

Meander Valley Gazette

Your independent community newspaper

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 09 SEPTEMBER 2023

FREE EVERY MONTH



FOOTY CLUB BRAVES BIG CHILL FOR MND

THE DELORAINE Football Club has held their second Big Freeze, raising money for Motor Neurone Disease (MND).

The fund raiser

recognises Terry Roles, well known member of the Deloraine Football Club and wider community, who was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease

in 2018.

Nineteen DFC footy players, past and present, community members and a few ring-ins from the South Launceston Football Club

took the icy plunge.

To date, nearly \$8,000 has been raised for MND research and for Terry's Shed, established in 2021 by Rosanne and Terry

Roles to provide speciality equipment to people with MND to improve their independence and quality of life.



▶ MELBOURNE CUP TOURS DELORAINE - PAGE 5



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▶ HOW I TURNED MOLE CREEK INTO A CRIME SCENE - PAGE 7



DETAILS

The Meander Valley Gazette is an independent newspaper, printing and delivering 9,500 copies to all homes and select businesses in Meander Valley every month. The Gazette is also online so users can browse the complete archives and read the latest articles and newspapers.

Our mission is to be a trusted record of community news, views, and issues affecting the lives of the people in Meander Valley and to build and enrich social connections within our community.

Towns and suburbs in the Valley include Blackstone Heights, Bracknell, Carrick, Chudleigh, Deloraine, Elizabeth Town, Exton, Golden Valley, Hadsden, Hagley, Jackeys Marsh, Meander, Mole Creek, Parkham, Prospect Vale, Reedy Marsh and Westbury.

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Westbury Health Inc expands support services

WESTBURY HEALTH Inc (WHI) is a non profit volunteer based community organisation with over 25 years of experience.

The committee comprises Chair Margaret Archer, supported by Deputy Chair Allison Tillack, Secretary Harley Nicholls and Treasurer Joy Belkner and Dinah FitzGerald and a good number of active committee members.

WHI is closely integrated and an advisory committee to the Westbury Community Health Centre, part of the

THS (Tasmanian Health Service) with administrative support. It shares mutual goals.

WHI's aim is to optimise the health and well being of the people of the region, not only provision of supporting services, but promoting its community's needs to all relevant authorities.

WHI is presently supporting activities such as Aqua Fitness at Deloraine; Yoga for Seniors at Westbury and Strength and Balance Classes at Westbury

WHI has a Community

Bus, (donated by Bendigo Bank) which is used for clients, but also organises a monthly shopping bus trip to Devonport. This bus is also available for hire.

WHI is a strong supporter of the Westbury Community Garden. WHI has been providing volunteers for its upkeep and support.

WHI engages with Westbury Primary School, and are planning projects to improve its use and as a way to improve social interaction within our community.

It is, of course, also a

means to provide fresh vegetables to the volunteers and friends.

Interested community members are invited to the Annual General Meeting held at the Westbury Community Health Centre, Thursday 5th October from 9.30 am.

WHI is planning further activities for the community and would be delighted to hear from any interested community members.

Please contact via email: westburyhealth@gmail.com

Past & Present exhibit

LOCAL DUNORLAN artist, Ruth Kemp will be holding an exhibition of her artwork titled "Past & Present" at The Poatina Tree Art Gallery, Poatina.

Ruth worked as a commercial artist, graphic designer and art teacher in NSW before moving to the Deloraine area in 2019.

She works across many media and has won numerous awards for her artwork.

Ruth won the Central Coast Council Acquisition

Award 2022 at the Artex Rotary Exhibition in Ulverstone and Best in Show at 2022 North West Art Circle Annual Exhibition, at Devonport Regional Gallery.

The "Past & Present" exhibition is open from 15 September – 22 October, with an opening and artist's talk on Sunday 17 September at 2pm.

The Gallery at Poatina is open in conjunction with the Tiers Tea Lounge, Friday – Sunday, 10am-4pm.



▶ Local artist Ruth Kemp with one of her pieces.

New UTAS Residential Scholarships

IN 2024 Jane Franklin Hall will offer two scholarships of \$45,000 each to two students beginning studies and residing at the College.

The scholarships will provide a fee reduction of \$15,000 a year for three years for students to live at Jane Franklin Hall.

The first scholarship,

funded by Dr Fenton-Lee to honour his mother, Dr Karla Fenton OAM, will support a student beginning a Bachelor of Medical Science next year.

Dr Fenton spent most of her life as a practicing psychiatrist and completed 61 years in medical practice before retiring in 2016.

The second scholarship,

from an anonymous donor, will support a student from a low-income background, beginning any Health Science degree next year.

Jane Franklin Hall, located in South Hobart, is an independently managed, academically focused and fully catered residential college for students at the

University of Tasmania.

It has been a home away from home for students from all over the world for more than 70 years.

Enquiries: Ms Joanna Rosewell, Principal

Phone: (03) 6210 0100/0435 221 971

Email: principal@jane.edu.au



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- Celebrating the life of Anthony "Tony" John Stephenson -



1941 - 2023

TONY WAS the first son of Lucy and Jack Stephenson, he had two younger brothers Rushton and Peter. Tony grew up in Hobart where his parents were dog breeders specializing in Pugs, even importing dogs from England.

Tony commenced school at Glenorchy State and then went on to Hutchins, where he excelled academically. Tony was a keen sportsperson participating in swimming and rowing. It was a proud day for him when he won the Trans

Derwent, a 1.5km swim across the river Derwent.

After he finished school, he worked for the Hobart Saving Bank in Burnie before being transferred to the Deloraine branch. It was here that he met the love of his life a young woman named Toni Gleeson.

They first met at the bank and later on at badminton where Tony offered to take her home in his little Fiat. The romance blossomed and the couple got happily married on 9/8/1965 at the Deloraine Catholic Church.

With Tony securing a position as House Master at Ashley Boys Home, the newlyweds lived on the property - this is where their family increased with the arrival of Fiona and Jason. The Ashley boys had the same interest in cars as Tony did as they borrowed a couple of his cars.

After leaving Ashley he moved to Launceston. This is where Rebecca was born.

Tony's work career was

wide and varied from Life Insurance salesperson, Administrator in Rosebery, Secretary of the Master Builders Association, to a take away shop in Deloraine, to selling cars and insurance in Kalgoorlie.

With Tony having so many jobs in sales the family were asked if he was a good salesman. They replied, definitely not, he was too honest!

Tony secured a position with Centercare in Kalgoorlie where he assisted prison inmates with their re-entry back into the community. The program ceased and Tony began working with Youth at Risk with the Red Cross. Tony left Red Cross although he still assisted with the Youth at Risk as a volunteer and got a position with the Bega Garnbirrinu Health Service; where he assisted with Aboriginal homeless and fringe dwellers. Part of his duties was to cook breakfast for the rough sleepers, this impressed his

family as he was not known as a cook.

Tony had a long involvement with Lions both here in Tasmania and in Western Australia. As stated by the Kalgoorlie Lions President - Tony was a source of inspiration and compassion, he was a good listener he expressed kindness, thoughtfulness and empathy whilst always remaining truthful. Tony was also an active member of Toastmaster in Kalgoorlie.

Back in Deloraine he continued with Lions increasing their membership and their fundraising, he became the Zone 5 chairman and was instrumental in coordinating relief and assistance to communities in need after the 2020 floods as stated by the club president - he had to get three people to replace what Tony did on his own, we will miss him and his gold plated "Swedish limo".

Tony was also the secretary of Meander Valley Connect Inc

which runs the Meander Valley Gazette and the Deloraine and Mole Creek Online Access centers. He was an active member and contributed in many ways, whether it was performing his duties as secretary, delivering papers, chasing down stories or seeking advertising. He will be greatly missed.

Tony above all was a man who cared deeply for his family and the community, he loved playing tickle-foo with his grandkids. Tony loved to swim and wear budgie smugglers, much to the grandkid's horror. In phone conversation with them he always ended them with I am very proud of you and it's always great talking to you.

Tony was an intelligent man who will be remembered for his kindness, generous and outgoing friendly nature. He was a stirrer with a wacky sense of humour.

The world would be a lot better place with more Tony's.

Meander Valley Council wrap August 2023

Appointment of General Manager

ON 28 August, Council announced the appointment of Mr Jonathan Harmey, BCom, MBA, as the new General Manager.

Jonathan, the former Director of Governance, was unanimously endorsed by Councillors who attended the Closed Session of the Council Meeting on 8 August.

Council Meeting 8 August 2023

NINE COUNCILLORS attended this meeting. There were no questions from the public.

Councillors' questions related to safety of Elm trees in Lonsdale Promenade (not Heritage council issue or a MVC planning responsibility; noting that ratchet strapped tree trunks were professionally placed) and the Northern Correctional Facility (no updates).

Council reviewed the 2023-24 Capital Works budget, making minor changes to the budget without any change to the overall value of the program.

Council received the minutes of the June Audit Panel meeting where a range of updated policies, planning and

audit reports were considered.

The panel discussed and noted deferral of the Online communication (No 66) and Vegetation Management (No 81) policies for further review.

The panel noted the process for renewing the Council's Community Strategic Plan by December 2023.

The panel noted the internal audit of the Work from Home policy (with commendation), progress on the review of processes for the disclosure and management of staff Conflict of interest and progress on implementation of Tas Audit Office recommendations.

Council adopted the 2023-24 Annual Plan which will be published on the council website.

Council acting as Planning Authority considered two matters.

The first was an application for subdivision and construction of six dwellings at 14 Taylor St, Westbury which was approved.

Members noted the approval of approximately 19 new dwellings in this area for construction over the next few years and the potential impacts on density and local character.

The site would require stormwater detention and is

unlikely to receive full kerbside rubbish collection services.

The second related to a change of use of accommodation at 1/17 Main St, Hadspen to allow visitor accommodation which was approved.

This report represents salient elements of the proceedings and documents tabled at meeting.

Full details may be found in the Agenda and Draft Minutes published on the Council Website.

The accuracy of minutes is subject to ratification at the September 2023 meeting.



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- Vale Neil William Johnston OAM -



1934 - 2023

NEIL WILLIAM Johnston was born in Meander in 1934, the second of five Johnston siblings.

Neil was a keen sportsman all of his life. At 13 he started to play football with the Meander Football Club, later becoming trainer, Vice-Chairman and ultimately awarded life membership. He also played basketball, badminton and cricket. At 75 years of age he was elected Chairman of the Meander Cricket Club. He was a talented wood chopper, and in the 1950's, Neil was one of a small team of men who blazed the first track into Meander Falls.

In 1954 he married Joy Eastley of Chudleigh. They quietly celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary last June.

Neil had a strong work ethic and desire to support and improve his local community.

He was a founding member of the Meander Progress Association, Meander Resource Management Group and was awarded a National Service Medal (in 1997) for his 25 years of service with the Meander Volunteer Fire Brigade.

He was Chairman of the

Meander Hall Committee for 25 years of his 50-year involvement with the committee. Neil was elected and served as a Meander Ward Councillor for seven years prior to the formation of the Meander Valley Council.

In 2000 he was a member of the Meander Dam Committee that successfully lobbied the state and federal government to build the dam. The Huntsman Lake has had a major impact and benefit to Meander Valley, and many

other water projects across the state.

In 2010, Mr Johnston received an Order of Australia medal in recognition of his lifetime of contributions to the Meander community.

He is survived by his wife Joy, son Wayne and his wife Lisa, grandchildren Kyla and Ben, Brayden and Bek, Ryan and Coralee, as well as 3 great-grandchildren, Walt, Leela and Teo.

ADVERTORIAL

Honeybees and mushroom extract

MUSHROOM EXTRACTS are being used to strengthen honeybees to combat the negative action of pesticides, viruses, and mites.

This comes at a time when Australia's bee population is under serious threat.

Worth investigation is the current controversial program to eradicate the Varroa mite.

For information, see the 750-member Telegram group at <https://t.me/baitstationreportingdpi>.

Interestingly, here at Wholesome House, we have noticed customers buzzing

back to grab another dose of our mushroom extracts.

Thank you to all who have helped us to notice these amazing superfoods so that we can share this knowledge with others.

Here are some bullet-point benefits concerning the various mushroom extracts within our range:

- **Cordyceps Extract:** Boosts endurance, Anti-tumour, reduces inflammation, anti-diabetic, anti-oxidative and free radical scavenging, and anti-aging effects.
- **Lions Mane Extract:** Anti-

fatigue properties and increased energy, improves concentration, focus, and overall cognitive function. Reduces inflammation and recovery time. Accelerates fat metabolism. Improves gut health. Boosts immune system. Anxiety and Depressive symptoms have been shown to reduce.

- **Chaga Extract:** Supports Immune function, combats inflammation, protects from stress, improves heart health, balances thyroid, supports gastrointestinal health, improves brain

function, lowers blood sugar levels, boosts energy.

- **Reishi Extract:** Detoxification properties, improves cognitive function, improves respiratory health, lowers blood pressure, strengthens immune system, boosts energy.
- **Shiitake Extract:** Reduces inflammation, improves circulation, boosts energy, reduces stress, lowers blood pressure.

Mushroom extract powders dissolve easily in warm or hot



water. They can be taken in water or juice.

The flavour of mushroom extract combines very nicely with coffee. So why not try them out and join the number of people who have already enjoyed their benefits?

Wholesome House - how may we serve you today? Call us now on 6362 3551.

Wholesome House: serving Deloraine and the Meander Valley for over 30 years!



Who are we?

For some 34 years Wholesome House at Deloraine has been the Meander Valley's go to for wholefoods. These are foods - fresh or dried - that have undergone as little processing as possible thus retaining their natural qualities. Mainly displayed in bins the customers choose how much they want to buy, and even bring their kitchen canisters for refill. They include breakfast foods, many types of flour, dried fruit and nuts, legumes and herbs & spices. It really is "a great way to shop!"

Eating for health & immunity

Although we think of ourselves as a traditional, friendly grocer, the fact that we do have a leaning to healthful foods encourages the community to see us as a Health Food Shop. A wide range of vitamins, minerals, and health

food supplements unlikely to be found elsewhere reinforces the idea. We stringently avoid ingredients dangerous to health such as high fructose corn syrup and Aspartame. We also cater for dietary needs.

Many products are aimed at building and protecting your immune system. Products like Nattokinase, N-acetyl cysteine (NAC), Glutathione, Quercetin and even vitamins C & D have important functions here. Availability varies, but right now they are as important as they have ever been.

The challenge of changing times and investing in our community

The last 3 years has certainly inflicted change. The way people shop and even the way they relate has largely changed. We've certainly lost something as a community! We've been very honest about our struggles. Despite the downturns of these years we've persisted, barely hanging in from month-to-month. "Covid" has certainly tested the bounds of loyalty, but some, ordering online to have supermarket goods delivered to their car are beginning to understand what we all stand to lose; the effect on bricks & mortar businesses and

on our local community. We *could* close our doors. Many small businesses *are* shutting down. But as many have pointed out there's more than mere business wisdom involved.

As a **unique business in our draw area**, we've decided to take a step of faith in this remarkably resilient community: 17 years ago, this business moved, becoming a bright, white sparkling new location. Well, we've noticed how it has aged and we've already begun refurbishing the shop. The most ambitious element over the next few months will be the installation of a new Point of Sale (POS) system, already proven in the Mowbray shop. Involving scanning and stock control It will cost many thousands but will extend our ability to order from many more suppliers, mitigating the growing "out of stock" problem.

We are therefore appealing to the community to support this investment and help to protect the ongoing existence of Wholesome House - this unique and valuable service - as well as many other unique family businesses in Deloraine!

Will you vote with your feet?

How may we serve you today?
Why not call us now on 6362 355.1

Melbourne Cup tours Deloraine

IN CELEBRATION of Meander Valley's rich racing history, Deloraine Pony Club hosted a tour of the \$600,000 18-carat gold 2023 Lexus Melbourne Cup, while raising much needed funds for research to cure Motor Neurone Disease.

Residents at Kanangra and Grenoch Homes were first out of the barrier to welcome the Cup on tour on 29 August.

After hearing more about the fund raising for MND, a few of the courageous staff and residents also lined up for the ice-bucket challenge!

After lunch, the Cup travelled to the Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre for a community event where guests had the opportunity to get up close with the 2023 trophy.

Jockey Michael Rodd, who rode Efficient to win the 2007 Melbourne Cup, shared racing anecdotes with guests who were also able to view the current *Past the Post* exhibition.

Mid afternoon, Victorian Racing Club representative Liam O'Keefe showcased the Lexus Melbourne Cup at the Deloraine Racetrack Grandstand and held a short Q&A with Michael Rodd.

Pony club members enjoyed showing off their skills and getting riding tips from Mr Rodd.

Finally, the Cup finished its tour at the Little Green Men Brewing Co at the British Hotel.

Locals had the opportunity to gather for an evening to celebrate racing and have the once-in-a-life-time opportunity to get up close with the Lexus Melbourne Cup trophy.

This year Lexus and the Victorian Racing Club are sponsoring a special barrier draw, donating \$50,000 to Fight MND if the winner of this year's Melbourne Cup jumps from the barrier drawn for the Deloraine and District Pony Club.



► The Melbourne Cup at Calstock Estate, Home of Malua.



► A pair of local champions Mario and Mary Morea, at Kanangra, Aged Care Deloraine.



► Evan and Tom Green of Little Green Men Brewing with the Melbourne Cup at the British Hotel.



► Pony Club members Chloe Chandler-Onions, Ruby Atkins, Charli-Anne Bennett, Jockey Michael Rodd, Callie Frost, Emme Keegan and Rebecca Barrett.



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- Allied Health Services such as Physiotherapy but not limited to Podiatry, Occupational Therapy and Nutritional Advice.





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Vice Regal visitor to Deloraine

THE GOVERNOR of Tasmania, Her Excellency Barbara Baker visited Meander Valley on 10th August as a guest of Meander Valley Council.

Hosted by Mayor Wayne Johnston, the Governor met community members and visited local community organisations.

As Patron of Eat Well Tasmania, Her Excellency showed strong interest in local organisations that connect communities and engage young people with fresh, healthy produce.

The morning was spent at Hagley Farm School talking with teachers, parents and students.

Her tour included a tractor/

trailer ride, several classroom visits – including a lengthy discussion about light bulbs and creating electricity with 5/6 Cini, and a viewing of the historic photos of our environment and a visit to the restored Olde Classroom.

The Governor was gifted a copy of *Hagley First 100 Years* before sojourning to the Westbury RSL for lunch.

The Governor toured the new extensions and facilities at Aged Care Deloraine's Grenoch site in Deloraine.

The Governor and Professor Chalmers were met by an enthusiastic group of residents during a break in an afternoon concert by the Tassie Tenor.

There was much light hearted discussion and even a few invitations to dance!

The last leg of the visit was a tour of Meander House, its orchard and emerging community garden.

The Governor's party was met with a fine array of healthy food options and home-made cakes and slices.

The Governor also enjoyed an impromptu stop to inspect Mayor Johnston's state of the art "robot-dairy" on his farm at Meander.

The day was rounded off with a speech and light supper with invited guests at a reception held at Calstock Estate.



► Her Excellency Barbara Baker. with Christie, Lloyd and Geraldine Boxhall.



► The Swannell family.

Swannells reunite

DR RAYMOND Swannell and his family (four siblings and two of his grandchildren) held a family reunion in Deloraine in early August.

Ray Swannell was one of the local doctors in Deloraine about 50 years ago.

On August 4, 1963, Raymond Swannell - a young medical intern in Launceston - risked his life to make a brave and difficult ship-

to-ship jump in high seas in Bass Strait to help the injured crew on the burning Porthos ship.

This resulted in him being awarded a George Medal for bravery.

One of the highlights of the reunion was attending the "unveiling" of a plaque at the Low Head Pilot Station Maritime Museum to commemorate 60 years since the fire on the Porthos.

Goodbye 3G. Hello to a better network experience.

To help provide you with an improved experience, we're evolving our mobile network. This means that on 30 June 2024 we're switching off our 3G network. Our 4G and 5G networks will be available instead and offer an improved experience, representing the next leap forward in mobile network technology.

Some of your devices - including handsets, medical devices, and EFTPOS machines - may need to be updated or replaced ahead of next year's closure to ensure ongoing service. We're here to help you with the change and answer any questions you may have.



How I turned Mole Creek into a crime scene

James Dunbar

COMING OFF the highway, the Mole Creek side of Deloraine, I feel a wave of relief.

The road is a series of twisty challenges interspersed by short, fast straights, just as I had described in my new novel.

I was relieved because I wasn't sure that what I had written a year ago, in my recently published novel, was what I had seen a couple of years before that.

But there it was, the road, the town, the hotel, just as I had recalled them in *Mole Creek*, my eponymous novel, released earlier this month.

My novel is set mostly in Mole Creek and Launceston (and partly in wartime Vietnam) because this little town is where one of my

characters appears to have taken his own life, in a holiday cottage he shares with his grandson, Xander.

Xander refuses to believe the suicide explanation and that triggers a series of events which eventually brings repercussions of geo-political significance to the town.

The action moves around the area – the caves, the Walls of Jerusalem national park, Derwent Bridge – so it's gratifying to see that elements I thought might be imagined are actually very real.

I was inspired to set the novel in Mole Creek after staying in holiday cottages on a deer farm just outside town.

In the novel I describe it as an alpaca farm, in case I accidentally breached a trademark or defamed

someone, and thought I had imagined the forestry plantation that creeps down the hill towards it.

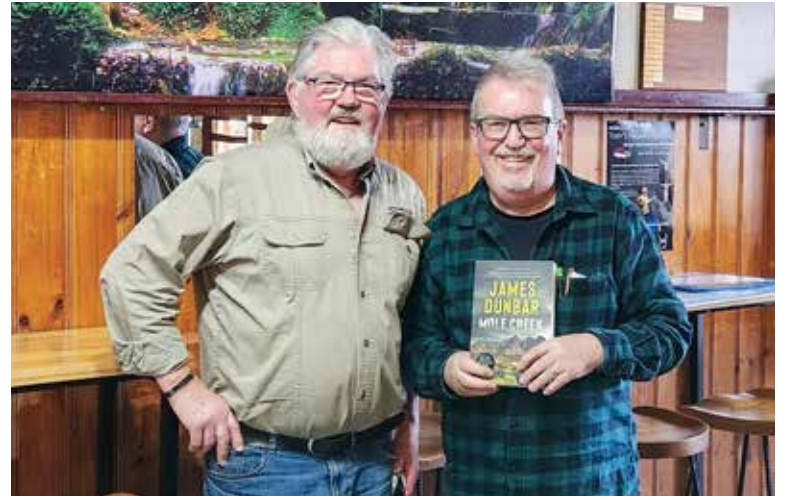
Standing in the forecourt of the Mole Creek Hotel – renamed the Limestone Ridge in the book – Doug Westbrook, co-owner with his wife Ramona, points out the large gap in the trees to the south.

"That's the Springfield Deer Farm, where you must have stayed when you were here," he says. "Did you know it used to be an alpaca farm?"

Maybe I did, maybe I didn't. Memory plays odd tricks – sometimes you remember things without recalling where you heard them and think it's your imagination.

It was good to be back in Mole Creek.

The Westbrooks are a lovely



► James Dunbar returns to the scene.

couple and the hotel's quirky, Tassie Tiger inspired décor is worth a visit on its own.

As I leave, the aroma of Tiger Pies wafting through from the hotel kitchen, I write in the visitor's book: "Sorry for

turning your town into a crime scene." I should have added: "I'll be back."

Mole Creek, by James Dunbar, is available from the Mole Creek Hotel, the visitor centre and Petrarch's books in Launceston.

Platypus Diary

Joy Kachina

OBSERVING PLATYPUS activity this month has been really rewarding. Our young juvenile 'Rocket' and her Mother Matilda or 'Tilda' for short have been together quite

a lot feeding along the NW Banks using the Teatree for cover most days.

I had a lovely encounter with Rocket this morning being close in under the road bridge. She was feeding and this was the first time I felt she

had relaxed in my presence.

After several minutes of observing the human she paddled off in search of more breakfast!

Platypus feed only in the water. They find their small invertebrate prey by searching along shallow embankments, catching water bugs from submerged logs and branches and diving repeatedly to the

bottom of the river.

After heavy rains, eroded soil and mud in the river often covers their foodstuff and impact on their ability to search for food. They need to eat more than half their body weight each day to survive.

Animals most commonly feed for one extended session in each 24-hour period, typically remaining active for

8-16 (though occasionally up to 30) hours and completing up to 1600 foraging dives per session.

Take a stroll down by the river early morning or late afternoon in town and hopefully you'll have an opportunity to see our Meander River Platypus, including Rocket who will definitely put a smile on your face.



2023 Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour

Aged Care Deloraine Inc staff and residents are proud to again be hosting the VRC

Ambassadors as part of the 2023 tour visit to Deloraine

For more details please see www.melbournecuptour.com.au

MVFM multilingual

The voices of MVFM

FOR SOME time now, Meander Valley Community Radio (MVFM 96.9) has been broadcasting music of an international and multicultural nature.

Bloss hosts her "Global Grooves" program (Sunday, 6pm) and L.J. and Beatrice have their "The Journey" (Sunday, noon) and this year Steve has been hosting his "First Australian Music Show"

(Tuesday, 8 pm).

And, of course, Julia and Gordon can guide you to a whole new planet with their "Cogwebs and Strange" program (Thursday, 9 pm).

But the station has just moved into a whole new area of multilingual and inclusive broadcasting.

MVCR, in conjunction with the Multicultural Council of Tasmania, is now airing some information about life in Australia in four different languages – Turkish, Arabic,

Spanish and Vietnamese – especially for people with disabilities.

In each of these languages, listeners can learn about "Creative outlets," "Libraries in Australia," "Outdoors is for everyone," "Building social networks" and various other aspects of our way of life.

At present, sixteen of these conversations may be heard; that is the four topics listed, each in four languages.

They last for about ten minutes and form part of "The Journey" programs.

At the beginning of each program, one of the hosts, John Kenzey, announces which

conversation will be aired about half way through that day's program.

He says which language and which aspect of culture will be featured.

This gives listeners a chance to remind their Turkish, Arabic, Spanish, and Vietnamese speaking friends that their moment is coming up.

"The Journey" may be heard from noon on Sundays.

When the current sixteen conversations are finished, others about different topics will be aired.

If you would like more information about this initiative, please contact the



station in Deloraine (0477 195 026).

In the meantime, continue to enjoy all the wonderful programs broadcast by the Meander Valley's very own radio station.

Reconciliation information sessions

THERE WILL be a few tables popping up in your neighbourhood quite soon, but they will be offering facts, not food.

The referendum on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament is scheduled to be held on October 14.

Reconciliation Tasmania is rolling out free public workshops and "conversation tables" around the state to give people a chance to discuss the amendment to our constitution.

"We are not telling people how to vote but assisting them to find the information they need to cast a vote based on facts rather than falsehoods or fears," said Reconciliation Tasmania's CEO, Mark Redmond.

Local volunteers will be on hand with information to take away at shopping centres, markets and other local events, and offer the chance of a friendly conversation with a fellow Tasmanian about the Voice.

- Woolworths, Westbury Road, Prospect Vale, 9am-12noon on September 2nd, 16th and 30th and October 7th.
- Deloraine House, 110 Emu Bay Road, from 11am on Saturday 16 September.
- Deloraine Market at the showgrounds from 9am to 1pm on September 2nd and October 7th
- Mole Creek Market at the Mole Creek Memorial Hall, 2 Caveside Road, from 9am to 1pm on 16th September.

- Evandale Sunday Market, Falls Park, Logan Road, Evandale from 9am-12noon on September 3.

Local resident Deborah Lynch, lead facilitator for the Meander Valley district, is offering free education workshops and conversation tables to local community groups and service clubs (e.g. MV Council, Rotary, Apex, Lions, Probus, Aged Care Homes etc.).

Email bookings@rectas.com.au if you want to enquire about a conversation table or

free in-house workshop.

Like all referendums, the result will be decided on state results, not the national vote.

To pass, a referendum needs a double majority: a majority of the national vote and a majority in four out of six states to pass.

Voters must clearly write either "yes" or "no" on their ballot papers.

If you can't make it to your local conversation table, you can find the information at <https://rectas.com.au/> referendum.

Are we there yet – when will winter end?

Mark Flanigan President, Great Western Tiers Tourism Association

NO DOUBT when you read this month's column it will be officially spring. It certainly is starting to feel a little brighter.

The days are getting longer, the paddocks are full of lambs and calves, and there are even signs that the grass is growing again.

The sound of lawnmowers

chugging away is ringing out around the towns and villages of Meander Valley.

Everything has a season.

It goes without saying that winter is not the best season if you are a business practicing your trade in the visitor economy.

Traditionally winter is a very slow time of year for tourism businesses.

This shows up in all sorts of ways.

You have probably noticed

that a lot of shops have cut back on the days or hours they are open.

Some, the Empire Hotel included, take short breaks during winter.

Others are not as full as usual.

You can even get a parking spot in Deloraine.

It isn't all gloom.

The quieter months give an opportunity for staff to take well-earned holidays.

All the little and not so little maintenance jobs that are put off during summer can get done.

And the shop keepers have a bit more time to chat.

There is an upside for customers as well.

You can often get some great winter specials on everything from clothing to accommodation.

This winter has been a little tougher for tourism operators than usual.

For a number of years Tourism Tasmania has run a promotional campaign over winter called the "Off Season".

The campaign is designed to attract mainlanders to Tasmania during winter.

In the past it has been fairly successful in smoothing out the winter trough.

Let's face it who doesn't like the idea of snuggling up in front of a fire with a hot spiced wine or a local whiskey.

There are still visitors around but this year a lot of Australians and Tasmanians (yes, I meant to make the distinction) have taken off for sunnier climes.

Some days it seems as if every second Tasmanian has taken an interstate or overseas holiday this winter.

This is the obvious reaction after four long years of staying home over Covid and its aftermath.

One message that has resounded in recent years is that while international visitors are important, Australians are the foundation stone of the visitor economy, particularly in regional areas like Meander Valley.

Estimates vary but pre-Covid international visitors spent approximately \$45 billion on Australian holidays whereas Australians heading overseas spent \$65 billion.

The difference is material.

What seems to be happening this winter is that Aussies are heading north in droves while the international visitors haven't started coming back yet.

Up to March this year international visitor numbers were at only 58% of pre-Covid numbers.

Let's hope that this winter's visitor drought is only a blip in the trend for greater tourist numbers, local and international, visiting Tasmania over winter.

As sure as the sun will rise tomorrow the season for tourist operators will change eventually.

There are already signs that Tasmanians are returning home from their northern migration.

Events like Father's Day and Craft Fair aren't far away.

But until then those of us that are still around can help by getting out and supporting our local businesses.

Take the kids to visit Little Things Farm on Quamby Brook Road, get a gelato at Dixie Blue or just stop in town and buy a coffee.

It all helps.

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JOBS, HEALTH, COMMUNITY.



Rebecca White MP
Labor Member for Lyons

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

Authorised by REBECCA WHITE,
33 COLE ST, SORELL

Tasmanian Labor

FOGO landfill diversion program success

DIVERTING ORGANIC waste from landfill plays a crucial role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and decreasing the production of leachate, a harmful liquid that poses a threat to ground and surface water quality.

Last year Meander Valley Council expended its food and garden organics (FOGO) collection services from Blackstone Heights to include Prospect Vale, Travellers Rest and Hadspen.

Compared with other services, like recycling and

general waste, the amount diverted from landfill by the FOGO program was an impressive 43% by weight of materials collected, with less than 1% contamination rates.

Recycling accounted for 622 tonnes (21% diversion) of waste from landfill.

Despite these good results, general waste sent to landfill exceeded 1000 tonnes.

When diversion streams of FOGO and recycling are combined, Meander Valley is currently diverting a remarkable 64% of waste

from landfill, which surpasses current state targets.

More than half of Meander Valley's residents benefit from the FOGO collection service, part of a phased-in approach towards expanding service provision to other areas in the future.

The Council is investigating further opportunities to expand waste, recycling and FOGO collection services and are investing in major improvements to Meander Valley's waste facilities.



At the movies with the Western Tiers Film Society

Clare Andersen

"Fashion designers offer one of the last refuges of the marvellous. They are, in a way, the masters of dreams..."
Christian Dior 1957

In 1947 Christian Dior launched his first fashion collection using six mannequins modelling 90 garments. Originally named "Corolle" and "Huit", it went down in fashion history as the 'The New Look' as coined by Harper's Bazaar magazine. Dior's debut collection is credited with having revived French fashion, in both design and the showing of fashion. Glamorous and young-looking, it brought back the spirit of haute couture in France.

The New Look influenced other designers well into the 1950's. Its small, nipped-in waist and full-skirted silhouette emphasized the bust and hips, as epitomized by the "Bar" suit, a contribution from the head of House of Dior's tailoring atelier, a young Pierre Cardin. The collection showcased more feminine designs in contrast to the fashions of wartime, with full skirts, tight waists, and soft shoulders.

Prominent clients came from Hollywood, the US and the European aristocracy. With Paris as its capital, The New Look was welcomed in Europe as a refreshing antidote to the austerity of wartime and defeminising uniforms, and was embraced by stylish women around the world.

Charles James, an English-American designer best known for ballgowns and highly structured aesthetic, was credited by Dior with inspiring The New Look. Dior's designs did not only affect the designers in

the 1950s but also more recent designers in the 2000s.



MRS HARRIS GOES TO PARIS

SEPTEMBER 9

2022 PG, Comedy/Drama UK, 1.15m Director: Anthony Fabian

Mrs Ada Harris is a London housekeeper who works for a variety of well-to-do clients. Ada still holds out hope that her RAF pilot husband, listed as missing, will one day come home to her. But when his remains are finally found and death confirmed, she decides in that defining moment to stop going through life in neutral and instead live out her dreams, no matter how silly they may appear to be.

What does Mrs Harris want? An haute couture gown - one designed by Christian Dior himself - and with 500 pounds in her purse, she intends to travel to Paris and buy one straight off of the runway if she has to. This madcap idea eases Ada's pain, and gives her the freedom to grieve and the confidence to move on with her life. She learns that it is okay to make new connections and to open her heart to the prospect of love and discovers there is power in saying no, and that selfless acts of kindness provoke unexpected repercussions.

'Mrs Harris Goes to Paris is about the journey that proves to be wonderful. Ada's simple quest touches several lives, connecting people in ways they

did not anticipate.'

11/2022 Top Critic

Rotten Tomatoes Critics 94%/ Audience 93%



BONUS CLEAN

SEPTEMBER 23

2022 MA, Documentary Australia, 92m Director: Lachlan McLeod

Business owner, Sandra Pankhurst, leads a team of trauma cleaners: spaces that no one else will touch. With murder scenes, deaths and suicides they enter the confines of society's most vulnerable. Her workers, to do the task, approach it with camaraderie and humour, bringing hope to their clients, despite often carrying trauma of their own. Shows the fragility of life, yet gives hope and reassurance in human connection.

'Clean is not a complete film. But life, as Sandra well knows, is such a messy thing. It's certainly a tribute to her.' Top Critic 03/2022

Rotten Tomatoes Critics 100%/ Audience 40%

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

Ordinary Council Meeting Snapshot • 8 August 2023



Development & Regulatory Services

14 Taylor Street, Westbury: Council approved an application for a two lot subdivision and construction of six multiple dwellings.

1/17 Main Street, Hadspen: Council approved an application for the additional use of Visitor Accommodation to the existing dwelling.

Works

Council approved reallocation of funds in the 2023-24 Capital Works Program with no overall change to the total value of the program.

Corporate Services

Council received the minutes of the June 2023 Audit Panel meeting.

Governance

Council adopted the Annual Plan for the 2023-24 financial year.

Ordinary Council Meeting agendas, minutes and audio recordings are available at www.meander.tas.gov.au



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Westbury church's bicentennial

IN AUGUST, we passed the milestone of 42 years since the Church of England in Australia was officially named the Anglican Church of Australia.

All of our churches have such a fascinating history and St Andrew's Anglican Church in Westbury is no exception.

The foundation stone for St Andrew's Church was laid on 7 March 1836.

It was another fifteen years before the church was finally consecrated, although by this time it had already seen a number of services, weddings and funerals.

Today, the church is most well-known for the magnificent carvings in oak and blackwood, including the pulpit, chancel screen, honour boards and font cover.

If you have not seen the interior of St Andrew's Church, it is well worth the trip to Westbury just for this.

The Bicentenary in November will be an excellent opportunity to view the carvings and learn about the extraordinary woman who carved them.

You will also be able to hear about the first Reverend of St Andrew's Church, John Bishton.

He established the suburb of St Giles in Westbury.

After hearing his story, perhaps you can decide if you think the area is more deserving of its alternative name of Hell's Kitchen.

In fact, the Bicentenary celebrations will include a number of history tours

around Westbury, telling stories of the people and places that have helped to establish 200 years of history here.

From churches to cemeteries, pubs to hospitals, there are a wide range of stories to tell.

And while the more recognised names will be mentioned, the Bicentenary Committee is keen to uncover stories of some of the less well-known individuals of Westbury.

We all have a family history to tell. The Bicentenary Committee would love to hear from anyone that would like to share their ancestor's story.

Or perhaps you have a photo or a piece of memorabilia that could be displayed in the exhibition.



▶ St Andrew's Church, Westbury is celebrating its bicentenary in November.

The Committee is also on the lookout for anyone who would like to be a part of this event, either as an exhibitor, sponsor or volunteer.

Any enquiries can be forwarded to westburybicentenary@outlook.com or to Amanda on 0467 097 791.

Presence
2023 Meander Valley Art Award

28 October - 12 November
Westbury Town Hall

CALL FOR ENTRIES
For information & entry form for this event
www.meander.tas.gov.au/your-community

Entries close 13 October 2023

“Horse” Stephens inducted into AFL Hall of Fame

FORMER DELORAINE Football Club player Phil “Horse” Stephens was inducted into the AFL Tasmania Hall of Fame in July 2023.

Phil was arguably the best credentialled Australian Rules footballer to ever come from the Deloraine area.

Stephens was originally from Deloraine where he played for three seasons (including a premiership) from 1952-54 before moving to

North Launceston where he played from 1955-58.

Stephens was known for his skyward leap, strong hands and torpedo punts.

The powerful forward was a star of northern football, topping the NTFA goal-kicking table and earning representative honours for the NTFA.

In 1959 he was one of many Tasmanian players recruited to join St Kilda.

He played six games before a knee injury kept him out for the season.

He played for Norwood in the SANFL until 1963 when Stephens returned to his old club North Launceston. He played 163 games and represented Tasmania in the 1964 interstate match against Western Australia.

Phil Stephens passed away in Launceston on 31 December 2015.

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A touch of snow

The Exton Gardener

THE PROMISE of spring really starts from the second half of August when bulbs start pushing their green leaf spears out of the ground towards the lengthening days of sunlight.

First the diminutive flowers of crocuses and *Iris reticulata*, then the colour of the “eggs and bacon” jonquils and paperwhite narcissus.

The show really starts when the “host of golden daffodils” burst onto the scene in gardens and in paddocks where they often mark the foundations of some long lost cottage.

They are such robust and long lasting bulbs.

The daffodil clumps are often accompanied by another robust bulb, with long dark green leaves and delicate white frilled bells dangling from arching stems, each frill with

its dot of pale green.

We knew them as snowdrops but we were mistaken.

It is only in more recent years that true snowdrops have become available.

It is a more diminutive plant.

The leaves are grey-green and the flowers have three long white petals surrounding the white frilled bells.

The flowers are usually borne on single stems and the whole plant would struggle to reach 15 cm.

Famously, it is a bulb best moved “in the green”, even whilst in full flower.

The commonly grown one is *Galanthus nivalis* and is a true woodland flower.

Our old familiar “snowdrop” is more properly called snowflake, *Leucojum*



▶ The true snowdrop *Galanthus nivalis*.

aestivum.

It is native to Europe and the Middle East but has naturalised in Australia, Japan, North America and Uruguay, testament to its hardiness.

Snowflakes and snowdrops, both are beautiful heralds of the glory of the Spring to come!

Restoration and conservation of threatened species

DELORAINE'S WILDWOOD has experienced the first of its restorative processes – the very necessary work of removing dangerous limbs and trees, to keep all users of the Wildwood track safe.

Meander Valley Council, owners of the Wildwood, engaged an experienced climber to assess and oversee the work, and in liaison with the newly-formed Wildwood Landcare Group's committee, a decision was made to temporarily leave the fallen timber stacked by the side of the track, until its optimal use can be determined.

Now a registered Landcare Tasmania Group, the committee has also begun the process of incorporation.

Peter Hansen, Committee President, states the committee's objective and purpose as "To improve the physical landscape, encourage wildlife habitat, and foster community involvement

on the land known as the Wildwood."

The views and ideas of the Wildwood committee members and volunteers were sought at a Wildwood visioning and planning workshop to develop a Master Plan that will guide future restorative work to be carried out by Wildwood Landcare Group members.

Committee Project Officer John Tabor, constructed a plan of the Wildwood vegetation types (shown).

All notable trees have been mapped, and the explorative process, which included the input of several experienced people, included the identification of one species on the threatened species list – fragrant hemp bush.

The vegetation map, a discussion paper written by Paddy Murray, and a draft master Plan devised by Committee President Peter Hansen formed the basis of

the decision-making process undertaken at the recent workshop.

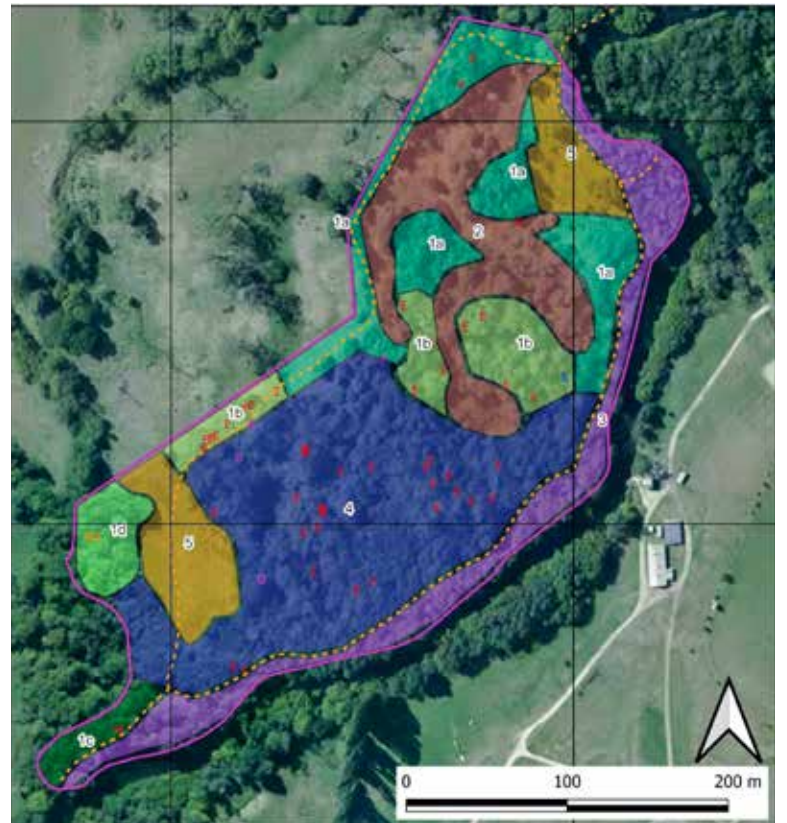
Each zone, as shown on the map was given a description, a vision for the future, and a strategy and methodology to achieve each vision.

Several zones will require ongoing research and method trialling to determine an optimal course of action.

To facilitate these processes, Project Officer John Tabor is looking into the establishment of management priorities, concentrating on key areas, including easily achieved weed control and revegetation.

The agreed priorities will then be written into cohesive work modules, to be approved by the Wildwood landholders, Meander Valley Council, before any work is undertaken.

The process of inviting membership of the Wildwood Landcare Group will be initiated in the following months.



An annual membership fee of \$10 (individual), or \$20 (family) is envisaged, to cover yearly costs, and possibly a yearly members' picnic, in conjunction with an annual general meeting.

Your input and ideas are always welcome. Contact wildwood@landcaretas.org.au or phone Committee President, Peter Hansen 0419 025 792.

Making marvelous muffins

Wendy Hays

MANY PEOPLE find making scones and muffins successfully a real challenge.

I can make really good scones but, unlike the store bought ones, my muffins can be rather dry and hard.

When making both scones and muffins, it is important not to over knead and mix in the dry ingredients into the wet ingredients very quickly when making muffins.

A muffin mixture should still be slightly lumpy and floury when spooning it into the trays.

When not using a packet muffin mix (which are actually very good), I usually use this recipe which is easy and fail proof.

Although I have never tried it, I guess you could substitute any frozen or fresh berries for the apples.

Spiced Apple Muffins

Ingredients

- 2 C self-rising flour
- ¾ ts nutmeg
- ¾ ts cinnamon
- ½ C castor sugar
- 60 g butter or margarine – melted and cooled a little
- 1 egg
- 1C milk
- 1 C of raw, cored, peeled and chopped apple



Method

- 1 Preheat oven to 200C and grease a muffin tin and or line with paper cases.
- 2 Sift together the flour and the spices. Mix in the sugar.
- 3 Beat together the milk, egg, and melted butter in a small bowl.
- 4 Make a well in the dry ingredients and mix in all of

the liquid ingredients and the chopped apple. Use a metal spoon or spatula and be careful not to over mix.

- 5 Fill tins almost to the top and bake for about 15 minutes or until well risen and brown.
- 6 Serve warm with butter or margarine or freeze when cold for later use.

TANIA RATTRAY MLC
INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR MCINTYRE

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



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

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CROSSWORD

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| <p>Across</p> <p>1 Upper-case letter (7)</p> <p>5 Drink made from apples (5)</p> <p>8 Norwegian dramatist (5)</p> <p>9 Curling lock of hair (7)</p> <p>10 Tell a story (7)</p> <p>11 Young sheep (5)</p> <p>12 Hinder (6)</p> <p>14 Crazy (6)</p> <p>18 Go and get (5)</p> <p>20 Came in (7)</p> <p>22 Paper-folding art (7)</p> <p>23 Scrounge (5)</p> <p>24 Simple song (5)</p> <p>25 Ghastly (7)</p> | <p>Down</p> <p>1 Wine from Tuscany (7)</p> <p>2 Difficult question (5)</p> <p>3 Large mug-like vessel (7)</p> <p>4 Place where food is kept (6)</p> <p>5 Inland waterway (5)</p> <p>6 Predicament (7)</p> <p>7 Religious observances (5)</p> <p>13 Lover of one's country (7)</p> <p>15 Observed (7)</p> <p>16 Interminable (7)</p> <p>17 Zestful enjoyment (6)</p> <p>18 Inundation (5)</p> <p>19 Weighty (5)</p> <p>21 Wild West show (5)</p> |
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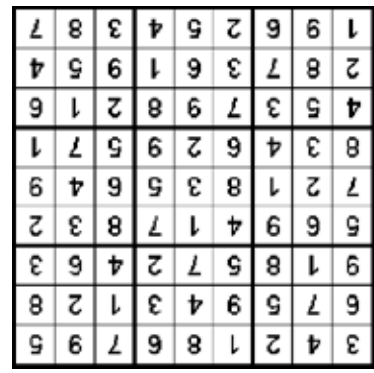
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HOW TO PLAY Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9, each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9 and each set of 3 x 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9. Best of luck!

Crossword September 2023 solution



Sudoku September 2023 solution



EVENTS DIARY

Tuesdays	Hidden Talents Craft Group	10am-12 noon. Deloraine Gospel Chapel, 46 Parsonage St, Deloraine. All welcome.
Tues and Thursdays, 9-12	Westbury Men's Shed	Corner of King St. and Franklin St. Westbury.
Wednesdays, 7-9pm	Trivia Night	Bolters, Prospect
Wednesdays, 1-4pm	Indoor Carpet Bowls	Western Tiers Community Club
Thursdays, 7.30-9.30pm	Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting	Westbury Uniting Church Hall. cnr William and Dexter Sts. Contact phone 0409 931 727.
Fridays, 1-3pm	Cards (Crib, Canasta etc)	Western Tiers Community Club
Fridays, 3-4pm	Tai Chi	Western Tiers Community Club
Fridays, from 8	Live Music	British Hotel, Deloraine
Fridays, 7 to 9	Boogie Nights	Wandering Trout, Mole Creek
Saturdays, 6.30 to 8.30	Winter Festival	Love Lucy Boots
Saturdays, 9 to 11	Parkrun	Town Common, Westbury
Sundays, 1 to 5	Sunday at The Garrison	Westbury RSL
Weekends, 1 to 3	Live in the Vines	3 Willows Vineyard, Montana
Friday 1, 11-12	Singing - with Roy	Western Tiers Community Club
Friday 1, 7 to 9	Celtic Players	Empire Hotel, Deloraine
Monday 4, 1-4	Bingo	Western Tiers Community Club
Thursday 7, 10-12	Golden Oldies men's group	Western Tiers Community Club
Saturday 2, 9 to 1	Deloraine Market	Deloraine Showground
Sunday 3, 2 to 5	Raw Jam	Empire Hotel, Deloraine
Saturday 9, 9 to 1	Liffey Valley Market	Old Liffey School
Saturday 9, 4 to 9	Feed the Animal!	Wandering Trout Taphouse, Mole Creek
Saturday 9, 7.30pm	Western Tiers Film Society - Mrs Harris Goes to Paris	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine (2022 PG, Comedy/Drama UK, 115m)
Friday 15, 11-12	Singing - with Roy	Western Tiers Community Club
Saturday 16, 9 to 1	Westbury Market	St Andrews Church, Westbury
Saturday 16, 9 to 1	Mole Creek Market	Mole Creek Memorial Hall
Saturday 16, 12 to 4	Troy Cassar-Daley	Wilder Tasmania, Gowrie Park
Monday 18, 4 to 9	Fire Spin Jam	Deloraine Riverbank
Monday 18, 1-4	Bingo	Western Tiers Community Club
Saturday 23, 7 to 10.30	Rose Tattoo	Country Club, Prospect
Saturday 23, 7.30pm	Western Tiers Film Society - BONUS Clean	Little Theatre, 2 Meander Valley Rd, Deloraine (2022 MA, Documentary Australia, 92m)
Sunday 24, 4 to 6	TSO Live & On Screen	Little Theatre, Deloraine

Councillor
Ben Dudman



You're Better with Ben

ben.dudman@mvc.tas.gov.au
 0447 935 137 BenDudmanTas

Authorised by Ben Dudman, 105 Meander Valley Rd, Westbury.

upcoming workshops at art as mania

Learn to Sew	September 9th	10:00 - 12:00
Learn to Crochet	September 14th	1:00 - 4:00
Pottery Mushrooms	September 15th	11:00 - 1:00
Dreamscaping	September 16th	10:30 - 12:30
Ukrainian Egg Dyeing	September 22nd	9:30 - 3:30
Botanical Drawing Revisited	September 23rd	9:30 - 2:30
Botanical Drawing - Give it a Go	September 24th	9:30 - 2:30
Learn to Knit	October 4th	10:30 - 12:30

20-22 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine 0488 137 315
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 For computer repairs, upgrades, accessories & internet phone installation. Call Alistair Carr on 0438 681 290. Email: ali_carr47@carrpar.biz

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Westbury Health Inc.
 Westbury Community Health Centre, 89 Meander Valley Road, Westbury, Thursday 5th October at 9.30am. All interested Meander Valley residents welcome. Will include general business, election of office bearers, sub committee reports followed by morning tea. Enquires: westburyhealth@gmail.com

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Meander Valley Connect Inc.
 (Online Access Centres and MV Gazette)
 Empire Hotel, Emu Bay Rd, Deloraine on Tuesday 19th September at 6.00pm. All interested Meander Valley residents welcome. Will include general business, election of office bearers, sub committee and reports.

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Please contact me if I can be of any assistance.

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 63318501 senator.askew@aph.gov.au
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Authorised by Senator W.Askew, Liberal Party of Australia, 46 Cameron St, Launceston TAS 7250.

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Deloraine & Westbury Medical Centre

RED HOT NEWS

- Welcome to **Dr Kayode Osibogun** and **Dr Osman Mohamed**, working 4 days per week at Deloraine.
- Extended opening hours in Deloraine Mon, Wed and Fri: 7.30am- 7.30pm
- The Bone Bus is visiting Westbury from September 4th-8th and Deloraine September 14th-15th.
- Specialty imaging, a Chinese medicine practitioner and a ReDerma skin specialist are available at our Allied Health Centre.

For appointments, phone 03 6362 2266.
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Table tennis Kingpins pip Supremos

THE TABLE tennis winter season grand final ended with the Kingpins beating the Supremos.

Bad luck to the

Supremos (Liam Collins, Chris Wigg, Neil Myers, and Nui Richards).

But well done to Josh Streets, Alisha Harker

(filling in for Jesse Streets), Hari Adimulam, and Gordon Ferguson.

Special congratulations to Lochie Haberle, who

was awarded the Deloraine Table Tennis League player of the season.

We play social roster table tennis every

Wednesday 7-9pm, and community table tennis every Thursday 3-5pm.



► Lochie Haberle, Deloraine Table Tennis League player of the season.



► Josh Streets, Alisha Harker, Hari Adimulam and Gordon Ferguson.

Random thoughts on cultural appropriation

Art Forum
Dr Richard Dunlop

TRY TO imagine this... at the popular Little Laneway Fringe Festival each Spring in Deloraine, a band called The Red Indian Express plays a cover version of Bob Marley's "No Woman, No Cry" while wearing fake dreadlocks and Rastafarian beanies.

Is it reasonable to conclude that you have witnessed an act of cultural appropriation?

What about if someone turned up to a party in a Mexican sombrero with a moustache drawn with a sharpie and skin darkened with boot polish?

In each case, has some immutable line been crossed, entering the zone of "cultural appropriation" Not likely, because the term is largely meaningless, like so many of the offerings of philosophical lines of thought which have led to persistent but unhelpful identity politics.

A mature understanding of culture which reflected what we actually see occurring in visual history is that of a fluid phenomenon in which component ideas are

constantly in circulation and exchanged between people.

The opposing thesis, easily smashed, is that culture is fixed and incapable of evolution and perpetual reinvention.

New art and culture mines old cultures in which it has come into conceptual contact.

Artists enjoy the visual stimulation of the input of other artists, from various periods of history, and blind to political borders, notions of nature or impermeable cultural practices, and apply what they learn with their senses and sense of practicalities.

This idea does not prohibit competing ideas in which it is argued that certain imagery should be the sole province of a certain "culture" with which to deal, and when shouts arise about adverse cultural appropriation, it is difficult to understand exactly what obscure moral code has been infringed.

Recently, the National Gallery of Australia has become embroiled in a scandal in which the 'sacred' stories of Aboriginal artists were being tampered with by "white" artists.

The issues in this saga are complex to unravel and there's

certainly insufficient room here but you can track it online. People with vested commercial interests, including the now market-driven National Gallery were quick out of the blocks to claim that artists have always had assistants since the Italian Renaissance.

The reply to this argument was that the artists did not request the assistance, a cultural power imbalance was reproduced, and that the Gallery is deceiving the public by asserting that the works are whole by Aboriginal hands.

The fact that Aboriginal artists using acrylic paint on imported Belgian linen to enter a mainstream art market is about as remote from authentic culture as one could expect to get, and a relatively recent market-driven phenomena which has nothing visibly to do with deeply-embedded culture, spiritual attachment to land or ancestors, or just about anything else that is persuasively authentic in the images.

The foundation stone of the contemporary Aboriginal art movement was set with the surreptitious appointment of Geoff Bardon, a white art

teacher to Papunya Tula in the early 1970's.

Short of resources, he encouraged the old men to use house paint on scraps of Masonite, which are now priceless.

Decades before, Albert Namatjira was introduced to European watercolours and easel painting when Rex Battersby visited Hermannsburg out of curiosity in 1934, a meeting which subsequently brought wealth to the mission in pre-WW2 days.

When British artist Damien Hirst began making paintings which superficially resembled central desert "dot" paintings by our Emily Kngwarreye, he was roundly condemned for "stealing" from a culture, specifically Australian Aboriginals generally.

Hirst's individual works in this show individually sold for multi-millions of dollars.

Hirst's response to his critics was to posit that no one person has a patent on applying a dot as a dot is as early a human mark with a stick or brush as feasible, and then I imagine he proceeded to the bank.

For those hungering for

news on Deloraine band, *The Legless Lizards*, it would appear that they only are making a record for the most cancellations of world tours, frustrating their burgeoning fan base who have to be satisfied with rare Band promotional posters.

Lizards' songs like "Sons of Nazis eventually ask their fathers what they did in the war" are receiving a lot of negative attention on social media, several people angered at the shameless misappropriation of German culture.

But ex-Lizards' band member, Phallus Collosimo is on record for flatly rejecting this "Despite what you read on social media, the swastika is never actually mentioned in the song's lyric."

Having said that, the Lizards send great love and respect to the right of Hindus to use it.

And as a fourth generation of Greek Collosimos, I'm still okay with ancient Greek pottery featuring the swastika."

This month's challenge for followers of Art Forum: Wear a sombrero into a coffee shop.

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