the spot or take away an application to complete at your leisure. Our venue, The Little Theatre, is a Council community facility and a Covid-safe environment is followed by all users.

We look forward to seeing valued patrons and new faces.



FEBRUARY 12

THE COURIER

2020 PG-13, History/ Drama, Czech/UK, 111m Director Dominic Cooke

Premiering at the Sundance 2020 Festival our February offering, Courier, is based on true events. It tells the story of the British businessman who helped MI6 penetrate the Soviet nuclear programme during the Cold War by providing intelligence that ended the Cuban Missile Crisis. Emily Donovan, a CIA Agent reached out to MI6 Agent Dickie Franks, who recruited British salesman Greville Wynne (Benedict Cumberbatch) to be their spy.

'This is a damn good, explosively tense story that focuses on the friendship that develops between two men on opposite sides. And it is plainly wonderful.'

- The Spectator 04/2021

Critics 85%/Audience 95%

- Rotten Tomatoes

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

Biodiversity and the 3F initiative

"About 95% of land plants have a mutually beneficial partnership with fungi where an exchange of nutrients takes place..."



Sarah Lloyd, OAM

IN 1992 the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Convention on Biological Diversity agreed on an internationally accepted definition of biodiversity:

"... the variability among living organisms from all sources, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and ecological complexes of which they are part, this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems."

The variability does not just refer to plants and animals – fauna and flora — which have been the subject of most documentation, research and conservation efforts for the past several centuries.

In 2021, the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of the IUCN committed to the 3F initiative 'mycologically using inclusive' language documents and in conservation strategies.

They will in future discuss and lobby to protect fauna, flora and funga - animals, fungi and plants.

Fungi are finally being recognised as crucial to the survival of life on Earth and, with between 2.2 and 3.8 million species believed to exist (only a mere 8% have been scientifically documented),

they form a large, albeit usually inconspicuous, component of species on the planet.

Fungi are distinctive organisms in the way they interact with their immediate surroundings.

They digest their food externally by secreting enzymes into their environment and absorbing organic matter back into their cells.

Fungi (i.e. yeasts, moulds and mushrooms) play a vital role in breaking down organic material.

Concurrent with this decomposition comes recycling of all the nutrients that would otherwise be locked up in the organic material, and making those nutrients available for use by other organisms.

critically Fungi important in forest health and regeneration, they play a role in mammalian (including human) digestion, antibiotic medication, and they are involved in the process of making bread, beer, wine and chocolate.

About 95% of land plants have a mutually beneficial partnership with fungi where an exchange of nutrients takes place in the root zone; without fungi, many plants would fail to thrive and some would not survive; orchids are unable to germinate without their fungal partner.

Because fungi are so closely associated with plants and animals, they face similar threats of deforestation, climate change and pollution.

They are also subject threats from widespread use of fungicides, overharvesting nitrogen enrichment.

The 3F initiative (fauna, flora and funga) declared by the SSC has been endorsed by the Chilean government, the first and only country in the world so far to include fungi in their environmental legislation.

The declaration calls on other world governments to follow Chile's lead.

"We call on state leaders, civil society, scientists, and citizens of the world to embrace them, and create protections for

fungi under international, regional and domestic law and policy, both to share the equal significance of fungi among the kingdom of life and to help address the threats that jeopardise the ability of fungal species to thrive and survive," Jon Paul Rodriguez, chair of the IUCN Special Species Commission.





Orchids, such as the great sun orchid and hyacinth orchid pictured, are unable to germinate without their fungal partners.



► Fungi like earthstars (pictured), mycena species and orange jelly fungus play crucial roles in breaking down dead organic material and making nutrients available to use by other organisms. Photos supplied.



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TANIA RATTRAY MLC

FOR MCINTYRE

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

Northern Correctional Facility

Public Consultation on future use of the Ashley Youth Detention Centre site

On 9 September 2021, the Government announced the closure of the Ashley Youth Detention Centre (AYDC) within the next three years and the establishment of two new therapeutic facilities for youths in the north and south of the State. The Tasmanian Government is committed to building a Northern Correctional Facility to optimise the service delivery of the State's prison service. While the reports from the investigations at the designated site on the Crown land on Birralee Road are currently being finalised, the closure of AYDC presents an opportunity to potentially consider the development of this project at this alternative location. Preliminary desktop assessment by the Department of Justice indicates that the site appears to be well suited as a location for a modern, fit for purpose correctional facility in northern Tasmania, with a custodial facility a permitted use within the current zone for the site under the Tasmanian Planning Scheme for the Meander Valley.

About the consultation process

The Tasmanian Government is committed to engaging with the local Meander Valley community on the future use of the AYDC site before making any final decision. Therefore, we are seeking input from the community on the option of the future use of AYDC site for the development of the Northern Correctional Facility. Consultation with key communities and stakeholders will help inform the Government in making the decision on the future use of the AYDC site and it's suitability for this important project.

The consultation process will be facilitated by the Department of Justice and will enable the community to have their say in a number of ways. Community engagement will include:

- a 'shop front' style information booth in Deloraine and its surrounds, to provide information to, and hear directly from, community members;
- a dedicated website to include regular up to date information; and
- opportunities for the community to express their views and provide feedback either by phone, email or by written submission.

Further details on these engagement methods will be publicly advertised in due course.

About the Project

A key part of the Government's corrections infrastructure plan is the commitment to build a Northern Correctional Facility. The new facility will have a key focus on rehabilitation, reintegration, training and education opportunities for offenders and will allow them to be accommodated significantly closer to their families and support networks, which is expected to increase visitation rates and reduce recidivism. This focus on rehabilitation, education and reintegration strongly aligns with the establishment of the facility as primarily for sentenced offenders who are progressing through their sentences and starting to prepare for reintegration into the community, as well as a Northern Remand Centre for people who have been detained in custody pending the outcome of their court appearances.

Register for project updates

If you would like to receive updates on the project, you can register for our mailing list via email to northerncorrectionalfacility@justice.tas.gov.au



Meander Valley Gazette January 2022 **13**



▶ Deloraine Probus members enjoying a train ride around Pearn's Steam World. Photo supplied.

Riding the rails in Westbury

DELORAINE **PROBUS** members enjoyed a fun outing to Pearn's Steam World at Westburv.

Run by friendly and dedicated volunteers, it was a morning of engaging in the agricultural heritage of the region.

Originally brought together by the Pearn family since the 1950s, it's now considered to be one of the finest attractions of its type in the Southern hemisphere.

From the expansive collection of steam engines, tractors, farm implements to the beautiful sole steam boat,

it allowed for an informative stroll through the large sheds.

The tour began at the interpretation centre the old settler's cottage where many reminisced in childhood memories.

The visit culminated in having a ride or two around the grounds in the mini train, which had members gaily waving with smiles to match while the camera snappers were kept busy.

The morning finished with the takeover of a local café before going home for what was surely a lazy afternoon.

Bringing the groove back

The voices of MVFM

WHEN MIRA Kuperstein first joined the Meander Valley community radio, MVFM 96.9, they thought it would be fun to be part of something that would be such a tremendous resource for the community.

They found it to be exciting to be part of the station.

Even before it went to air ten years ago, Mira wanted to present music that she loved to hear. So, she started hosting her "Roots and Branches" reggae show.

She loves reggae music and says, "It's such groovy, relaxing, soulful music that makes your toes tap."

No one is quite sure who is actively listening to the station's programs, but every now and then, someone says to Mira, "Oh! Are you that American chick on the radio?"

She replies, "Yeah, that's me! You're listening. Excellent."

Mira became president of the station in 2014 and soon learned a great deal about the administrative side of community radio.

She loved working with people, volunteers, sponsors and committee members and training new presenters.

She learned about the importance of volunteering in a community.

She helped run fundraisers

and conducted interviews with local characters, which allowed her to develop her improvisational radio voice.

While she was president, the station secured a significant to help acquire grant equipment to broadcast live.

She is looking forward to the time when that plan becomes a reality.

She sees this as an excellent opportunity to encourage the community to tell stories of the valley's past and make local events even more visible.

"Roots and Branches" may be heard on MVFM from 4 o'clock on Sunday afternoons, and as you listen, no doubt your toes will tap!





Calling a service or retail business advertising in the Meander Valley Gazette?

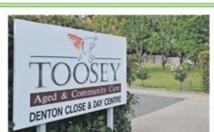
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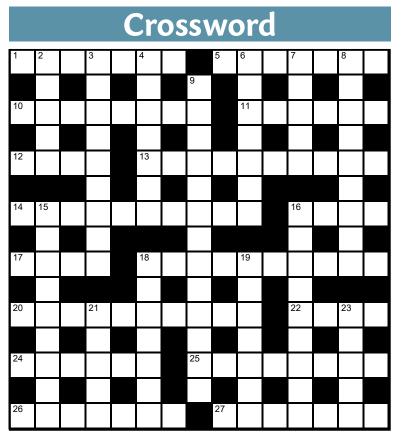


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Across

- 1 Evidence of illness (7)
- **5** Liner which hit an iceberg (7)
- 10 Your inner framework (8)
- 11 Turbulent (6)
- 12 Artist --- Chagall (4)
- **13** Homes for children with no parents (10)
- 14 Dressmaker (10)
- 16 What a train wheel runs on (4)
- 17 "Star Trek" phaser setting (4)18 Summer 2000 Olympic gold-
- winning Hockeyroo player (6,4)
 20 Bolder lady regenerated as
- punk rocker (anagram) (5,5)

 22 Sharp to the taste (4)
- **24** Empty space (6)

EVENT OR BUSINESS

25 Paper deliverers (8)

- **26** Former National Party Deputy Prime Minister Doug --- (7)
- 27 Led down the aisle (7)

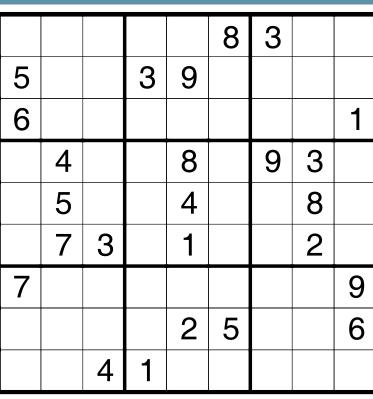
Down

- 2 Hard work (5)
- 3 Law enforcer (9)
- 4 Frontier settlement (7)
- 6 Being taught (2,5)
- 7 "Hello" in Hawaii (5)
- 8 Not exact (9)
- 9 Sydney Harbour feature (7,6)
- **15** Amuse (9)
- **16** Well thought-of (9)
- **18** One's middle (7)
- 19 Follow-up punches, in boxing (3-4)
- **21** Money (5)

DETAILS

23 End the same, like moon and spoon (5)

Sudoku

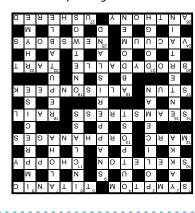


© 2022 Syndicated Puzzles

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 2022 solution

Sudoku January 2022 solution



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Meander Valley Gazette is looking for contributors, writers and photographers to help keep our community newspaper up to date and in touch with events and activities in the Meander Valley. Call 6286 8212 or email editor@meandervalleygazette.com.



Events diary

Become a sponsor of the Meander Valley Gazette.
Your company logo could go right here.
Call or email us for details.

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.

DAIL	EVENT ON DOSINESS	DETAILS
Any time	Bonorong Wildlife Rescue	Call to report finding injured & orphaned birds & wildlife. 0447 264 625.
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.
Mondays, 11–11.30am	Story Time At Deloraine Library	Term 4, 11 October to 16 December. Deloraine Library, 2–4 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine. 6701 2180.
Mondays, 1–1.30pm	Story Time At Westbury Library	Term 4, 11 October to 16 December. Westbury Library, 33 William Street, Westbury. 6701 2189.
Every Tues, 10am–12 noon	Hadspen Playgroup	School term. Uniting Church Hall, cnr of Clare & Main St, Hadspen. Contact Andrew Keena 6393 6324.
Every Tues, 10-11.30am	Happy Hands Art Time, 1-5 Year Olds	School term. Deloraine Seventh-Day Adventist Church Hall, 4445 Meander Valley Rd. www.happyhandsart.com.au.
Every Tues	Hidden Talents Craft Group	10am-12 noon. Deloraine Gospel Chapel, 46 Parsonage St, Deloraine. All welcome
Every Thurs, 10–11am	CHAT Westbury Play Gym, 0-5 Year Olds	School term. Westbury Sports Centre, Franklin St. \$3.50 per child (under 12 months free). 1st visit free.
Every Thurs, 7.30–9.30pm	Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting	Westbury Uniting Church Hall. cnr William and Dexter Sts. Contact phone 0409 931 727.
Every 1st Fri, 7–9pm	Celtic Nights @ The Empire	The Empire Hotel. 19–23 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine. Table bookings recommended. 03 6362 1029.
Saturdays and Sundays	Deloraine Walking Club	Walks and bike rides. www.delorainewalkingclub.weebly.com for program of events, contact & membership info.
Oct 2020 to 30 June 2022	The Sewing Room Exhibition	9am-5pm Deloraine & Districts Folk Museum, 98-100 Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine.
7 January	Summer Night's Festival	Extravaganza of live music with food vendors. 5pm - 11:00pm at Marakoopa Cafe. Adult \$66, child \$33.
7 January	Delilah Mcgill - Live @ The General Store	7:00pm - 9:00pm at Wandering Trout Taphouse. Free!
7 January	Summer Music - Matt Edmunds	6:30pm - 9:30pm at Great Lake Hotel. Free!
14 January	Tessa Lee - Live @ The General Store	7:00pm - 9:00pm at Wandering Trout Taphouse. Free!
15 January	Mole Creek Market	9:00am - 1:00pm at Mole Creek Memorial Hall. Free.
15 January	Westbury Market	9:00am - 1:00pm at St Andrews Church, Westbury. Free.
15 January	VDLC'S Music On The Lawn	4:30pm - 8:30pm at VDL Creamery. Free.
15 - 16 January	Tasmanian Tractor Pull Challenge	9:30am - 5:00pm at Red Hills Memorial Park, Red Hills. \$15 pp, U16 free.
16 January	Summer Music - Tony Mak	3:00pm - 6:00pm at Great Lake Hotel. Free.
21 January	Zac Henderson - Live @ The General Store	7:00pm - 9:00pm at Wandering Trout Taphouse. Free.
23 January	Sunday Cider Session	12:00pm - 7:30pma t Red Brick Road Ciderhouse. Free. 0417 660 452. hello@redbrickroadcider.com.au
23 January	Summer Music - Matt Edmunds	3:00pm - 6:00pm at Great Lake Hotel. Free.
28 January	Neil Gibson - Live @ The General Store	7:00pm - 9:00pm at Wandering Trout Taphouse. Free.

Meander Valley Gazette January 2022

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CØNNECT



2022 Memberships and Enrolments: Tuesday 7 February, 10am - 11.45am, Westbury RSL, Lonsdale Promenade Classes commence week beginning 21 February.

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Meander Valley Gazette managing editor

Meander Valley Connect is looking for someone to take on some or all of the duties of this position:

- finding and encouraging others to contribute through writing, editing and/or taking photos
- maintaining editorial standards writing stories and editing content, supervising sub editing and proofreading
- liaising with administration and production
- working with MVC Inc. to establish policies and develop relationships within the community
- ensuring that the Gazette continues to provide quality public interest journalism for the Meander Valley community.

This is a part time position only, with salary to be negotiated. A volunteer commitment would be welcomed. Call 6286 8212 or email to mvolinc@gmail.com



Protect your chooks from pests this summer



SUMMER HAS definitely arrived, and now is the time to think about external parasites – mites, lice and scaly leg.

Mites appear as tiny red/ brown dots, either crawling on a chook's skin or the roost. The mites will live on or in the perches or other timber infrastructure during the day and come out at night to suck blood from roosting chooks. Mites can cause death if left untreated.

Lice are easier to see than mites. They are about the size of a long grain of rice, brownish/yellow in colour and have white eggs that stick to the feathers, usually about the bum, but they can be all over.

Treatment and prevention for mites and lice

Dust chooks with an insecticide powder such as Pestene or Derris Dust (available at hardware stores).

We use Derris Dust because of how natural, low toxic and organic it is. Plus, it's less than half the price!

Dust again within two weeks to break the parasite's life cycle, remove and replace nesting material and dust nesting boxes and perches.

How to dust a chook

Grab the chook by the legs and turn it upside down.

Powder the bum, belly and underwings. Turn over and massage the dust into the back.

Wear a face mask (we should all know how to use one by now, chooks don't spread Covid!) and disposable gloves. Wash your face and hands after use.

Make a dust box. A dust bath is the best method of prevention. Place one in an area that is out of the weather is big enough so the chook can dust itself. Fill this with dry, fine sand to about 75% capacity and add powder.

Scaly leg mites

These tiny mites tunnel under the scales of the birds' legs, causing the tissues to become thick and crusty, flaky and irritated.

Treatment and prevention

Putting petroleum jelly on affected areas will smother the parasite, and it will die. Repeat every two weeks until parasites are gone.

Do not use sump oil/diesel (old wife's tale). It will affect the health of your chooks.

If you have a problem with your chooks, write to us! We might be able to help.







You can read any article or edition of our

paper online, anytime from your smart phone, tablet or computer. We update the site with every publication so, no matter where you are, you can always find out what's happening in the Valley.

CONNECT

If you have a story to share or an ad to place, simply head to our contact page and fill in the form.

DISCOVER

Learn more about the Gazette - meet the team, get to know our audience and find out what services we can offer you.





Meander Valley Gazette January 2022 17

Stay vigilant for signs of blueberry rust







Lesions turn rust/brown coloured and enlarge as the infection progresses on fruit and leaves. *Photos supplied*.

BIOSECURITY TASMANIA is investigating a detection of blueberry rust (BBR) on a commercial berry farm in the north of the State.

Blueberry rust was detected earlier this week and reported to Biosecurity Tasmania by the farm operators. Biosecurity Tasmania has immediately responded to reduce the risk of movement of the disease.

Blueberry rust is present in low levels in Tasmania and Biosecurity Tasmania has been working closely with nursery operators and commercial berry growers for several years to minimise any impact of blueberry rust.

"Biosecurity Tasmania's first priority is to contain the rust to the individual property," Biosecurity Tasmania Acting General Manager Kevin de Witte said.

"Restrictions on the movement of fruit and plant material, equipment, staff and visitors are in place to help contain the rust and we will work with the grower to develop a site management plan."

Biosecurity Tasmania has also begun tracing investigations.

The detection takes the number of currently infected premises to seven, in the north and north-west of the state.

Growers have been informed and updates will be provided as investigations continue.

"This is also a good reminder that all Tasmanians should remain vigilant for signs of blueberry rust, including in home gardens," Dr de Witte said.

Suspect plants should not be disturbed or moved. Anyone who suspects blueberry rust should contact Biosecurity Tasmania on (03) 6165 3777.

Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania file number: D21-236950.

Blueberry rust is a serious disease of blueberries that causes extensive defoliation and may cause plant death in cases of severe infection. More information, including signs and symptoms, is at www.nre. tas.gov.au/blueberryrust

Waste not, want not - using your Christmas leftovers

Wendy Hays

LATE LAST year I posted a postcard to an ex work colleague at the Hagley post box.

In my usual haste, I forgot to address the card.

On reading my short note, the Hagley post mistress realized that the recipient of the card was in palliative care.

She also gleaned that I had spent the previous weekend helping in the Home Industries pavilion at the Westbury Show.

As the Hagley store and post office were distributors of Westbury Show schedules, the post mistress was able to phone the Home Industries Show secretary who was able to identify me as the writer of the postcard.

After several phone calls and much merriment, the card was eventually addressed to its rightful recipient.

I am quite sure that my card would have gone no further than the post bag had it been posted in any other place than the Meander Valley.

How lucky we are to live in such is the caring and connected community where good will and initiative are served up in abundance?

Unfortunately I will not be able to share this story with my dear friend, but I can share one of her simple recipes which uses left over Christmas ham.

Asparagus and Ham Bake

Ingredients

- About 12 slices of sliced bread (cut off crusts and roll flat with a rolling pin)
- Prepared mustard for spreading – English, Dijon, or Australian
- Cream cheese spread for spreading (optional)
- About 12 thin slices of ham
- 1 x 410g can of asparagus spears (or cuts)

- 2 tbs melted butter or margarine
- 300ml tub of sour cream
- 2tbs parmesan cheese or grated tasty cheese
- Finely chopped chives and parsley (optional)

Method

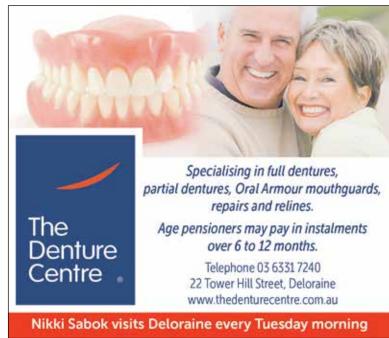
- 1 Lightly butter an ovenproof
- 2 Lay the rolled out bread on a board and spread evenly with the mustard and cream cheese spread (if using).
- 3 Lay the ham over the mustard/cream cheese spread.
- 4 Arrange the asparagus over the ham covered bread along the edge nearest to you then roll up the bread pressing down lightly to seal up the roll.
- 5 Place the rolls in the prepared dish with the seam side down. Tuck the rolls in tightly so that they



fit neatly into the dish.

- **6** Brush the rolls with the melted butter.
- 7 Stir the sour cream together to make it spreadable.
- **8** Stir in the finely chopped herbs (if using).
- 9 Spread the sour cream mixture evenly over the rolls and sprinkle with the cheese.
- 10 Cover the dish with plastic wrap and leave in the fridge overnight or at least 8 hours.
- 11 Return the dish to room temperature before baking. This may take an hour or two.
- **12** Bake at 180C for about 35 minutes until puffed and golden brown.





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Meander Valley Gazette January 2022 **19**

MP calls for sports grant applications

FEDERAL MEMBER for Lyons Brian Mitchell is encouraging local sporting clubs to get online and apply for equipment and uniform funding under the Active Kids grant program.

Established by the Australian Sports Foundation (ASF), Active Kids aims to provide every child with the active childhood they deserve by supplying them with the right gear to participate in sporting activities.

The grant will be focusing on volunteer-run grassroots and community clubs and organisations with young members aged 20 or younger, with priority given to those that have been most disadvantaged financially by the impact of Covid-19.

"Active Kids grants are intended to assist clubs and organisations to support and encourage young Australians, aged 20 or under, to participate in sport," Mr Mitchell said.

"Grants of up to \$10,000 will be awarded in the form of equipment and on-field uniform."

Deadline for applications is 5pm (AEDT) Monday 24 January 2022.

OBJECTIVES AND ELIGIBILITY

The Active Kids grant can be used to encourage youth participation in the following ways:

- Engagement of new participants
- Retention of existing participants

Organisations and clubs can only submit one application per ground round, and must be:

- volunteer-run and not affiliated with a professional club
- non-profit with an Australian **Business Number (ABN)**
- signed up with the Australian **Sports Foundation**
- able to complete an equipment and/or uniform order by COB Friday 28 February 2022
- willing to provide an impact report and/or host visitors, as requested



Need equipment or uniforms for your sporting club? Brian Mitchell wants you to know about

Rooting through boots for a bargain

ON DECEMBER 11, 55 keen salespeople assembled at the Hadspen Lions Park to pedal their wares from the back of

The Lions Club of Hadspen South Esk frequently hosts Car Boot Sales at the Riverbend to support worthy causes and projects.

Due to poor weather conditions, the sales in October and November were cancelled. Barring any unseasonable weather, they are back to their regular schedule for 2021.

If you'd like to pack up your car and bring some homemade crafts or pre-loved goods, it's only \$10 to claim a space.

Buyers enter for free, so make sure you don't miss out on the next one on January 22 from 8.00 am - 12.30 pm.

You never know what treasures you might find!







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