



DRUGS AND FIREARMS BUST AT MOLE CREEK

Three people charged

▶ PAGE 3



TRUCKIES DRIVE FOR BETTER HEALTH

Funds raised to support RFDS checkups for truckers

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HEALTHY RECIPE TO PREPARE FOR AUTUMN

Perfect time to make a roast salad

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Meander Valley Gazette

Free every month

March 2022

Meander Valley Gazette Your independent community paper

School site plans take shape



TWO PROPOSALS RECEIVED FOR FUTURE USE OF FORMER MEANDER PRIMARY SCHOOL SITE

▶ Community Shortlisting Group (L-R): Steve Johnston, Joanne Frisby, Brian McGowan, Christine Chilcott, Mike Johnston, Grant Flowers, Ed Tuleja, Meander Valley Council General Manager John Jordan, Victor Marshall, Susie Johnston and David Brown. Absent: Eve Berne. Photo supplied.

COUNCIL IS a step closer towards finding a new operator for the former Meander Primary School after the community came together this week to hear about two proposals.

Expressions of Interest for the future use of the primary school closed 16 February after being open for almost three months.

Council received two EOIs:

- Deloraine House – an extension of services that

operate in Deloraine;

- Under the Tiers - to operate an outdoor education hub.

Meander Valley Mayor, Wayne Johnston, said an event this week hosted by Council brought the community together to discuss the proposals.

“Council held a ‘pitch’ session on Tuesday to allow those who have submitted a proposal the chance to hear directly from the community and also for all parties to ask

questions for clarification,” Mayor Johnston said.

“This event was a great success with around 40 people attending and general feedback on the outcome was positive.

“Council wishes to thank both the community for attending and respondents for coming along to provide more details on their proposals.

“We want to particularly thank members of the Community Shortlisting Group who have volunteered to work

together to shortlist proposals and make a recommendation to Council on the preferred option going forward.

“This group has an important job ahead as we recognise the former school has played a prominent role in the lives of many residents in Meander so it is crucial the community is happy with any new proposal for the site.”

Another pitch session just for members of the Community Shortlisting Group will be

held on 8 March to enable respondents to answer any outstanding questions.

The Community Shortlisting Group will then meet on 22 March to assess the proposals and make a recommendation to Council.

Council will make a final decision in April and it is anticipated that a new proponent will begin operating at the site in July.

EST
2013

Meander Valley Gazette

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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 web archives free of charge.

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Opinion editorial

Rifle range proposal shot down

Deborah Lynch

ALONG WITH many others in the Meander Valley, I would like to congratulate our council for their courageous decision to vote against the planning proposal by the newly formed Kentish Rifle Club for a rifle range on Maggs Mountain.

The KRC is now appealing MVC's decision in the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (TASCAT) - Resource and Planning stream.

I was among the many objectors to the original planning proposal by KRC to MVC on the grounds of noise.

In very close proximity to the proposed site are environmental activity centres, such as the Mersey Whitewater Reserve, occasionally used for Australian championships, and the Arm River Education Centre, which is used for Outdoor Education training by TAFE students.

But mostly, it is because of the proximity to the World Heritage properties, surrounding on three sides, the proposed rifle range, at 900 metres.

It is across the valley from the iconic Walls of Jerusalem track and the Arm River Track.

The sound would carry across the valley to these tracks.

Anyone recreating in these areas is liable to hear the sound of rifle fire, which could be traumatic for people with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, war veterans, refugees, or victims of domestic violence, for example.

It is my understanding that an independent environmental sound consultation has not been completed.

An environmental noise consultant has advised the following:

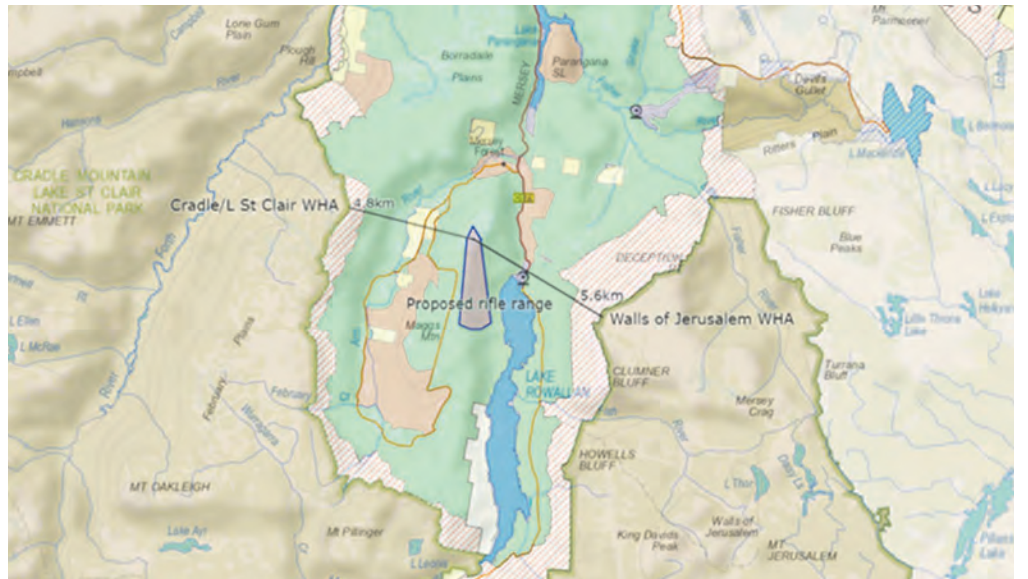
"Firing ranges are best located within enclosed valleys for safety from overshoots, containment of the lead waste, and to confine noise from neighbouring receivers as best as possible."

"Tranquillity and isolation from unnatural noise is increasingly a scarce and precious experience, and thus one of the significant values of the World Heritage/National Park areas surrounding the proposal under consideration."

The land is Crown Land, managed by



▶ Meander Valley Council has recently voted against a planning proposal for a controversial rifle range. Photo supplied by the Mersey Mountains Action Group.



▶ A map depicting the proposed rifle range's proximity to surrounding reserves and tourist attractions. Map supplied.

Sustainable Timber Tasmania. To the best of my knowledge, there has been no survey of Aboriginal culture and landscape, no environmental assessment and no consideration of bushfire risk, knowing there is a single access road in and out of the site.

I am not against all rifle ranges, but this proposal is in the wrong place!

Members of the KRC would need to drive for maybe an hour to access a different range.

The KRC seeks access to a State government sports grant to fund the range.

I would urge them not to support

this proposal.

The KRC has not consulted with neighbouring landholders, and I have been liaising with one of them, who owns 400 acres close by, with several huts.

She makes one of them available for walkers, who may be delayed by snow or rain or have their access blocked by fallen trees or landslips, which do occur in the area.

They are also used by travellers whose vehicles have broken down.

It seems that the opinions of the many can be outweighed by the narrow focus of the TASCAT Planning stream appeals process.

MEANDER VALLEY GAZETTE SCHEDULE 2022

EDITION	ADVERTISING BOOKING DUE	AD ARTWORK DELIVERY	EDITORIAL DEADLINE	PUBLICATION DATE
April	Monday March 21	Friday March 25	Friday March 25	Thursday April 7
May	Monday April 18	Friday April 22	Friday April 22	Thursday May 5
June	Monday May 16	Friday May 20	Friday May 20	Thursday June 2
July	Monday June 20	Friday June 24	Friday June 24	Thursday July 7
August	Monday July 18	Friday July 22	Friday July 22	Thursday August 4
September	Monday August 15	Friday August 19	Friday August 19	Thursday September 1
October	Monday September 19	Friday September 23	Friday September 23	Thursday October 6
November	Monday October 17	Friday October 21	Friday October 21	Thursday November 3
December	Monday November 14	Friday November 18	Friday November 18	Thursday December 1

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Drugs and firearms bust at Mole Creek

POLICE CONDUCTED a search at a residence in Mole Creek on February 22 which resulted in three people being charged with a number of drug

and firearm offences.

As a result of the search on McNeil Street, police seized a quantity of cannabis plants and cannabis products along

with steroids, a pill press, 5 x rifles, 2 x pistols, 4 x homemade firearms and ammunition.

A 41-year-old Mole Creek woman will be proceeded

against for minor drug offences, a 29-year-old Mole Creek man was charged with firearms and drug offences and a 42-year-old Mole Creek man was charged with cultivating a controlled plant and supplying a controlled plant.

All three will appear in the Launceston Magistrates Court at a later date.

Forensic analysis and further investigations will be carried out to ascertain if other people have been involved in the

possession of the items seized.

Tasmania Police will continue to target those that deal in drugs and firearms and urge any member of the Mole Creek community that may have information regarding the possession or distribution of drugs and firearms to contact police on 131 444 or contact Crime Stoppers online at www.crimestopperstas.com.au or phone 1800 333 000.

Information can be supplied anonymously.

Arts Deloraine planning for 2022

ARTS DELORAINE had a successful year in 2021, rising to overcome the challenges facing the community.

Winterfire, attended by nearly 1000 people, was a great success in delightful wintery weather.

We operated a Pop-up Gallery during the year, followed by Windows On the Arts Deloraine (WOAD) to showcase local artists and increase visitor traffic in the main street during The Tasmanian Craft Fair.

In a COVID adaptation, we hosted a series of Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra concerts streamed from Hobart for a regular group of 30 odd classical music enthusiasts.

We have also collaborated and supported Deloraine Big Band with Hot Miami Nights and the Deloraine Dramatic Society's production of Cinderella.

After the Christmas recess, Arts Deloraine is getting back on track for 2022.

Plans are afoot for the upcoming year's events.

Windows On the Arts Deloraine (WOAD) will again appear in Emu Bay Road shop windows from November 4-7, 2022, to coincide with the Craft Fair to be held November 4-7, 2022.

This year, Arts Deloraine is supporting the Meander Valley Art Award in conjunction with Meander Valley Council and the Launceston Art Society.

The exhibition will be held at the Westbury Town Hall.

Entry details and date for the exhibition will be announced soon.

Arts Deloraine has been around for nearly 40 years, with an ever-changing committee dedicated to promoting the arts in the Meander Valley.

In the first half of this year, we are undertaking a project to see how we might better support and promote the arts

in the Deloraine and Meander Valley region.

The project will involve benchmarking with other regional arts organisations and a series of consultations with artists, galleries, related arts organisations, service organisations and community members.

The Management Committee is appealing for new members to continue and expand activities in 2022.

The AGM will be held on Thursday, March 24 in the meeting rooms at The Empire Hotel at 5.00 pm.

If you are interested in joining the Arts Deloraine Management Committee or wish to nominate a committee member, membership and nomination forms are available at the Visitors Centre, Deloraine.

They are also available via email from artsdeloraine@gmail.com.



► Jilly Spencer of Liffey demonstrating her skills at Arts Deloraine's Tasmanian Craft Fair in 2021.

Encouraging new blood to the show

WESTBURY SHOW is Tasmania's third-oldest agricultural show and is a much-anticipated yearly event every November.

The Westbury Agricultural Society, which runs the Westbury Show, is a very welcoming, experienced group of Meander Valley locals who would love to see new members join their ranks.

Stacey Tweedale has been

a member of the Westbury Agricultural Society for the past three years and joined after her family moved from Sydney to Westbury.

"I'm passionate about animals and agricultural shows, having worked closing in the promotion of the Royal Easter Show for many years.

"I thought that by joining the Westbury Show committee, I could combine my passions

and experience and get to know like-minded people in my new community.

"Long-standing committee members have been extremely welcoming.

"I encourage anyone who can to join. It's super easy.

"We meet monthly on a Thursday night for a few hours to plan out the show," Stacey said.

If you have a passion for

animals and livestock or if running events excites you, or if you'd like to meet a new group of people, then maybe being a member of the Westbury Agricultural Society is for you.

Everyone is welcome, and if you have any office skills and are interested in becoming the Show committee Secretary, we want to hear from you.

If you're interested in becoming a committee

member, the Westbury Agricultural Society will be holding a BBQ on Saturday, March 26 at 5 pm at the Westbury Showgrounds on Marriott Street, Westbury.

Come on down and meet the team.

For more information, don't hesitate to contact President Kevin Lattin on 0417 104 520.

ADVERTISEMENT



Brian Mitchell MP

Your Federal Member for Lyons

For assistance with all federal matters, please feel free to contact me on (03) 6398 1115 or email me at Brian.Mitchell.MP@aph.gov.au



Authorised by Brian Mitchell MP (ALP, Tasmania)
53B Main Road Perth Tasmania 7300

Rotary Club awards scholarship

RECENTLY THE Rotary Club of Deloraine awarded their Vocational Tertiary Scholarship to Neve Clippingdale.

She will undertake a Bachelor of Marine and Antarctic Science at UTAS Hobart.

She has lived in the Meander Valley all her life, firstly on a dairy farm at Western Creek and in Westbury for the past eight years.

She attended primary school at Our Lady of

Mercy Catholic Primary School, Deloraine, and then high school at St Patrick's College.

She has been heavily involved in volunteer work; her first volunteering experience was via a school-based leadership opportunity in 2018.

She experienced a wide range of volunteering opportunities such as making soup for the St Vincent de Paul Soup Van, helping out at different Launceston primary

schools, helping migrants and refugees practice their English, and sorting clothes at the St Vincent de Paul Warehouse.

These opportunities allowed her to experience what it was like to volunteer and give back to her community, encouraging her to apply for other volunteering opportunities.

Following the closure of the St Vincent de Paul warehouse at the end of 2018, she looked for something closer to home.

She became a volunteer at Village Central Westbury, where she sorted clothes, tidied stock and assisted customers.

This volunteering opportunity was especially important to her because it allowed me to meet members of my home community.

Other volunteer work she has performed has been playing music at the Dairy Plains Christmas BBQ, car parking at the Craft Fair, and has been a

Buddy in the Smith Family's Student2Student Reading Program through her school, St Patrick's College.

She is a passionate, enthusiastic & excited young woman who can't wait to commence her studies.

Her aspiration when completing her course is to work in Tasmania to improve and preserve the ecosystems in our oceans and rivers.

Deer hunting season now open

THE 2022 deer hunting season opened over the weekend on February 26.

The 2022 deer game season has two parts – an adult male (buck) component and antlerless (doe) component.

The buck season opens on 26 February and runs until 3 April 2022, and the antlerless deer season is from 15 March to 15 November 2022.

It is recognised that

recreational hunters help manage wild fallow deer populations on both private and public land, as well as managing the impacts of wild deer on agricultural production, conservation areas and forestry.

During the 2022 season, hunting can occur on all private land with permission of the landholder and in the following reserves for those hunters who have been

granted access through the ballot and booking system:

- Great Western Tiers Conservation Area;
- Top Marshes Conservation Area;
- Five Mile Pinnacles Conservation Area;
- Central Plateau Conservation Area: Brenton Rivulet block (PWS) and Mother Lord Plains block (HT);
- Great Western Tiers Conservation Area: Parson & Clerk Mountain Block (PWS);
- Great Lake Conservation Area: Tumbledown Creek block (PWS) and land known as Gunns Marsh surrounding Gunns Lake and Little Lake (HT);
- Tooms Lake Conservation Area;
- Buxton River Conservation Area; and

- Castle Cary Regional Reserve.

Hunters should note that the east coast Reserves (Castle Cary, Buxton River, Tooms Lake) will be closed to all hunting until March 2022 due to wedge tailed eagle and falcon breeding seasons.

Game Services Tasmania staff have completed the adult male deer ballot and allocations have been published on the NRE Tas website.

The public land deer hunting ballot for the 2022 antlerless deer season is now open with an online booking system in place. Bookings close on 15 March.

For details about how to use the booking system, or to submit an application for an allocation, please go to Public Land Antlerless Deer Booking System.

Successful hunters will receive their authorisations

via email before the opening of these reserves for the antlerless season on 6 April 2022.

Hunting Licence holders are reminded to be vigilant in relation to personal safety and the safety of others and the importance of wearing a high visibility vest or hat. It is also important to respect the environment.

This includes adhering to COVID-safe behaviours while hunting. Hunters should maintain personal hygiene practices such as washing hands, staying at least 1.5 metres apart and staying at home if unwell.

Game Tracks is now available from Service Tasmania outlets, Game Services Tasmania and from Game-tracks.pdf (nre.tas.gov.au).

For more information about the recreational deer hunting season visit Game Hunting Requirements.

Jen
Butler MP

Your Local Member for Lyons

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Tasmanian
Labor

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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 weed-infested 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.



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Truckies drive for better health

FUNDS RAISED at the Tasmanian Truck Owners and Operators Association Truck Run for Royal Flying Doctor Service Tasmania will help improve the physical and mental health of some of the State's most crucial workers.

Truckie Checkups is a new health initiative of the RFDS, which has long been on a mission to improve health outcomes for all Tasmanians with a specific focus on people who live and work in remote and rural areas.

The \$27,000 raised at last year's event, which attracted 99 impressive rigs for a run from Glebe in Launceston to Longford Showgrounds, will fund an RFDS Tasmania physical health worker and a mental health worker plus the operating costs of one of the charity's mobile health hub buses to set up regular health and wellness clinics at truck stops around the state.

Truck drivers will be encouraged to pull up for a quick but potentially lifesaving health check with the aim of identifying health problems before they exacerbate.

The RFDS Primary Health Care team will be delivering its inaugural "Truckie Checkup"

at the next Truck Run event on 13 March, 2022 at Longford Showground.

Organisers are calling on transport industry workers and truck enthusiasts to get their rigs ready, their special interest trucks out of the shed and join in the convoy to support the RFDS and promote better health for all drivers.

The team will not only provide a comprehensive physical and mental wellbeing screen, but help individuals connect with local and community wellbeing providers in their area.

Aimed at encouraging conversations that promote physical and mental wellbeing – everyone who attends at Longford Showground will be welcomed onto the RFDS Mobile Health Hub bus for a friendly chat and quick and simple health check that covers weight, blood pressure, oxygen levels, chronic disease risk and mental health.

A Monash University survey last year revealed more than 80 percent of truck drivers are overweight or obese, one in five are suffering from depression, more than 70 percent are living with chronic pain and almost a third with multiple chronic

health conditions.

Half of the drivers surveyed reported some level of psychological distress and the proportion of truck drivers under 35 with severe psychological distress was almost double that of the average for Australian males for that age bracket.

RFDS Tasmania CEO John Kirwan said that like people in rural and remote areas, transport industry workers have similar barriers of time and opportunity to seek help.

"We know that there are truck drivers out there who deal with working in isolation, long hours, deadline pressures and the constant stress of traffic and regular near misses – even the trauma of suicide attempts on the road," Mr Kirwan said.

"It's obvious that they take great pride in their trucks, which no doubt get a regular service, but what about the truck drivers themselves? They deserve the opportunity for some self care, and that is where we can assist thanks to generous community support."

Tasmanian Truck Owners & Operators president Rob Bayles said that members were delighted that the money



► This year's annual Truck Run will raise funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service's Truckie Checkups initiative.

they raise not only assists with the delivery of RFDS health programs across the state, but will also give back to the truck drivers directly.

"It was a great turnout last year and it's shaping up to be even bigger and better this year," Mr Bayles said.

"We want to see people line the route on March 13 to view what is an amazing sight as the trucks make their way to Longford Showground – and we want them to have some

fun.

"We've added more food and refreshment stalls, more children's activities, a more streamlined auction and raffle where a \$1 ticket can result in great prizes donated by hundreds of generous local businesses.

"And I encourage all of our drivers to take 10 minutes to visit the RFDS bus for their own sake and that of their families."

If you can read this, you can help those who can't.

Many Tasmanians struggle to read and write. But it doesn't have to be like this – and you can help change things. The Literacy Advisory Panel is asking for ideas, feedback and comments about improving our literacy. That can be you, or it can be someone you know who might find reading this ad challenging. Head to www.dpac.tas.gov.au/literacy to have your say. **Because lifting literacy lifts us all.**

Lifting literacy
Lifting Tasmania

St Mark's unit development complete

ON SATURDAY February 5, the Right Reverend Dr Richard Condie, Bishop of Tasmania, visited Deloraine to join with parishioners, purchasers and prospective tenants to celebrate the completion of the construction of the eight-unit development on the old 'Saleyards' block in East Westbury Place.

Introducing the proceedings, the Rector Reverend Josh Skeat said, "Although consideration had been given earlier to building on this land, the real catalyst for us to make a decision on the development of the block came in 2018 with the launch of our Parish Vision, and 2019 with the introduction of the National Redress Scheme for survivors of sexual abuse.

"With the encouragement of the Diocese of Tasmania, and the incredible and generous support of many people and

businesses, we embarked on what has been an almost three-year journey to get to where we are today – a project that invests in providing housing in our community, that allowed us to meet our Parish's financial commitment to the Redress scheme, and that will, God willing, continue to provide for the ongoing work of his church here in Deloraine for many years to come."

Project Manager for the development, Nigel Morrison, recognised and thanked the several companies, organisations and individuals who had worked to bring the project to fruition.

Particular thanks were given to Traders in Purple, who generously did most of the hard yards to pull the project together initially and to the builder, Beardwood Pty Ltd, for their quality work and excellent project management.



▶ Right Reverend Dr Richard Condie, Bishop of Tasmania celebrates the completion of the unit development adjacent to St. Mark's church in Deloraine. Photo supplied.

Thanks were also extended to several people from the parish who had made contributions of their time.

Bishop Richard offered congratulations to the parish for initiating the project and successfully completing it.

He led those present in thanksgiving and prayers,

particularly for those who will make the units their home in the near future.

Rod Bramich also spoke on behalf of Traders in Purple, highlighting the commitment of Director Charlie Daoud to this and other projects associated with the church and the redress programme.

Charlie addressed the following message to the parish.

"I share in your joy and on behalf of Traders In Purple; thank you for allowing us to be a small part of something very significant for the parish and the Deloraine and Meander communities."

OPINION EDITORIAL

Ageing at home



Allyson Warrington, CEO Community Based Support

EVERY DAY, each of us gets older, this is the reality of life.

And as we age, we begin to contemplate the future – the end of our working lives, retirement and the state of our financial security.

Many of us in the community have older parents, who may have retired and are living in the family home.

The question that confronts many of us is how to best look after our parents respectfully, without trespassing on their sense of independence.

Are they safe continuing to live at home? Do they need help around the house with maintenance or chores? Are they still able to drive and go to the supermarket easily?

At Community Based Support we deliver aged care and disability services to more than 2500 Tasmanians.

Our comprehensive program of supports for older people will ensure that you or your loved

ones can remain connected to community, to stay at home and to lead an independent life.

As a registered My Aged Care service provider, CBS provides all levels of Home Care Packages as well as a comprehensive range of services under the Commonwealth Home Support Program and Veterans Home Care to people in their homes, in the community and in centres around Tasmania.

Our 350 experienced and qualified staff are committed to ensuring your needs are met by putting you in the middle of the picture to create your personalised care plan.

At CBS, we have also developed our Ageing Backwards program, which allows our clients to build strength in daily movement patterns with gentle exercise.

As a 90-year-old client

told us, "I didn't realise how important exercise was until we were isolated due to COVID. I returned to the group, and I have improved my balance."

North and South in Tasmania, our Social Hubs support clients to get out of the home, to connect with friends, maximise independence and enjoy the social part of life.

CBS Social Hubs run planned activities that enable you to get out and about, learn new skills, try new experiences and increase social connection. The programs are co-designed with clients so they are guaranteed to please.

The Hubs are warm and welcoming places to socialise. Where available transport to and from the hub can be booked. Your day at the Hub includes morning tea, lunch and transport on our buses during the day.

I know most Tasmanians want to remain in their own homes for as long as they can. At Community Based Support, we are here to help you with the various options to assist you in your own homes.

Having the information to make a decision about the right services for you is so important. That's why we have a client services team dedicated to helping people navigate the system, understand the options available to them and provide support for the journey.

They understand what a significant time this is in life and are there to make it that bit easier. You can reach us by telephone - 1300 227 827 - or our website: www.cbsaust.org.

Whatever help or information you need, now or into the future, know that CBS is here to give you the answers you need.

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Community radio is flying high!

THIRTY-TWO per cent of all radio listeners around Australia aged over 15 years listen to community radio for an average of 15.4 hours per week.

This is the finding of a recent survey undertaken by the McNair organisation on behalf of the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia.

Meander Valley's very own

community radio station, MVFM, is part of that scene.

President of the local station, Dr John Phelps, says that MVFM continues to grow in strength with very high levels of membership and sponsorship, a solid financial situation and an enviable reputation in our community - and it's all run by volunteers.

MVFM is renowned for the

range of music it broadcasts - from reggae to jazz, country and world music, comedy, blues, sacred and classical, and even "genre-defying" music.

Local knowledgeable and enthusiastic locals present many programs.

This year, three new presenters are already introducing new programs and styles of music.

So, the station goes from strength to strength.

But, extra volunteers are always needed.

Anybody who would like to contribute to the station is invited to get in touch.

The station is located in the Deloraine Creative Studios (DCS) at 59-61 Emu Bay Road.

Helpers with skills or interest in presenting programs,

providing technical support, administration and marketing are all invited to make contact.

And, of course, new members and readers of promos and sponsors' ads are always welcome.

How to contact MVFM? - at the DCS or 6362 4969, Deloraine PO Box 9 or deborah.eastley@bigpond.au.

Are you ready for your close up, Beanie Babes?

BASED IN Westbury, photographer Shannon Jenkins is creating art for a cause.

A certified and award-winning newborn photographer, Shannon is creating a coffee table book of Tasmanian babies to raise money and awareness for the Miracle Babies Foundation.

Miracle Babies Foundation is Australia's leading organisation supporting premature and sick newborns, their families and the hospitals that care

for them.

Every year in Australia, around 48,000 newborn babies require the help of a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) or Special Care Nursery (SCN).

Twenty-seven thousand of these babies are born premature, and up to 1,000 babies lose their fight for life.

Shannon experienced the foundation's support first-hand when her twins relied on the aid of a NICU to support them early on.

She plans to do 50 portrait sessions of babies aged up to three years old.

Shannon is offering these sessions at a discount rate of just \$100, and the participants will be featured in the hardcover book.

If you're a parent of a child - or children! - under three, make sure you go to www.babyjoyart.com/tassie-beanie-babes to fill out the form and secure your spot.

You'll be supporting a very



► Shannon Jenkins hopes to raise \$5000 for the Miracle Babies Foundation with her new project.

worthwhile cause and come away with memories and photos of your little ones to cherish forever.

A project like this is a big undertaking, so if you or your business would like to support

the Tassie Beanie Babes project, there is an opportunity for your name or logo to appear on a sponsors' page.

Contact Shannon via email at yourjoyart@gmail.com to join the cause.


agedcare
DELORAINÉ

We need your help compiling our history

Do you have any information or personal experiences of Aged Care Deloraine's history?

We've recently started a project to compile a comprehensive record of our organisation's history and how we got to where we are today.

We would like to pay tribute to all the wonderful people who have contributed to our organisation by capturing their stories which will be shared amongst our residents, staff, and the wider community via our website.

Christine Chilcott, one of our many fabulous volunteers, has kindly put her hand up to start the process of collating all the information for us.

We are hopeful that we may be able to pursue a grant or some funding to help with this project and to ensure we create a document which pays homage to our rich history which can be kept and shared in our community.

We invite anyone with any information to contribute (records, documents, pictures, etc.), to please drop off any documents to either Grenoch or Kanangra main entrances during business hours weekdays.

Alternatively, please email info@agedcaredeloraine.org.au or post to **PO Box 270, Deloraine TAS 7304.**

Additionally, if you think you could fill in vital bits of information as a contact point for us, we would encourage you to leave your contact details with us by calling **6362 8300** during business hours weekdays.

agedcaredeloraine.org.au



At the movies with the Western Tiers Film Society

Deborah White

Our March movie, "Herself," documents one woman's struggle to find shelter for herself and her children. It is a struggle that will be shockingly familiar to many, but not to those amongst us who are snug in our homes of many years and bought at a

time when house prices bore a reasonable relationship to our incomes, rather than the bewildering amounts required now to get a roof over one's head.

But to the generations looking to buy, and to those fleeing war-torn countries in the hope of finding homes elsewhere, it is a struggle that is painfully real, with little hope of resolution in the foreseeable future. The protagonist of "Herself",

however, manages to enlist help, and unlike the harsh reality of many in today's world, finds a solution to her dilemma.

This happy outcome will not, however, prevent our viewers reflecting on the plight of the homeless, near and far. As we have learned over the years of searching out films that have both fabulous style and engaging content, the hallmark of a good movie goes beyond its ability to

entertain. It is also its capacity to make us think and get us talking in the hours and days following our evening's fun. Herself promises to do just that.

Herself is screening at the Little Theatre on Saturday, March 12 at 7:30 pm.

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

Northern Correctional Facility

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

The Tasmanian Government is committed to building a Northern Correctional Facility (NCF) to optimise the delivery of the State's prison service. The closure of Ashley Youth Detention Centre (AYDC) presents an opportunity to potentially consider the development of this important infrastructure project at this alternative location. Preliminary desktop assessment undertaken by the Department of Justice (DoJ) 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.

The Tasmanian Government will engage with the local Meander Valley community on the future use of the AYDC site before making any decision. Therefore, DoJ is seeking input from the local community on the option of the future use of AYDC site for the development of the NCF. Consultation with the community and key stakeholders will help inform the Government in making a decision on the future use of the AYDC site and its suitability for this project.

A series of shop front style information booths will be set up in Deloraine and its surrounds, to provide information to, and hear directly from, community members. The shop front/drop in sessions will be held in various locations across the Meander Valley over the coming weeks with the locations and dates for these sessions provided in the table below.

Location	Date	Time
Empire Hotel, Deloraine*	Thursday 3 March 2022	10.00am-2.00pm
Empire Hotel, Deloraine*	Saturday 5 March 2022	10.00am-1.00pm
Deloraine Community Complex	Tuesday 8 March 2022	12.00pm-4.00pm
Deloraine Community Complex	Tuesday 8 March 2022	6.00pm-7.30pm
Deloraine Community Complex	Thursday 10 March 2022	10.00am-2.00pm
Deloraine Community Complex	Saturday 12 March 2022	10.00am-1.00pm

**Any member of the community that has access needs to the function room at the Empire Hotel is recommended to enter from the rear of the building where there is level access to the room.*

DoJ strongly encourages anyone in the area who has a view on this project and its potential development at the AYDC site to engage with the project team during these sessions. Members of the public can also make a submission either by email to northerncorrectionalfacility@justice.tas.gov.au or by post to the Department of Justice, Strategic Infrastructure Projects, PO Box 56, ROSNY PARK TAS 7018.

All written submissions must be received by 5.00pm on Monday, 14 March 2022 in order to be included in the consultation outcomes report that will be provided to the Government to inform their final decision.

For more information on the project, visit www.justice.tas.gov.au/ncf



Bringing the blues to the waves



The voices of MVFM

IS THERE a direct connection between growing up in Dumfries, Scotland on one hand and, on the other, the style of music called “blues”?

Well, one connection is Robert McCreath.

Rob and his wife, Sally, ran a dairy farm in Scotland for eight years.

Then, in 1994, with three children, they moved to Queensland’s Darling Downs where, for 23 years, they grew crops and ran beef cattle.

But climate change prompted Rob and Sally to move further south, to Tasmania, to the Deloraine area.

Here, they farm beef cattle on a former tree plantation as well as make Shelduck oat cakes – which may be bought at the local market.

While living in Queensland,

Rob was introduced to civil disobedience and the ideas of Mahatma Gandhi.

He also came to enjoy the music of Nina Simone and joined a four-year campaign hoping to prevent a mining development.

Here, in Tasmania, he loves the climate, the clean air and water and the friendly people.

And, while driving his tractor, he has time to listen to radio, in particular, the local radio station, MVFM.

Rob has always loved music, increasingly “the blues”.

And, while he was driving his tractor and listening to MVFM, he came to the realisation that the station had no program dedicated to blues music.

So, being the man of action that he is, he contacted the station and offered to present a blues program.

His first program was aired in January and “MV Blues” is now

a popular part of the station’s identity.

He even has regular listeners as far away as UK and Singapore.

One of the great advantages for Rob is the fact that the station has an impressive library of all kinds of music, so he has plenty from which to choose.

His program hits the airways on Friday evenings from 9 p.m. and Tuesdays from 8 p.m.

He chooses music which is both relaxing and upbeat.

He even incorporates desert blues from the Sahara, thanks to Malian Ali Farka Toure.

Some of the other interestingly named performers are Lightnin Hopkins, Hound Dog Taylor and Sleepy John Estea, a farmer who sometimes falls asleep on stage.

By the way, the mining development didn’t go ahead.

Patsy Crawford scribbling away

WE BORE down on the fish cafe with the grim determination of a family having been deprived of food for weeks on end.

Bicheno was bright and beachy.

The sea at The Gulch was reassuringly blue, holding the promise of a feed of fish so fresh we’d have to grab it before it leapt from its Catch of the Day basket.

Now, what to drink with such tasty fare? We’d walked many a sandy mile.

Beer was the stand-out

choice.

I ordered an ale and was heading to a table with the stubby when the daughter announced that the kids wanted to sit outside.

No worries, I said and strode towards the door, “You’re not allowed to take alcohol outside,” she hissed.

Here was a dilemma.

I wasn’t going to waste a perfectly good beer.

The kids were holding their ground on the outdoor dining.

I had only one option; I had to guzzle the stubby.

This involved me lurking in a darkened corner of the caff, swigging away in what looked like undue haste.

There may be spectacles more unedifying than an elderly woman standing alone

in a dimly-lit indoor recess guzzling ale from a bottle.

Still, at that moment, it would have been difficult to imagine one.

“Needs must,” I muttered to no-one in particular, the kids having decamped to a picnic table possibly in a move to avoid the embarrassment of seeing their grandmother on the turps.

“Waste not, want not.”

The fish was absolutely delicious.

We sat at our grog-less picnic table, the kids and daughter happily downing fruit juices, me whining about the beer, my stomach noisily reacting to having alcohol shot into it too quickly.

I consoled myself that evening with several glasses of east coast vineyard finest.

The next night we lined up for a meal at a pub with an electronic table menu.

I stared at the device, totally mystified.

It might as well have been the Rosetta Stone.

Leaving the kids to sort out the parmies, I interacted meaningfully with the bar.

Someone had to smooth the menu pathway if we were going to get in an order before the cook clocked off for the night.

The next morning, mercifully fed, we had to leave early.

All was going to plan until I remembered I’d promised to deliver a bottle of red wine to a friend.

Throwing a cardigan over a grubby top, I sped towards the pub.

My arrival there coincided with the bottle shop woman unlocking the door.

I barged past her towards the red wine shelf, almost knocking her down in the process.

Pinot procured it was back to the house to finish packing, hit the road and handed over the wine.

I remarked to the daughter that if I hadn’t made a name for myself as a tosspot before this, I had by now.

“I wouldn’t worry,” my daughter said. “People wouldn’t have noticed the wine bottle.”

“What do you mean?” I asked.

“Your cardy’s inside out,” she said.

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SEE A PHOTO THAT YOU LIKE?

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Healthy autumn salad inspiration

Wendy Hays

WELL, IT'S March, and it feels like someone has flicked a switch, and autumn has arrived.

There is a distinct coolness in the morning air and dew on the lawn.

This year's pumpkins planted in my old water tank are ripening nicely, so it's an excellent time to use up the last of last year's "good keepers" with this month's recipe for Pumpkin and Quinoa Salad.

If you've never used quinoa before, now is the time to try it.

Quinoa is readily available at most supermarkets and health food stores, is easy to prepare, and has a slightly nutty taste.

It makes an excellent alternative to white rice and couscous and has the added advantage of being gluten-free.

Sumac comes from a dried and ground red berry, a popular spice in Middle Eastern cookery.

So if you haven't tried either of these two ingredients, why not try this recipe for a delicious, healthy autumn salad?

Roast Pumpkin and Quinoa Salad

Ingredients

- 1/3 C olive oil
- 1/2 ts cumin
- 1 ts. sumac
- 600g - 800g pumpkin - peeled and cut into small chunks
- 2 medium-sized red capsicums
- 1/2 C of black, red or white quinoa or a mixture of these



- 1 C of almonds - natural (chop), slivered or flaked
- 1 Tb. balsamic vinegar
- Rocket, lettuce, baby spinach or mixed leaves - to serve
- 1/2 C shaved pecorino or parmesan cheese
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method

- 1 Preheat oven to 200C and line 2 oven trays with baking paper.
- 2 Put half the oil into a bowl with cumin and sumac. Season to taste with salt and pepper.
- 3 Add pumpkin and toss to coat in the oil mixture. Transfer the mixture to one of the oven trays.
- 4 Halve the capsicums and remove the seeds. Place capsicums, skin side up on the other oven tray.
- 5 Roast pumpkin and capsicum for about 30 -40 minutes or until tender and starting to brown and the capsicum skin is starting to blister.
- 6 Transfer the capsicum to a bowl. Cover with plastic wrap and leave to sweat for 10 minutes.
- 7 Meanwhile, place the quinoa in a saucepan with 1 C of water and bring to a boil. Cover and simmer for 10 minutes. Remove from the heat, and keeping the lid on, allow the grains to gently steam for another 5 - 10 minutes. Transfer to a wide bowl to cool.
- 8 Put almonds on an oven tray to toast for 5 or so minutes. Chop coarsely.
- 9 Peel the skin from the capsicum and slice thinly.
- 10 Gently mix the sliced capsicums, most of the toasted almonds, quinoa, remaining oil and vinegar in a bowl—season to taste.
- 11 Arrange the leaves on a serving platter and top with the quinoa mixture.
- 12 Top with the roasted pumpkin and sprinkle over the cheese and reserved almonds. Enjoy!

Launceston Show in the Valley

THE DECISION has been made to extend the 2022 Royal Launceston Show to a three-day event, and it will be held in the Valley's Quercus Park!

The show was cancelled in both 2020 and 2021 due to Covid restrictions. In 2018 and 2019 the show was only a one-day event being conducted on

the Thursday public holiday.

The basis of this decision was the enormous interest within the community and business sector created by our relocation from the former Inveresk Railyards to Quercus Park, Carrick.

Operating over three days provides the show

with opportunities to expand its entertainment and competitions program enabling it to give greater value for money to its patrons.

As the various components of the Royal Show are locked in, updates will be posted on the event's Facebook page we march towards October.

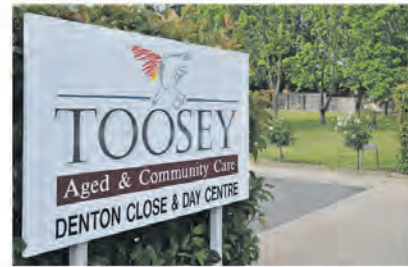
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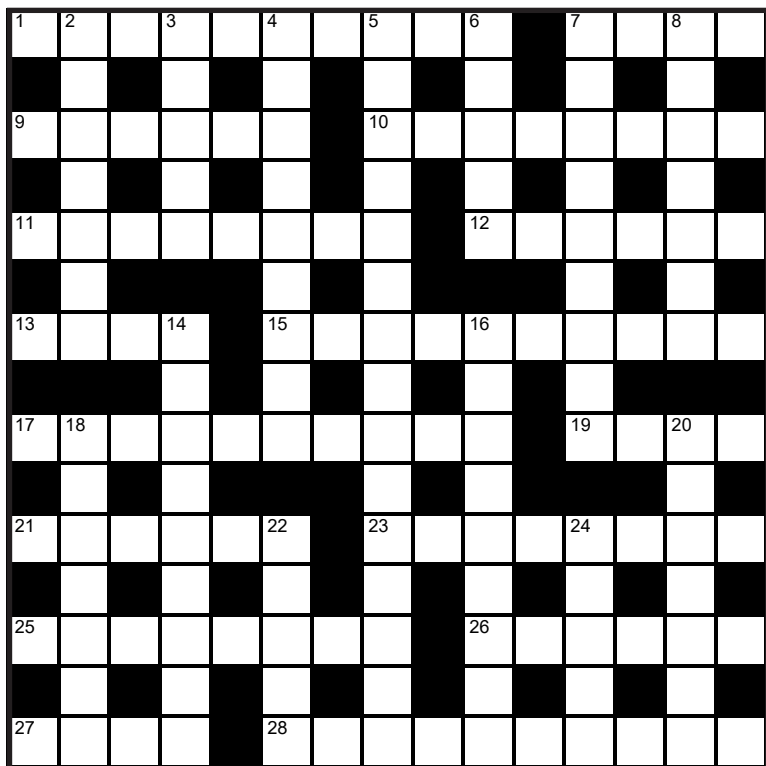
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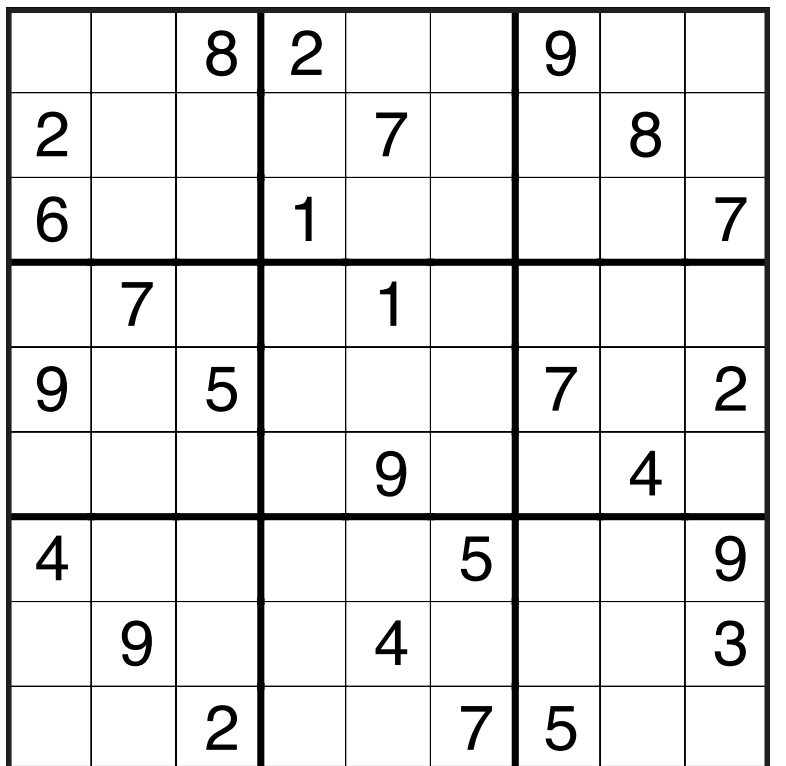
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Deloraine

Crossword



- Across**
- 1 Like rings on a target (10)
 - 7 Factual TV programme (4)
 - 9 Ramble (6)
 - 10 Worth a lot (8)
 - 11 Drink made by mixing others (8)
 - 12 Outback monster (6)
 - 13 Swamp menace (4)
 - 15 Causing trouble (10)
 - 17 Generally useful (3-7)
 - 19 Small blemish (4)
 - 21 Croatian capital (6)
 - 23 Menu section (1,2,5)
 - 25 Chinese decorating philosophy (4,4)
 - 26 Stand for hot dishes (6)
 - 27 Body of soldiers (4)
 - 28 Chaotic (10)
- Down**
- 2 Open-air (7)
 - 3 Farmyard bird (5)
 - 4 Treeless plain (9)
 - 5 Those wanting to change everything (15)
 - 6 Big star (5)
 - 7 Doctor's conclusion (9)
 - 8 Bone-building element (7)
 - 14 Author's protection (9)
 - 16 Eternally (4,5)
 - 18 Do not delete (5,2)
 - 20 Breakfast dish (7)
 - 22 Get tricked (2,3)
 - 24 Wonderland girl (5)

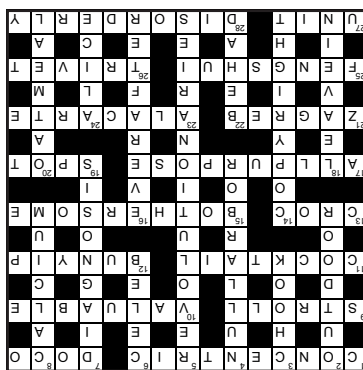
Sudoku



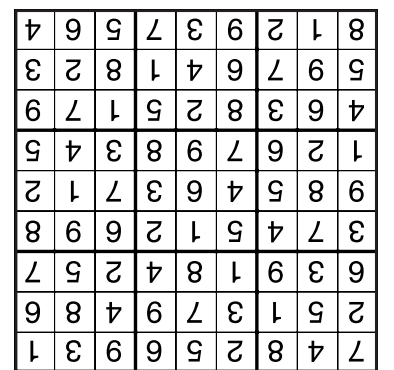
© 2022 Syndicated Puzzles

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 March 2022 solution



Sudoku March 2022 solution



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.

DATE	EVENT OR BUSINESS	DETAILS
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.
Fri 4	Celtic Players	7-9pm The Empire Hotel, Deloraine
Sat 5	Deloraine Market	9am-1pm Deloraine Showgrounds
Sun 6	Vinyl in the Vines	12-4pm 3 Willows Vineyard, Red Hills
Sun 6	Little Laneway Sunday Session	3-6pm Laneway, Empire & Seppenfelts, Deloraine
Fri 11	Marita Mangano Live @ The General Store	7-9pm Wandering Trout, Mole Creek
Sat 12 - Mon 14	Autumn Steam Up!	9am-4pm Steam World, Westbury
Sat 12	WTFS Herself	7.30pm MA15+ Drama 2020 Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine 0418 389 868
Sat 12	Liffey Valley Market	9am-1pm Old Liffey School, Liffey
Sat 12	Huon Pine Chopstick Workshop	10am-12pm Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre
Sun 13	Little Laneway Sunday Session	3-6pm Laneway, Empire & Seppenfelts, Deloraine
Sat 19	Mole Creek Market	9am-1pm Memorial Hall, Mole Creek
Sat 19	Westbury Market	9am-1pm Anglican Church, Westbury
Sun 20	Tasmanian Garlic & Tomato Festival	9.30am-4pm Selbourne
Sun 20	Red Hot Summer Tour	1-10pm Country Club Casino, Prospect
Sun 20	Little Laneway Sunday Session	3-6pm Laneway, Empire & Seppenfelts, Deloraine
Sun 27	Little Laneway Sunday Session	3-6pm Laneway, Empire & Seppenfelts, Deloraine

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Introducing new chooks to the flock



SO YOU bought some new chooks!

The first thing you need to do is isolate them away from the main flock in a separate pen, but in sight of the other chickens.

Worm and dust them straight away.

You will also need to dust the new chickens after a week.

This will break the lifecycle of the lice.

While isolated, it is a great time to observe your chickens.

After a week (if possible), move the new pen closer to the hen house so the chickens can check each other out, leave them like this for a few days.

It is best to move the new chickens into the hen house at night and place them on the perches with the

main flock.

Then in the morning, feed extra and include food that will keep them occupied – i.e. silverbeet, cabbage etc.

As we all know, chooks have a pecking order.

There is bound to be some discussion on where the new arrivals will fit into the pecking order.

Now is the time to keep a close eye on your chooks.

If you have a rooster, he will usually be the peacemaker, if you don't, you will have to intervene if things become too violent.

Usually, the hens will sort it out without too much fuss.

Some things to think about when introducing new chooks:

1. Never ever put a new rooster in with another rooster. This will only result in much bloodshed or death.
2. If introducing young pullets into the flock, make sure that they are roughly the same size as the other hens - there will be less fighting. If smaller, keep them in a separate pen till they are big enough.
3. Bantams should be kept in separate hen



houses, as they would only be continually bullied and harassed.

4. Some breeds are more highly strung, generally

speaking, the hen laying breeds are more flighty where the heavier breeds are more placid, but there are always exceptions to this rule.

Once your new chickens have been welcomed into the flock, there shouldn't be any dramas. You can sit back and enjoy your new friends!

Brilliant soil biology event in Tassie

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