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**WE MEANS COMMUNITY**

EDITION 52 MARCH 12TH 2026

# Holi - festival of colours



*The Nepalese Holi festival tells the story of good winning over evil in the most colourful of ways. Check out the story and photos on pages 6 and 7*

ADVERTISEMENT

**My Office is open!**

**My Electorate Office is open to the Braddon community.**

If you need any assistance with Federal Government services or would like to request a special birthday or anniversary message, **please contact or visit my office Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm.**



**Anne Urquhart MP**

*Federal Member for Braddon*

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- (03) 6431 1333

Authorised by A Urquhart, ALP, Shop 9 Columar Court, 22 Wilmot Street, Burnie TAS 7320



# WESTERN ECHO

Burnie, Wynyard, Sister's Beach, Stanley, Smithton, Marrawah, Waratah, Tullah, Rosebery, Zeehan, Strahan and Queenstown

## WE MEANS COMMUNITY

Editor: Alan Jennison 0488 2782 99 alan@westernecho.news

The Western Echo is available from IGA's and newsagents (as well as some other outlets) in Queenstown, Strahan, Zeehan, Rosebery, Tullah, Burnie, Stanley, Wynyard, Somerset, Ridgley, Smithton, Marrawah, Arthur River, Forest, Boat Harbour, South Riana and Waratah.

127 Main Street, Zeehan, Tasmania 7469 www.westernecho.news  
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## Letters to the editor...

Here at the Western Echo we love a good debate. If you have a concern, grievance, pet hate or even wish to congratulate someone for doing the RIGHT thing, then this is the place for it. Please note though, that everyone has the right to reply to your letter and we at the Western Echo are under no obligation to publish if things look like they are getting out of hand. We do reserve the right to edit letters for reasons such as clarity and length. Other than that, feel free to have YOUR say. These views in this newspaper, political or otherwise, are not necessarily those held by the editor or anyone professionally associated with the Western Echo.

Editor: Alan Jennison 0488 2782 99 alan@westernecho.news

### RSL Sub-Branch - Threat of Closure.

Queenstown's RSL Sub-Branch will face the same fate as others in Tasmania and across Australia without community support.

Less than a dozen members attended the recent Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) RSL chaired by Tasmania State President Mike Gallagher on February 22.

The purpose of the meeting was to approve changes to the Sub-Branch constitution and elect a new committee.

One important change to the constitution is an affiliate member can now be nominated as President. An Affiliate Member is a relative of an eligible League Member (living or deceased), serving and former first responders, State Correction Officers, Cadet Officers and Cadets.

Changes to the constitution were approved, but unfortunately, nobody volunteered to form the new committee. Without an active committee and new members, the Queenstown RSL Sub-Branch may soon lose its charter and be forced to close its doors.

It's also disappointing a former committee member is spreading false rumours in Queenstown. These lies serve

no constructive purpose except to insult veterans and ensure the community loses faith in the possibility of keeping an operational and sustainable sub-branch. The solution to this issue and the decisions for pathing a brighter future can only be made when a new committee is formed.

Despite playing a vital role, dwindling memberships have forced the closure of several RSL Sub-Branches in Tasmania in the past few years. Many, especially smaller branches, are struggling to maintain profitability and meet operating costs because of an ageing demographic and declining membership.

I urge ex-service personnel, first responders, people with a family history of service, and anyone passionate about preserving the legacy of veterans to join the Queenstown RSL Sub-Branch. The Sub-Branch can offer a welcoming atmosphere for members and guests, and if managed properly can continue to serve as a community hub, providing a comfortable space for veterans, their families and visitors to relax and socialise.

With a rich history of more than 80 years and a commitment to honouring service members, the Queenstown RSL Sub-Branch stands as a testament to the

town's heritage and community spirit. The next EGM is crucial to form a new committee and will be held at 1pm on April 12.

Mark (Doc) Doran - Australian Army Veteran - Queenstown.

## Four legs, two legs, no legs, feathers, fur or fins, all visitors are welcome



Charlie from South Australia came to visit us recently at the Animal Welfare Centre Inc Op shop in Zeehan. We always have treats behind the counter for just such an occasion so here is 37 years young Charlie enjoying a biscuit. .

## West Coast Visitor Information Centre

Macquarie Heads, ocean on one side, harbour on the other, and time slows to the rhythm of the tide.

Whether you're an early riser chasing the morning bite or staying late as the light fades, Tasmania's West Coast rewards those who make the journey.

Dreaming of a trip West - for fishing, exploring, or simply being outside, we're here with local tips, places to stay and help planning your time at Macquarie Heads and beyond.



## Western Echo 'Wendy'

I have been going for a lot of D.R.I.V.E.s. recently, backwards and forwards to Zeehan to see the rest of my family (the cats), and all over exploring the Northwest. I love it when dad reaches for my harness as it always means an adventure. I have been busy on my walks making more friends and even touched noses tthe other night with a dog that looked like a sausage haha. He was fun though and I hope to be going on puppy play dates very soon.

Dad said he is going to get me groomed as I am looking rather scruffy (especially when I stick my head out the window in the car) so that sounds pretty exciting too (whatever a 'groom' is).

I now have a spot in the window of the building so I can watch out and see what is happening, as well as say hi to all the other dogs and their humans. I will let you know more about the 'groomed' next month.



Woof to you all... Wendy



Come along and join in the fun at playgroup!

### Zeehan Playgroup

Gardening & Sustainability

Zeehan Connection Centre

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April  
10:30am - 12 noon

### Rosebery Playgroup

Fine motor fun

Rosebery Memorial Hall

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April  
10:00am - 12 noon



Morning tea provided

# West Coast pride reaches the halls of Parliament

The Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra's education team visited the West Coast in late February, hosting school visits and a pop-up community performance.

The visit was organised by the TSO's Head of Schools and Community Projects, Jack Machin, who is a teacher, conductor and trombonist.

Jack was joined by flute player Douglas Mackie and bassoonist Simone Walters.

They presented the TSO's popular Science and Sound workshops for students at Zeehan Primary School, St Joseph's Primary School at Rosebery and Strahan Primary School.

These fun workshops teach chil-

dren about how instruments make their sounds and are linked to the primary school science curriculum.

The trio also hosted a pop-up performance for youngsters at Queenstown Library.

Jack said: 'We had an incredible time on the West Coast. We were blown away by the students and their attention and curiosity, asking lots of questions and sharing their joy in experiencing the TSO musicians in such an intimate setting! We were made so welcome by the schools and their communities and look forward to heading out west again in the near future'.



# The Future of Queenstown RSL Sub Branch Inc

For more than 80 years, the Queenstown RSL Sub Branch Inc. has stood as a symbol of service, remembrance and community spirit. Today, it faces a critical moment, but also an opportunity for renewal.

An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) held on Sunday 22 February 2026 sought to elect a new President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. While 11 members attended, no nominations were received to fill the vacant executive positions.

RSL Tasmania State President Mike Gallagher, who chaired the meeting, acknowledged the disappointment but expressed confidence in the strength of the Queenstown community.

"Queenstown has always been defined by resilience," Mr Gallagher said. "The RSL here was built by veterans who believed in standing together. That same spirit can secure its future."

Mr Gallagher emphasised that a local RSL Sub Branch is not separate from its community, it is an extension of it. Without community involvement, a Sub Branch cannot exist. With it, it can thrive.

"Our Sub Branches are more than buildings," he said. "They are places where veterans connect, families find

support, and local history is preserved. When a community supports its RSL, it protects both its heritage and its future."

At the request of members present, a further Extraordinary General Meeting will be held on Sunday 12 April 2026, providing another opportunity for financial members to nominate for the vacant roles.

RSL Tasmania has made clear it does not wish to see Queenstown lose its Sub Branch and will provide support wherever possible. Chief Executive Officer John Hardy confirmed that members of the Social Connection Program will assist the Sub Branch in hosting a community "Coffee and Toastie" morning tea on Friday 10 April 2026.

The event will be open to members, veterans, families and the wider community, offering a chance to reconnect and recommit to the Sub Branch's future.

"This is a call to action," Mr Gallagher said. "If Queenstown values its RSL, now is the time to step forward."

RSL Tasmania encourages all veterans, ex-serving members and community supporters to attend the morning tea and the upcoming EGM and play a part in ensuring the Queenstown RSL continues to serve future generations.

## Somebody is looking in my bin!

Don't be alarmed if you see the team from North West Resource and Recovery poking their heads into your kerbside bins before they get collected. It's bin check time!

They try to do this twice a year to make sure everyone is kept up to date on how they should be using their bins and provide targeted advice to those who need a little help to get it sorted correctly.

One overly contaminated bin can send the whole truckload to landfill so we want to give you the best chance of success. Checks will be running from now until the end of April. To find out what can and can't go into your recycling or FOGO bin visit [www.nwrrr.com.au](http://www.nwrrr.com.au) or download the Recycle Mate app to get advice on all your local recycling options. This work helps deliver Circular

Head Vision 2050 by supporting waste reduction, recycling, and a more environmentally conscious and resilient Circular Head



# "DOING IT FOR THE ANIMALS"

## FUNDRAISER BBQ

Join Animal Welfare Centre inc. for a community family friendly day out, BBQ with Live music, and much more!

28th March 2026

LIVE MUSIC FROM LOCAL WEST COAST ARTISTS (TBA)

SCAN QR CODE FOR MORE DETAILS.



**CALLING LOCAL BUSINESSES**

→ GET INVOLVED IN →

# STREET UNITY JAM

**PART 3**

**HIP HOP EVENT**

**BURNIE, TAS • 2ND MAY**

Join us in supporting a community-driven youth, culture, and homeless event!

**WAYS TO GET INVOLVED:**

- Event Sponsorship
- Stalls & Vendors
- Food & Drink
- Donations & Support

**WHY PARTNER WITH US:**

- Support Local Youth
- Support the Homeless
- Brand Exposure
- Social Media Promotion
- Positive Impact

**INTERESTED?**  
MESSAGE US TODAY!

**BREAKING THE CYCLE TASSIE**

— SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE! —

**BUILDING COMMUNITY • CREATING OPPORTUNITY • BRINGING HIP HOP**

## Street Unity Jam 3 is coming

Something HUGE is landing in Burnie this April  
**STREET UNITY JAM – PART 3 Hip hop**  
 Burnie, TAS 25th April  
 This isn't just an event or just another hip hop event - it's a movement!  
 Street Unity Jam is bringing the community together for a powerful day of youth, culture, music, food, and positive change.

Contact us on Facebook - Breaking The Cycle Tassie  
 Building community  
 • Creating opportunity  
 • Bringing people together  
 Spread the word.  
 Burnie - let's show up.  
 And guess what, it's all free!  
 Don't forget the Youth Unity Jam on March 21st either! (see below)

We're inviting local businesses, creators, and supporters to be part of something that's making real impact:

Supporting local youth  
 Supporting the homeless  
 Showcasing community talent  
 Creating opportunities  
 Building unity through culture

**WAYS TO GET INVOLVED**

- Event sponsorship
- Stalls & vendors
- Food & drink
- Donations & support

This event keeps getting BIGGER, LOUDER, and STRONGER and Part 3 is shaping up to be the biggest one yet.

Interested in being involved or partnering with us?

# YOUTH UNITY JAM PT. 1

A FREE EVENT FOR BURNIE TAS  
 PRESENTED BY BURNIE CITY COUNCIL

**THE DON THEATRE WYNYARD** MARCH 21ST 12PM - 9PM

LIVE PERFORMANCES BY

**CHEFFAMC**  
**YOUNG TOM**  
**DARCY YOUNG**  
**NXT PHAZE**  
**THE PHOENIX**  
**THEBUTTERFLY**  
**HUNTER HYLAND**  
**WHITIE**

WHAT'S GOING DOWN:

- GRAFFITI WORKSHOP
- FREE HIPHOP DANCING WORKSHOP BY JOE KING
- PS5 GAMES
- PING PONG TABLE
- KARAOKE
- GLOW STICKS AND BUBBLES
- FREE BBQ
- FREE POPCORN
- FREE FAIRY FLOSS
- GUEST SPEAKER WHITIE

# FROM EARLY STARTS TO MARKET SMARTS

Here to make banking easy for Smithton.



IT TAKES A LITTLE



# Smithton Visitor Information Centre going national Don't panic!

After winning gold at the Tasmanian Tourism Awards, the Smithton Visitor Information Centre represented Tasmania at the Australian Tourism Awards recently.

Entering the state awards for the first time, our team showcased excellence in visitor information, support for local businesses, sustainability, accessibility, and contribution to the regional tourism economy.

A huge shout-out to Katy Usher and Melissa Hughes (pictured), our amazing staff, and our partners - Duck River Meadows Dairy Tours, La Cantara Artisan Cheeses, Circular Head Heritage Centre, and Pavilions Café for making Smithton a welcoming hub for visitors.

Regardless of the outcome, this gold win highlights the strength of Circular Head's tourism offering.



Don't panic! Collins the Caterpillar hasn't lost her head again!

She's just off on a little spa day with our construction crew for some well-earned pampering and a bit of "metal-work magic."

After some unwanted attention from vandals, we've temporarily removed Collins' head so she can come back looking fabulous — with some new piercings (aka upgraded bolts!) to help keep her safe and secure.

She'll be back soon, brighter and stronger than ever.

Thanks to everyone for keeping an eye on her — we love how much the community cares about our favourite literacy trail caterpillar!



## PUBLIC INFORMATION

# Planned Burning Program 2026

### What is a planned burn?

Planned burns are carried out by Sustainable Timber Tasmania to regenerate harvested forests, in a similar manner to the natural regeneration process that follows a bushfire. These burns also contribute to community safety by reducing fuel loads in Tasmania's public production forests.

### How many burns are there?

This year, approximately 154 burns are planned across Permanent Timber Production Zone (PTPZ) land.

### Why are planned burns undertaken in autumn?

Autumn provides the most suitable conditions for planned burns, with cooler temperatures and more stable weather patterns reducing the risk of fire escaping. It is also the ideal time to support the successful regeneration of eucalypt forests, with warm soil temperatures and the onset of seasonal rainfall promoting seedling growth.

### What happens during a planned burn?

Sustainable Timber Tasmania carefully manages its Planned Burning Program to prioritise safety and minimise impacts on neighbours and local communities. Each burn is individually planned, with detailed consideration given to safety, weather and smoke dispersal, protection of assets and infrastructure, environmental values, and known local events. These factors are documented, reviewed, and approved, supported by individual risk assessments.

Planned burns are only undertaken when weather conditions are suitable for managing and containing the fire to the prepared boundaries.

### How is smoke managed?

Sustainable Timber Tasmania coordinates its planned burns with other agencies and private forestry businesses with the aim to manage smoke levels in accordance with the Coordinated Smoke Management System.

Wherever possible, smoke dispersal is planned away from populated areas. Although smoke may be visible, it is usually travelling at height and impact to local communities is minimised.

On days when poor smoke dispersal is anticipated, burning is postponed until suitable weather conditions prevail.

### How will I know when planned burns are happening?

Before any burns occur, Sustainable Timber Tasmania notifies and engages with immediate neighbours during the planning stage. Stakeholders who have registered interest in specific burns, including those in the wine and tourism industries, are also informed. Public advisories are shared with local media and posted to Sustainable Timber Tasmania's Facebook page twice daily. Additionally, updates and the full Planned Burning Program are available on the "What's Burning Now?" page at [www.fire.tas.gov.au](http://www.fire.tas.gov.au).



### How can I find out more?

Sustainable Timber Tasmania welcomes and encourages stakeholders to contact its engagement team at [stakeholder@sttas.com.au](mailto:stakeholder@sttas.com.au) or on (03) 6169 2800 with questions about its Planned Burning Program.

For additional information, please visit [www.sttas.com.au](http://www.sttas.com.au).

# HOLI FESTIVAL = SO MUCH LOVE

Photos by Alan Jennison

A two thousand year old festival, clouds of colour, delicious spicy food and some of the happiest people you will ever meet, were all hallmarks of this year's Holi festival at Burnie Park recently.

Called the 'festival of colours', and having its roots in Nepalese and Hindu culture, Holi tells the story of the powerful demon king Hiranyakashipu, who demanded that everyone worship him as supreme. However, his son Prahlad remained a devoted follower of Lord Vishnu.

Angered by Prahlad's unwavering faith, Hiranyakashipu made several attempts to kill him. Prahlad was thrown from a cliff, trampled by elephants, poisoned, and even cast into a pit of snakes — yet each time he was miraculously protected by Lord Vishnu. His devotion remained firm despite these life-threatening trials. In one final attempt, Hiranyakashipu's sister Holika, who possessed a boon that made her immune to fire, sat with Prahlad on a burning pyre. But divine justice prevailed: Holika was consumed by the flames while Prahlad emerged unharmed. This event is com-

memorated as Holika Dahan, symbolising the destruction of evil and the protection of righteousness.

There is a lot more to the story and it is indeed a fascinating one but move to the modern day and the festival is all about love, friendship, faith and truth.

The recent Holi festival in Burnie Park showed just how much love is out there, 150 people gathered to throw coloured powders, squirt each other with water, eat some of the most delicious food I have tasted and laugh... A lot!

This was such a happy, colourful event and, even though I am not Nepalese, I was immediately welcomed into the festivities and felt the pride and love these people have for their culture.

If you get the chance to attend next year then do it, it doesn't matter what race, colour, religion or creed you may be. I guarantee you will be welcomed with open arms, end up with a full belly and most definitely leave covered in paint and with a huge smile.

Thank you so much to the Nepalese community for making me feel like an honorary Nepalese myself, I will most assuredly be at the next festival.



# HOLI FESTIVAL - SO MUCH LOVE

Photos by Alan Jennison





## Hedley Faull Park Nearing Completion

The Hedley Faull Park redevelopment has seen pleasing momentum in recent weeks, with several key features now completed and more elements nearing the finish line. After significant delays, it's been great to finally see substantial progress on the ground.

Several major components have now been finalised, including:

- Basketball court sealing & line marking, improving playability and durability
- Concrete works at the Cutten Street entrance, enhancing access
- Rotunda roof and upright poles installed
- Stair rails fitted, improving safety and usability

In addition, Council's outdoor team has also spent time weeding and tidying areas throughout the park, helping to complete the final stages of the redevelopment. March will see the project entering its final stages, with the following items to be completed:

- Fence painting (internal and external)
- Replacement of guttering in key areas
- Installation of mobile fencing around the substation
- Mulch top-ups in garden beds and play areas

- Placement signage
- A new community mural, to be installed on the wall next to the BBQ area, commissioned by the Queenstown Lions Club
- General maintenance and finishing touches

The bike wash station is once again fully operational and already being used by riders.

Council is delighted to see community members already enjoying the completed areas of the park, even as finishing works continue. Community patience throughout this redevelopment has been greatly appreciated.

Planning is also underway for an official opening event, which will celebrate the transformation of this valued community space once all works are complete. Details will be announced once final timelines are confirmed.



## Improved Accessibility at Swimming Pools

West Coast Council is committed to improving accessibility across all community facilities and both the Queenstown and Zeehan Pools are now equipped with accessible pool hoists to support community members with mobility needs.

The hoist at the Zeehan Pool was installed as part of the facility upgrade, whilst the Queenstown hoist was purchased recently through an Open Spaces Grant provided by the Tasmanian State Government & the Local Government Association of Tasmania.

Promoting and improving accessibility is a key priority for Council and is a guiding principle of the West Coast Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2025-2030.

Ensuring that community spaces can be used by everyone strengthens inclusion, participation, and wellbeing across the West Coast.

### How to Access the Hoist

If a community member wishes to use a hoist at either pool, they can chat with pool staff on arrival. All staff are trained in the safe operation of the equipment and are available to assist.



## We're bringing Council to the community.

Join your West Coast Councillors and staff for an informal Community Conversation. Our first session was held in Zeehan in February, and we're continuing the conversation across the region. This is your chance to share ideas, raise concerns, ask questions, and talk about what matters most to you and your community.

There's no formal agenda – just relaxed, face-to-face conversations

designed to help Council better understand local priorities. We're here to listen. Everyone is welcome. No RSVP required. Catering provided.

### Upcoming sessions:

**TULLAH:** 14 April, 6.30pm at the Community Hall

**ROSEBERRY:** 12 May, 6.30pm at the Memorial Hall

## Your Councillors



**Shane Pitt**, Mayor • 0419 899 667  
spitt@westcoast.tas.gov.au



**Robert Butterfield**, Deputy Mayor  
Phone 0428 822 062



**Kerry Graham** • 0488 199 529  
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**Liz Hamer**  
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**Lindsay Newman** • 0418 368 708  
lnewman@westcoast.tas.gov.au

## Waterfront Project progressing

The Strahan Waterfront redevelopment continues to make strong progress, with the site now open and accessible to the public.

All on-site lighting is fully operational, providing improved visibility, safety, and amenity for community members and visitors enjoying the foreshore area. The only exception is the lighting in the new car park area, which will be connected once TasNetworks completes the final electrical works.

Another key milestone has been met, with the occupancy permit issued for the new toilets. Located on the Esplanade between The Ship That Never Was and the Huon Pine/Sawmill area, the toilets opened to the public on 26 February. The toilets will be open 7.15am-4.15pm, with the intention of installing the Unlock West Coast app for 24/7 access in the future. The portable toilets will remain in place in the short term.

Landscaping areas within the site have been roped off temporarily, with further works to be completed.

The Strahan Waterfront Advisory Committee has been meeting and working closely with Council to progress key elements of the project. The committee has provided valuable insight and local knowledge, helping shape important design and delivery decisions.

A community information session held on 19 February was also well attended. Attendees expressed strong support for the progress made to date and contributed feedback on several project components. This included:

- Adjustments to the height of the waterfront wall
- Input into preferred locations for the relocated fuel tanks
- General feedback on how the public will use and enjoy the revitalised area

Council appreciates the community's patience and thanks all community members who continue to engage constructively and help guide the project to ensure it meets local needs.

The Strahan Waterfront Project is a significant investment in enhancing public spaces, improving accessibility, and creating an inviting environment for locals and visitors to enjoy year-round.



New public toilets now open, Esplanade Strahan.



New lighting along the Esplanade, Strahan.

## Strahan Waterfront Community Engagement Sessions:

**BE INFORMED** with project updates.

**CONSULT** on key project design features.

➔ **6pm, Thursday 19 March** at the Gym & Multi-purpose Centre, Gaffney St, Strahan.

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tue 24 March  
Tue 28 April  
Tue 26 May



2026

Agendas, minutes, and any associated documents are available on the Council's website or from the Council Office.

## Council Adopts Updated Privacy & Confidentiality Policy

West Coast Council has adopted its updated Privacy & Confidentiality Policy (WCC.022), strengthening Council's commitment to protecting personal information and managing confidential matters responsibly.

Council works daily with personal information from residents, staff, and businesses, and safeguarding that information is essential to maintaining community trust.

The policy recognises Council's regular work with sensitive material – including commercial negotiations, tenders, staff and legal matters, and personal hardship cases. The updated policy ensures:

- Personal information is collected only when necessary
- Information is used and stored securely
- Confidential Council matters remain protected
- Compliance with the Australian Privacy Principles and relevant legislation

These updates enhance existing safeguards and reflect modern privacy expectations.

If a community member believes their information has been mishandled, the policy outlines a process for lodging a complaint. The full policy is available on Council's website or by request.

### West Coast Council office:

11 Sticht Street, Queenstown  
Open Monday–Friday  
8.30am–5pm (closed Public Holidays)

### COUNCIL AGENCIES ARE LOCATED:

**Rosebery District School**  
Open Monday–Friday 8am–4pm  
7–11 Morrisby Street, Rosebery  
Phone: (03) 6473 1223

### Strahan Post Office

Open Monday–Friday  
10am–5.30pm during daylight savings  
10am–5pm non-daylight savings  
13 Esplanade Strahan  
Phone: (03) 6471 7171

### Zeehan Post Office

Open Monday–Friday  
June to August: 9am to 4:30pm  
September to May: 9am to 5pm  
114 Main Street, Zeehan  
Phone: (03) 6471 6361

## REMINDERS

### 13 MARCH

Recycling collection Zeehan, Rosebery & Tullah

### 18 MARCH

Trans Tasmania MTB event, Mt Owen trails

### 19 MARCH

Strahan Waterfront Community Information Session

### 27 MARCH

Rates instalment due

### 31 MARCH

Deadline for rates concession applications to be processed

### 3 APRIL

Recycling collection Queenstown, Gormanston/Linda & Strahan

### 10 APRIL

Recycling collection Zeehan, Rosebery & Tullah

### 14 APRIL

Community Conversation Tullah

### 16 APRIL

Strahan Waterfront Community Information Session

## NEW DIGS, SAME LOCAL KNOW-HOW



**ADVICE & BOOKINGS**



**WEST COAST MERCHANDISE**



**LOCAL GIFTS**

We are currently operating from temporary premises at 29 Esplanade Strahan, while our usual location undergoes renovations. Drop in for local advice, bookings, and to browse our West Coast-branded gear. Or visit the website for everything you need to explore our region. Locals and visitors welcome. We're here to help!



**WEST COAST TAS**

Phone: 03 6472 6800  
[tourism@westcoast.gov.au](mailto:tourism@westcoast.gov.au)

[westcoasttas.com](http://westcoasttas.com)  
#westcoasttas

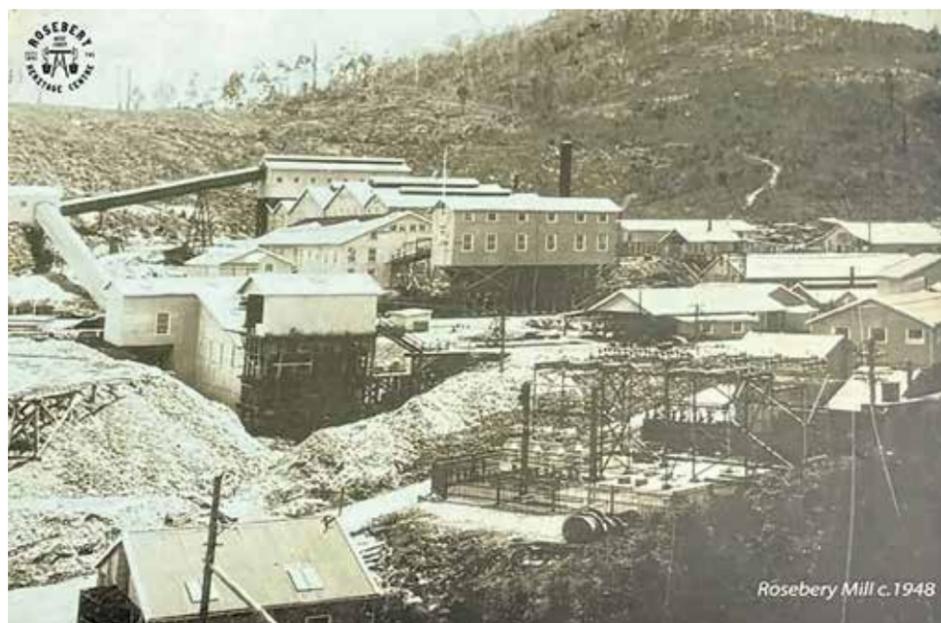
# 90 years of MMG on show

In the early 1890s, following significant discoveries at Queenstown and Zeehan, prospectors moved into the Rosebery-Mt Read district in search of gold. A.J. Allom pegged a tourmaline lode on Mt Black in 1890, but the most important discovery came in 1893 when Tom McDonald uncovered gold in the alluvial wash of Rosebery Creek, and not just gold, but zinc-lead sulphide as well. He later established the Rosebery Prospecting Association, naming it after Lord Rosebery, the British Prime Minister at the time. The Rosebery Mine struggled with technical and financial difficulties due to the high zinc content of its ore, and operations ceased in 1913. Work recommenced in 1917, although progress was slow. In 1918, the Electrolytic Zinc Company of Australasia began pursuing control of the field, securing full ownership by the late 1920s. The township of

Rosebery began to take shape in 1928 with the construction of a new mill, which was completed in 1930. However, the Great Depression soon forced the operation into care and maintenance. Production resumed in February 1936 and has continued ever since, evolving over time into the modern operation it is today.

MMG Rosebery marked the milestone on 18 February 2026 with afternoon tea at the Rosebery Heritage Centre. During the celebration, visitors were able to view Tom McDonald's dollypot and book, which were displayed at the Centre for the occasion.

The Rosebery Heritage Centre is open from 10am-2pm, Monday to Friday on Agnes Street, Rosebery. Pop in and see what we have! Entry is by gold coin donation.



## Mt Black Men's Shed – Update

Good news!

Mt Black Men's Shed is open again. The past few weeks have been a bit tough with the Shed closed for a week and plenty of talk around town. We appreciate everyone's patience while things were worked through. The concerns raised about Shed funds have now been dealt with privately, with information

reviewed by the Tasmanian Men's Shed Association (TMSA). The Committee has been cleared, and we're now moving forward.

With guidance from TMSA, we're getting back to basics - what Men's Sheds are all about, spending time together, having a yarn, enjoying good company in a safe, relaxed space.

### What you need to know:

The Shed is open and operating. We're sticking strong to AMSA values; mateship, respect, safety, wellbeing, and integrity.

Thanks to everyone who's stuck with us through this. We're looking forward to getting back to what matters most — mateship, wellbeing, and community.

More info coming soon.

*Mt Black Men's Shed Inc*



TASMANIAN  
MEN'S SHED  
ASSOCIATION INC

**STUDY CENTRE**  
CIRCULAR HEAD  
Email - [students@studycentrech.com.au](mailto:students@studycentrech.com.au)  
Phone - 0499 173 118

**STUDY KING ISLAND**  
Email - [learn@studyki.com.au](mailto:learn@studyki.com.au)  
Phone - 0439 735 957

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Learn and Study Local

# Celebrating the trade that keeps Circular Head flowing



On 11 March 2026, Circular Head Council is celebrating World Plumbing Day - a day that recognises the vital work plumbing does quietly, every single day, to protect our health, environment and way of life.

Most of us don't think about plumbing until something goes wrong. But behind every healthy home, thriving business and clean waterway is a skilled trade doing essential work.

Good plumbing protects our rivers, beaches and groundwater by ensuring sewage and waste are managed safely. It safeguards drinking water quality and supports water-efficient systems that help us respond to a changing climate. In a rural and coastal community like ours, that protection is not optional - it's fundamental.

Plumbing also underpins daily life. From homes and schools to aged care facilities, sporting clubs and local businesses, reliable water and sanitation systems help people feel safe, supported and connected. They are essential infrastructure for a community that wants to grow sustainably and remain a great place to live.

Importantly, plumbing is also about people and opportunity.

Through the work of the Circular Head Education and Training Consultative Committee (CHETCC), Council continues to champion education and skills pathways at every stage of life. Established in 1999, CHETCC brings together schools, training providers, industry and local government to strengthen learning and employment opportunities across the region.

Trades like plumbing offer practical, rewarding careers that support both individuals and the broader community. As highlighted in the accompanying TasTAFE story, pathways such as the Certificate II in Plumbing give learners, whether school leavers or career changers, the chance to explore the industry, develop real-world skills and build connections with local employers.

Strong training partnerships matter. They create local apprenticeships, support businesses and ensure our region has the skilled workforce needed to maintain and improve essential infrastructure.

Plumbing plays a vital role in protecting public health, water quality and the environment - values that sit right at the heart of Circular Head Vision 2050.

- It protects our waterways and keeps communities healthy
- It supports reliable homes and community facilities
- It creates local jobs and skills
- It underpins infrastructure for our growing rural and coastal communities

By recognising World Plumbing Day, Council is proud to show leadership in sustainability, long-term planning and the wellbeing of our people and place.

To mark the occasion, a plumbing display will be set up at the Council Offices from Tuesday 9 March to Friday 13 March. Community members are encouraged to drop in, learn more about how plumbing protects our health and environment, and speak with Council's Plumbing Compliance Officer.

Healthy communities. Clean water. Skilled local jobs.

That's something worth celebrating.

### A Day in the Life: Protecting What We Don't Always See

Before taps are turned on in a new home or business, careful work is already underway.

Our Council Plumbing Compliance Officer spends the day answering questions from residents, builders and plumbers, reviewing permit applications, and ensuring plans meet the Building Act and national plumbing regulations. It's detailed work - but it protects drinking water, keeps wastewater out of our rivers and coastline, and ensures systems are built to last.

With usually three inspections per permit, on-site checks confirm that pipes, drainage and connections are installed safely and correctly. Research, compliance audits and collaboration across Council departments all help maintain high standards across the region.

It might not always be visible, but this role underpins healthy homes, thriving local businesses and clean waterways - helping Circular Head grow confidently and sustainably.

# Rosebery Development Association update



Thanks to the awesome volunteers who turned up to clean up Australia with us recently. A lot of ground was covered but not a lot of rubbish picked up thanks to the great job that our local council workers do on their daily rounds picking up what they can see. Thanks to West Coast Council for collecting our bags and disposing of them for us.

# Betty takes the train - again!



Our loco fleet comprises two centenarians. Wee Georgie Wood was built in Leeds in 1924 and Romeo was built in Saronno, Italy in 1925.

It was wonderful to be joined recently by Betty Barker and her family who rode the train.

Betty turns 100 in August, so we thought a few photos were in order!

Betty grew up in Rosebery, which today is just 15 minutes from Tullah by car, but back in Betty's day it was a two hour journey by two trains (Georgie to Farrell Junction then the EBR railmotor to Rosebery), or a long walk through the bush via the Sterling Valley track.

# Bringing one home for Strahan

Recently, at the IGA Tasmania Awards of Excellence 2026, Patrick's IGA Strahan won Medium Grocery & General Merchandise Department of the Year

With strong competition from stores all across Tasmania, this is a big achievement and we are incredibly proud of our team.

We were also honoured to be nominated for Produce Department of the Year, which reflects the hard work that goes into our store every single day.

A huge thank you to our amazing team and to the Strahan community for your ongoing support





TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE NOW!

*Save the date*

# 2026 WYNYARD SHOW

SAT 14 MARCH 2026 • 9:00 AM  
WYNYARD SHOWGROUNDS  
JACKSON STREET  
[WYNYARDSHOW.ORG/BUY-TICKETS/](http://WYNYARDSHOW.ORG/BUY-TICKETS/)





**PACKED FULL OF FREE FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

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**DISCOVER WYNYARD'S 2026 BIGGEST PUMPKIN**  
**Enter the Free Gumboot Tossing Competition & Take Home the Title of Wynyard's Greatest Tossler - Proudly Sponsored by All Goods**

CHAINSAW CARVING	POULTRY & NW BIRD CLUB DISPLAYS	SHOW JUMPING
ANIMAL NURSERY	LIVESTOCK COMPETITIONS	FREE FACEPAINTING
INDUSTRIAL HALL	WOODCHOPPING, HISTORICAL DISPLAYS + LOADS MORE!!!!	SHOWBAGS, RETAIL, & FOOD VENDORS






Special thanks to all our sponsors and local donors



Rosebery Mine

# Community Newsletter

March 2026



Image: MMG's Chris Winskill and Steve Scott with members of the community

## Celebrating 90 years

MMG Rosebery celebrated nine decades of continuous operation with a number of events last month.

A morning tea was held at the Rosebery Neighbourhood House and an afternoon tea at the Heritage Centre.

We also ran a special bus service as part of the Rosebery Festival, from the town centre to our onsite marquee which featured a historical timeline and a virtual reality experience.

This gave the community a real life look at our underground operations and in the mill where we process the ore.

We thank the community for all their support over 90 years.



Image: MMG GM Steve Scott with community members at the Heritage Centre.

## Life extension update

We have made an application to the Federal Government to determine if approval is required - under the EPBC Act - for the proposed development of a potential tailings storage facility (TSF) at Exe.

Exe is one of several locations under consideration as part of our long-term planning for Rosebery.

This is the first stage of the environmental assessment process.

Over the coming year, we will work with Government to ensure we prepare a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

## Minister visits Rosebery

MMG Rosebery was pleased to welcome Federal Minister for Resources Madeleine King and Federal Member for Braddon Anne Urquhart to site last month for an update on our operations.

We highlighted our importance to the Tasmanian economy including that our zinc concentrate is a significant proportion of feed for the Nystar smelter in Hobart and that we are an important royalty payer to the state government.

We also discussed how we are unlocking Rosebery's full potential and our work to extend current tailings facilities to support the life extension project and TSF3.



Image: Anne Urquhart MP, Minister for Resources Madeleine King and MMG GM Steve Scott.

## LEAP Assessment

MMG's Environment team presented to the Rosebery Development Association (RDA) on the LEAP assessment, a framework for nature related risks.

Community consultation is essential to the success of this project and the RDA will work closely with MMG Rosebery on this.

1800 767 664

ROSCOMMUNITY@MMG.COM

MMG.COM/HOME/ROSEBERYFUTURE

MMG.COM/CAREERS

# Under The Horizontal *with Tewkesbury Wharf*

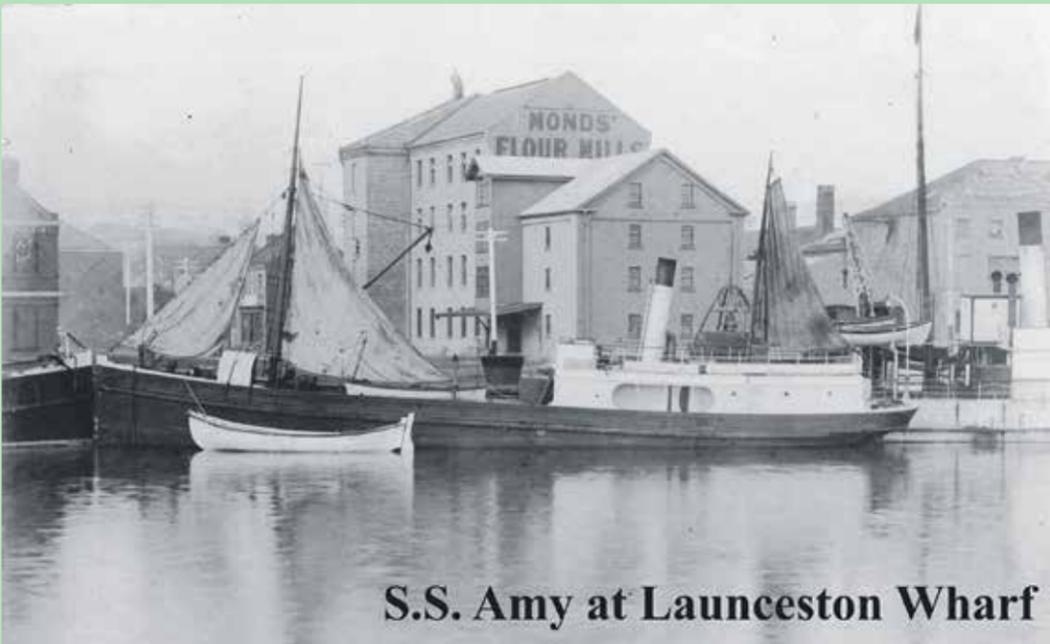
By the advent of 1882, the Mount Heemskirk tin field was going gangbusters. Almost everyone was convinced that the recently discovered tin lodes would be richer than the Mount Bischoff mine. The old North Heemskirk claims, abandoned in 1879, were being revived and new sections pegged in the frenzy of 1881. The premier claim at the north end was once again Glenora, high up on the Tasman River.

At the time there were 200 men at Mount Heemskirk and a fair proportion of them at North Heemskirk, which started to cause logistics problems. To access Trail Harbour or the post office at the Montagu claim, they had to cross the pinch at The Gap a notorious

and often dangerous exercise with a heavy load.

On the 16th of February 1882, Fred Milne wrote to the Mercury complaining about the mail situation, that of having to collect their mail from South Heemskirk, ten miles distant, when the mailman came through North Heemskirk from Corinna on the mail run. He

also suggested that a harbour, discovered by John Foster six miles north-west of the Glenora claim, be used to facilitate delivery of machinery for



**S.S. Amy at Launceston Wharf**

the North Heemskirk claims.

He was advised to inspect the harbour with Charles Sprent to assess its potential, but Sprent was waylaid and Milne visited alone and made a sketch. He visited again in mid-March with Sprent's assistant Mr Henwood and a Mr Burke to get a proper survey and it was found to have potential for moorings and a

small jetty. A deputation was made to the Minister of Lands and Works, C. O'Reilly, then on an inspection tour of the West Coast, regarding the

harbour and improving the track to Trial Harbour. Mr O'Reilly's associate, Mr Snowden had broken his leg in a fall at The Gap only a few days previously.

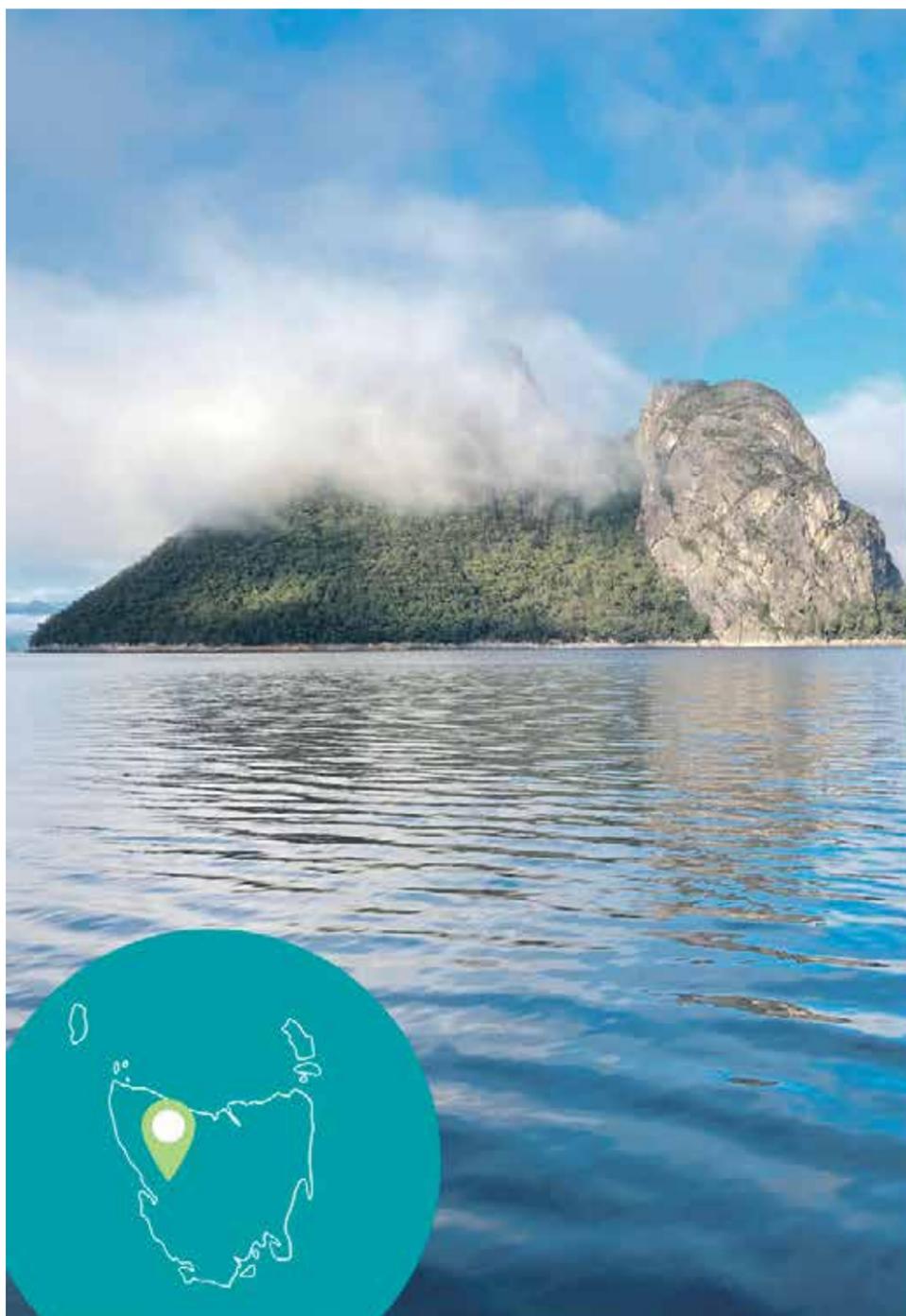
In late March, the newspapers were already calling it Milne Harbour and considered it a *fait accompli*. Sprent was instructed to make an inspection and reported on the 14th of April

that it had potential, but without a boat could not ascertain depths. Meanwhile, the decision was made to establish a post office at the Glenora claim to alleviate the mail situation. The harbour then began to be referred to as Glenora Harbour.

At the beginning of August, parliament authorised a survey and on 21st of August, Captain John Reid aboard the s.s. Amy entered Glenora Harbour to take soundings. He reported it to be a superior harbour to Trial Harbour. Around this time the Postmaster General changed the name of Glenora to Granville to avoid confusion with the village near Bushy Park. By early September it was recommended that moor-

ings be laid and a road constructed from the harbour to the Granville Post Office at the Glenora claim.

On the 22nd of October 1882, the Amy entered Granville Harbour and Mr Gourlay and assistant, Mr Donaldson, disembarked to set up the first store at Granville Harbour, and became its first residents.



## Explore the mighty West Coast

Lake Mackintosh is the perfect escape for camping, boating, and trout fishing.

Just a short drive from Tullah, this lakeside paradise is surrounded by stunning forest and mountain views.

Visit [hydro.com.au](http://hydro.com.au) to plan your trip!



# BURNIE

## CITY COUNCIL

### Holi Festival of Colours

The Holi Festival of Colours at Burnie Park was a vibrant, family-friendly celebration proudly sponsored by Burnie City Council. The event brought together Burnie's diverse community to celebrate culture, connection and the joy of Holi, with lively music, dancing, delicious food and the traditional throwing of colourful powders.

The festival created a welcoming space for people of all ages and backgrounds to come together, learn about the significance of Holi and share in a day filled with colour and community spirit on the North West Coast.



### Shorewell Playground Update

Thank you to everyone in our community who had their say - with 580 votes received, Design 3 was the clear community favourite with 55% of the votes!

Design 1 followed, with Designs 4 and 2 rounding out the results.

Our biggest voice came from 25-34 year olds, followed by children under 12 (via parents). The top suburbs represented were Shorewell Park, Burnie, Acton, Upper Burnie and Montello - showing fantastic local engagement.

We heard your feedback loud and clear and Council has now incorporated the key community requests into the updated design:

- Increased shade and shelter
- Dedicated fenced toddler-friendly spaces
- Toilets and drinking water nearby
- Inclusive and accessible play features
- Retaining the current bike track
- A flying fox and activities for older children

Thank you Burnie. Your input has directly shaped a safer, more inclusive and thriving space for our community to enjoy.

More updates, including construction schedules, coming soon!



The Easter Bunny is hopping his way to Burnie

### Burnie Park Walking Track Upgrade Completed

As part of Council's Active Transport Strategy, Council have upgraded the existing asphalt footpath at Burnie Park - widening it to 3 metres to create a safer, more accessible space for everyone to enjoy.

The Active Transport Strategy was made possible thanks to a \$200,000 grant from the Tasmanian State Government through the Better Active Transport Program, along with a \$50,000 contribution from Council to deliver the strategy document.

With approximately \$125,000 remaining after the document strategy was completed, Council were able to reinvest those funds directly back into our community - upgrading the popular walking track at Burnie Park.

And this is just the beginning! Further development and implementation of the Active Transport Strategy is planned as part of Council's 2026-27 Capital Works Program.

We look forward to seeing our community out walking, running, and enjoying the improved track!

### Road Survey across the Burnie Municipality

Burnie City Council engaged with the team at Infrastructure Management Group (IMG) to assist Council with taking a closer look at the condition of our roads, footpaths, and kerbs.

What was assessed:

- 299.3 km of sealed road and kerb
- 45.6 km of unsealed road
- 201.9 km of footpath
- 14.02 km of state roads (council kerb only)

Using the best available technology, the team captured detailed, objective data that will directly assist Council to prioritise maintenance, plan long-term funding, and ensure ratepayer dollars are spent where they have the greatest impact - preventing bigger, more costly repairs down the track.

The Infrastructure Management Group (IMG) have completed the physical road and footpath survey, and are compiling the report for Council.



The annual KIDS' FREE EASTER EGG Hunt is on again! 28 March | Burnie Park 10 am to 12 pm



Happy Hoppy Easter Eggstravaganza 4 April | Burnie Arts 10 am to 3 pm



## Food and Feedback is back for 2026

Thanks to the incredible response from our community, Food and Feedback has become an annual tradition, creating a relaxed and enjoyable way for residents to connect with Council, share feedback, and be part of the conversation.

Council will be providing a fantastic free BBQ, hosted by the wonderful Rotary Club Of Burnie West, alongside free family entertainment. In return, we invite you to share your valuable insights on a range of community matters.

Come along. Be heard. Help shape the future of our region.

Food and Feedback will be held on the Burnie Foreshore at Hilder Parade, Saturday 21 March 2026, 9 am to 1pm.



Burnie Arts is a cultural hub serving Burnie and NW Tasmania for performing arts, gallery, museum, events and functions.



Floor talk with the curator of photography at the National Gallery of Australia: Anne O'Hehir  
21 March 2026  
10:30 am to 11:10 am

## stARTs in March - 60 Community Events In March

Burnie City Council is proud to be supporting stARTs North-West inaugural celebration of arts and culture with a month-long calendar of creative activities.

stARTs in March is all about lifting the profile of local artists and events.

On offer throughout the month long program are exhibitions, workshops, open studios, community activities and more. Many events are free or very low cost, thanks to the joint support of artists, vendors, sponsors and supporters.

The stARTs in March program can be viewed online at [www.burnie.tas.gov.au/stARTS](http://www.burnie.tas.gov.au/stARTS)



Burnie City Council Presents

## A Taste Of Harmony A Celebration of Culture, Flavour & Rhythm!

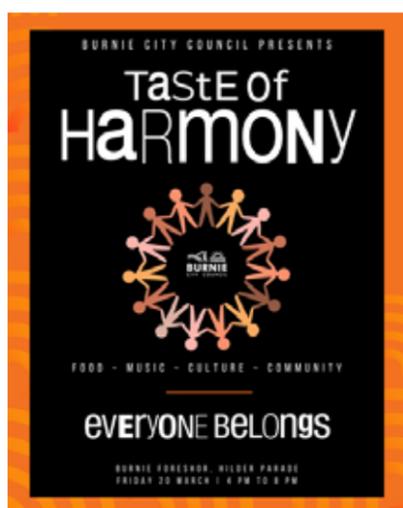
Get ready for an unforgettable night where the world comes together in one spectacular showcase!

Experience the vibrant traditions of Persian, Indonesian, Latin American, Filipino, and Irish dance — all on one stage throughout the evening! Feel the rhythm with a dynamic mix of Spanish, English, and South American music that will have you moving in your seat (or on your feet!). Indulge in a delicious mix of cultural food vendors offering mouth-watering savoury dishes and irresistible desserts from around the world. Featuring high-energy performances by HUMP. Entertainment, bringing passion, culture, and show-stopping talent to every moment of the night!

Taste the culture.  
Hear the harmony.  
Celebrate the diversity.

Don't miss this powerful fusion of music, movement, and community.

A Taste of Harmony will be held on the Burnie Foreshore at Hilder Parade, Friday 20 March 2026, from 4pm to 8 pm.



## Major CCTV Upgrades Completed

Council have recently completed improvements to our CCTV network - delivering smarter technology, better coverage, and stronger community safety.

### Multi Storey Car Park Upgrade

- The entire system was replaced with modern, up-to-date technology
- 83 older cameras upgraded to 63 brand-new high-resolution cameras
- Giving 20% better coverage thanks to smarter positioning and clearer imaging across every level and in every stairwell
- Police have 24/7 access, helping operations run smoothly when incidents occur

### Community-Wide Improvements

Burnie City Council has been working with the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) on a collaborative project to support councils across Tasmania in upgrading and modernising their CCTV networks.

As part of this project, we will be upgrading our infrastructure through the installation of new servers and network systems, along with upgraded and improved camera installations at:

- Burnie Park
- Alexander Street (near the Courthouse and Communion)
- Burnie Yacht Club - upgraded for improved coverage

These upgrades are all about creating safer public spaces, improving visibility, and ensuring coordination is in place when needed.



Emma Memma's Jungle Picnic Tour: bringing her anticipated new album to the stage.  
10 April 2026  
10 am to 11 am

For information on these and more - [burniearts.net](http://burniearts.net)



Burnie City Market - Marine Plaza  
First and third Saturday of each month - 10 am to 2 pm

Ridgley Community Market  
Ridgley Community Hall  
Saturday, 14 March 2026  
9 am to 1 pm

A Taste of Harmony  
Burnie Foreshore, Hilder Parade  
Friday, 20 March 2026  
4 pm to 8 pm

Food and Feedback - Free BBQ  
Burnie Foreshore, Hilder Parade  
Saturday, 21 March 2026  
9 am to 1 pm

Kids Easter Egg Hunt  
Burnie Park  
Saturday, 28 March 2026  
10 am to 12 pm

Burnie City Council March Meeting  
Tuesday, 24 March 2026  
7pm

For more info - [burnie.tas.gov.au](http://burnie.tas.gov.au)

# WARATAH WOODCHOPPING CARNIVAL

Photos by Kerrie Laffer

Congratulations to the Waratah Woodchopping Carnival on another successful event!

With an estimated crowd of around 2,000 people, it was fantastic to see such a strong turnout. The day brought together locals and visitors alike for a wholesome celebration in the beautiful town of Waratah. Spectators enjoyed watching some of the best woodchoppers in action including talented junior competitors showcasing strength, skill and great sportsmanship.

The memorial events were a highlight:

- Brent Walker winning the Fagan Memorial
- Bill Purton claiming the Ian Drake Memorial
- Kody Steers taking out the Walter Henry Chellis Memorial A Grade Cham-

pionship, along with the 400mm Standing State Title.

Eight juniors lined up in the 250mm Underhand — the future of the sport right there.

In the Ladies events, Kallie Batchelor won the 275mm Underhand.

The chainsaws were a crowd favourite as always, with Tony Dick taking both the Under 100cc and Over 100cc events.

The double handed sawing kept everyone watching — Tyson & Dylan Rowe strong in one, Layla & Nigel Maine in the other.

Stephen Haines won the Dayle Bugg Memorial and was named Axeman of the Day.

Huge thanks to the Waratah Woodchopping Carnival Committee and all sponsors for making it happen.



# New Beginnings for Smithton Scouts

After a period of recess, Smithton Scouts is excited to be working towards rebuilding the Group and welcoming new members and leaders back into the Scouting family. Scouting has been part of the Smithton community since 1931, supporting generations of local young people.

Scouting has a proud history in Smithton, providing young people with opportunities for adventure, leadership development, community service and lifelong friendships. For generations, local families have been part of the movement, with many former Scouts crediting the program for helping shape their confidence, resilience and sense of responsibility.

Like many community organisations, Smithton Scouts faced significant challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. Restrictions limited gatherings and outdoor activities, and during this period the Group also experienced a transition in leadership. With a shortage of volunteer leaders, the difficult decision was made to place the Group into recess.

Now, there is renewed enthusiasm to bring Scouting back to Smithton, with the first step already underway.

Cub Scouts are currently operating on Tuesday evenings, providing younger members with the opportunity to once again enjoy the fun, friendship and adventure that Scouting offers. The return of the Cub program marks an important

milestone in rebuilding the local Group.

Scouts participate in a wide range of activities including camping, bushwalking, abseiling, kayaking, community service projects, ANZAC Day ceremonies, environmental initiatives and learning practical life skills. The program focuses on teamwork, problem-solving, leadership and resilience, all delivered in a fun and supportive environment.

Scouting plays an important role in regional communities. It provides young people with safe opportunities to challenge themselves, connect with nature, give back to their community and develop strong values. The benefits often extend well beyond childhood, equipping young people with skills that last a lifetime.

Smithton Scouts is a not-for-profit organisation run entirely by volunteers. Like many community groups, it faces ongoing funding challenges. Costs such as equipment, hall maintenance, insurance and activity resources continue to rise. Support from the local community, whether through volunteering, sponsorship or donations is vital to ensure the Group can re-establish and thrive.

The Committee is currently calling for expressions of interest from adults who would like to get involved as Leaders or support volunteers. No prior experience is necessary, and full training is provided through Scouts Tasmania and the broader Scouts Australia network. Volunteer-

ing with Scouts is a rewarding way to give back to the community while gaining nationally recognised training and valuable skills.

If you are interested in supporting the revival of Smithton Scouts as a Leader, committee member, parent helper or sponsor the Committee would love to hear from you.

With community support, Smithton Scouts looks forward to once again providing adventure, friendship and opportunity for the young people of our region.

For more information or to register your interest, please contact Shaun Kingston (Smithton Scouts Committee) on 0455 444 035.



Need help knowing what can go in each wheelie bin?

Want to find out where else you can recycle things in North West Tasmania?



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mate

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or

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How to use  
**Recycle Mate**



Step 1: Take a photo or search for your item

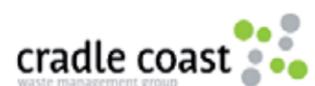
Step 2: Check the local kerbside advice

Step 3: Check for alternative recycling solutions in your community

Step 4: Receive directions and do your bit for the planet



Visit [www.recyclemate.com.au](http://www.recyclemate.com.au) for more information



# Celebrating 10 Years of Gone Nuts in Wynyard



## Wynyard, Tasmania

Earlier this month, Wynyard was buzzing as the Gone Nuts Adventure Run celebrated its 10th anniversary at the Watershed Shed. With more than 900 competitors travelling from across Australia, the town came alive with race action, family activities, food and beverage stalls, entertainment and plenty happening around town. A huge thank you to the organisers, volunteers, supporters and participants who made the milestone event such a success!

## Upcoming Community Events

### Community Conversations

Connect with Councillors and Council Staff about issues affecting your community. More info on next page & Council's website.

- **When:** 15 April 2026
- **Time:** 5:30–7:00pm
- **Where:** Athenaeum Hall

### Harmony Week

Celebrate cultural diversity and community spirit with live performances, food and entertainment at a free twilight event

- **When:** 18 March 2026
- **Time:** 4:00–7:00pm
- **Where:** Wynyard Yacht Club

### Mr Perfect BBQ

Join Mr Perfect for a relaxed and welcoming free BBQ where men in the community can connect, chat, and enjoy the sunshine together.

- **When:** 29 March 2026
- **Time:** 11:00–12:30pm
- **Where:** Rotary Playground

### Youth Expo

Save the Date! Discover careers, training and opportunities for young people at this free local expo.

- **When:** 8 April 2026
- **Time:** 5:30–7:00pm
- **Where:** Wynyard Yacht Club



**Wonders of Wynyard**  
Exhibition & Visitor Information Centre

8 Exhibition Link, Wynyard  
 wondersofwynyard.com  
 03 6443 8330





**Australian Tourism Awards**  
2021-2022



**Australian Tourism Awards**  
2022-2023

**Open Daily**  
9am to 4pm

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 Bridge St, Sisters Beach

## Bridge Works at Sisters Beach

Bridge replacement works on Bridge St, Sisters Beach (over Sisters Creek) will begin late April 2026 and are expected to take around four weeks, weather permitting. The works will replace the existing bridge deck to improve safety and extend the life of the structure. During construction, traffic will be reduced to one lane with traffic management in place. Pedestrian access across the bridge will not be available, and pedestrians are asked to use the river mouth walkway as an alternative route. More info will be available on Council's website.

### Next Council Meeting

Held at Council Chambers, 21 Saunders Street, Wynyard from 6pm. The next meeting dates are:

- Monday 16 March 2026
- Monday 27 April 2026
- Monday 18 May 2026

Visit our website for future meeting agenda documents and past minutes.

Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy at the time of publication; any errors will be corrected by notice on the Council website. Articles by Waratah-Wynyard Council, 21 Saunders St (PO Box 168), Wynyard TAS 7325, with office hours from 8:30am to 5pm Mon–Fri (after-hours calls are taken on call). Please note that some event details are subject to change at short notice, with notice provided on the Council website. For feedback, please email council@warwyn.tas.gov.au.

## Waratah Up Next for Council's Community Conversations

### Waratah, Tasmania

Community Conversations are back on the road and the next stop is Waratah, followed by Sisters Beach, before the sessions come back around to Somerset and Wynyard.

It's a relaxed, come-and-go setup where you can drop in for a quick chat or stick around a little longer. Grab a slice of pizza, say hello to Waratah-Wynyard Councillors and the Executive Team, and talk about the real issues locals are dealing with plus hear what's been happening across the municipality.

Bring your questions, ideas, or anything you'd like Council to know.



### Upcoming Conversations

#### Waratah

- **When:** Wednesday 15 April 2026
- **Time:** 5:30–7:00pm
- **Where:** Athenaeum Hall

#### Sisters Beach

- **When:** Monday 1 June 2026
- **Time:** 5:30–7:00pm
- **Where:** Little Sisters General Store

More info:

[www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/community/](http://www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/community/)

## Young Citizen Honour



Our Young Citizen of the Year, Belle Lohrey, was unfortunately unable to attend the Australia Day Breakfast where she was announced as the winner. Recently, Belle visited Council to collect her medallion and certificate and be recognised for her positive contribution to the community. Belle's achievements in cheerleading are extraordinary. Just before turning 18, she coached her youth novice team, The Wynyard Wildcatz, to become Tasmanian State Champions, earning a place at an international competition in Orlando, Florida, where they were crowned International Champions.

Well done, Belle! 🎉

## HAVE YOUR SAY: Arts & Culture Strategy

What makes our place feel like home? The stories we tell, the music we play, the events we share, the heritage we protect.

Waratah-Wynyard Council has released a draft Arts and Culture Strategy 2026–2031 - a practical five-year roadmap to strengthen arts, culture and heritage right across the municipality. It takes a broad look at what "arts and culture" really means, from visual arts, music and performance to literature, storytelling, digital practice and cultural heritage, with Council focused on being a facilitator and partner alongside local artists, groups and the wider community.

The draft Strategy is about improving facilities, opportunities and experiences, and building an even stronger sense of identity and belonging across our towns and communities.

Have your say: feedback is open from Tuesday 17 February 2026 and closes Tuesday 31 March 2026. Your input will help shape the final Strategy and Council's actions for 2026–2031.



# HARMONY WEEK

## HARMONY WEEK

### FREE EVENT

Wednesday, 18 March 2026, 4pm - 7pm  
 Wynyard Yacht Club (2a Old Bass Hwy)

**Food • Music • Dance • Culture**

For any enquires please contact [dotter@warwyn.tas.gov.au](mailto:dotter@warwyn.tas.gov.au) OR 03 6443 8347

## "BET ON YOUR FUTURE"

# FREE YOUTH EXPO

**WEDNESDAY, 8 APRIL 2026** | **SCHOOL GROUPS 9:30AM - 2:00PM** | **GENERAL PUBLIC 3:00PM-4:30PM** | **WYNYARD YACHT CLUB**

<b>STORY WORKSHOP</b>	<b>ENTOMBED ESCAPE ROOMS</b>	<b>STEM WORKSHOP</b>
<b>YOUTH SERVICES EXPO</b>	<b>VR EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>ART THERAPY</b>
<b>DJ WORKSHOP</b>	<b>JCP YOUTH WORKSHOP</b>	<b>MINDFULNESS</b>
<b>ASE YOUTH WORKSHOP</b>		<b>Tasmanian Government</b>

**EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND SUPPORT TO MAKE HEALTHY CHOICES AROUND GAMBLING, MONEY, MENTAL HEALTH, AND LIFE.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT COUNCIL : 6443 8333**

# West Australian Gulgawarnigu exhibition heading to Tassie



Gulgawarnigu — an extraordinary exhibition of digital portraits and landscapes created by young artists from Roebourne, Western Australia — comes to North West Tasmania this March for two special community events.

Developed through the Digital Lab in Roebourne in partnership with NEO-Learning, Gulgawarnigu began as part of an exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery in Canberra and has since grown into a touring project celebrating the creative voices of remote Indigenous artists and communities. The project is presented by Big hART, one of Australia's most acclaimed arts organisations working at the intersection of art and social change.

The artworks; striking portraiture and landscapes created by the young artists of Roebourne are accompanied by digital art workshops, giving local community members the opportunity to explore digital creative tools and skills of their own.

"This project is about making sure that powerful art made in remote Australia gets seen widely, and that digital skills and storytelling reach communities that might otherwise miss out," said producer Mark Leahy.

**Event 1: Digital Art Workshop & Exhibition, The Patch, Wynyard**

**Date: Friday 13 March 2026**

**Time: 5:30pm**

**Location: The Patch, Van Diemen's Bulbs / Table Cape Tulip Farm, 363 Table Cape Road, Wynyard TAS**

Bookings: <https://fareharbor.com/embeds/book/tablecapetulipfarm/items/697046/>

Set against the stunning backdrop of the Table Cape Tulip Farm, this opening event pairs the Gulgawarnigu exhibition with hands-on digital art workshops. Presented in partnership with Van Diemens Bulbs at The Patch, it promises to be a rich and memorable evening of art, story and community. Workshop capaci-

ty is limited, but everyone is welcome to come enjoy the exhibition, music, food, drinks, and view.

**Event 2: Harmony Day Exhibition, Burnie**

**Date: Friday 20 March 2026, 4:00pm – 6:00pm**

**Partners: STARTS NW (formerly Burnie Arts Council)**

**Location: Burnie Foreshore, Burnie TAS**

As part of Burnie Council's Harmony Week, Big hART's Gulgawarnigu exhibition heads to Burnie in partnership with STARTS NW. Set on the scenic Burnie Foreshore, the occasion offers a meaningful alignment: Harmony Day celebrates cultural diversity and belonging, themes that run through the heart of Gulgawarnigu's story of remote artists sharing their vision with the world. Entry is free and all are welcome.

**About Gulgawarnigu**

Gulgawarnigu has toured widely since its origins in the National Portrait Gallery, with pop-up exhibitions and workshops held in Wallaga Lake NSW, North West Tasmania, Karratha WA, and Bunbury WA. In 2025 the artworks were celebrated in a homecoming exhibition at Ngurin Cultural Centre in Roebourne, where artists Patrick Churnside, Isaac and Kenton Walker shared their experiences of bringing work from Country to Canberra and back again.

The project is committed to supporting regional and remote artists, promoting digital literacy, and ensuring that communities everywhere have access to the skills and tools of digital creativity.

Big hART is an Australian arts organisation that uses high-quality creative projects to address social disadvantage, working alongside communities to create meaningful change. Big hART has delivered projects across Australia for more than 25 years.

# A community working together

Circular Head Council, in partnership with the Soroptimist International of Circular Head, hosted a special International Women's Day breakfast recently, bringing members of the community together to celebrate the achievements of local women and reflect on the work still to be done.

Guests enjoyed a hot breakfast while listening to inspiring speakers and stories that highlighted the power of communities working together for positive change. This year's International Women's Day theme, "Balance the Scales," focuses on the urgent need for fair, inclusive and accessible justice for women and girls. While progress has been made over the decades, many barriers still remain when it comes to safety, equality and access to services.

Guest speakers Dr Natasha Vavrek, Director of The Bubble Tasmania – Women's Health Clinic, and Kristen Wylie, Director of Tasmania Legal Aid, challenged the audience to think about what balancing the scales looks like in our everyday lives. Dr Vavrek spoke about the ongoing imbalance in women's healthcare. Despite progress, much of the healthcare system has historically been designed around male experiences, meaning women's health issues have often been overlooked or under-resourced. She also highlighted the additional barriers faced by women living in regional communities, where access to specialised care can depend heavily on where you live.

Kristen Wylie spoke about another area where the scales remain far from balanced - genderbased violence and misogyny. She highlighted the confronting reality that violence against women remains a serious and ongoing issue in Australia. Together their message was clear - if the scales are going to balance, communities need to keep speaking up

and advocating for change.

A highlight of the morning was also a local story that reflected the spirit of the day - a story about listening to the community and working together to remove barriers for women. Circular Head Council's Access to Health Services Support Officer shared how conversations with local women revealed a clear need for better access to women's health services in the region.

While exploring options, it was discovered that local doctor Dr Jane Edwards had begun gaining the qualifications needed to run women's health clinics locally and had staff willing to support the service. The missing piece was a specialised gynaecology examination bed.

Through collaboration between Council, the Circular Head Soroptimists and other supporters, funding was secured for the bed, which is now housed at Ochre Medical Centre in Smithton, with women's health clinics already underway.

The project was made possible with support from Premier Jeremy Rockliff, who funded the purchase of the bed, McCain Foods, who covered the freight costs, and Ochre Medical, Dr Edwards and clinic staff who are delivering the service.

While simple in concept, the impact will be significant. Local women can now access services such as contraception, cervical screening and peri-menopause and menopause care closer to home.

Announcing the initiative on International Women's Day was a fitting reminder that when communities listen, connect and work together, real progress can be made.

Women's health clinics are now held monthly on Fridays at Ochre Medical Centre in Smithton.



*Mayor Gerard Blizzard, Dr Natasha Vavrek, Kristen Wylie, Deputy Mayor Annette Dawes*

# Specials are just a WIM away, a WIM away, a WIM away

Now that the song is playing in your head, why not take a visit to the beautiful Northwest town of Wynyard and hit the Wynyard Indoor Market (WIM) and snap up a bargain.

The market is open on Friday and Saturday from 10am until 4pm and a nicer bunch of people you would be hard pressed to meet.

If you mention you saw this page in the Western Echo newspaper then you will be able

to grab the following specials from these lovely people.

From dog treats to model trains, jewellery to belts and electronics to clothing there is something here for everyone. You can even grab a feed! Oh and the WIM is pet friendly too so you can bring your furry, scaly or otherwise adorned animals for a day out.

Make the Wynyard Indoor Market a must visit place on your trip to the Northwest...

it's just a WIM away...

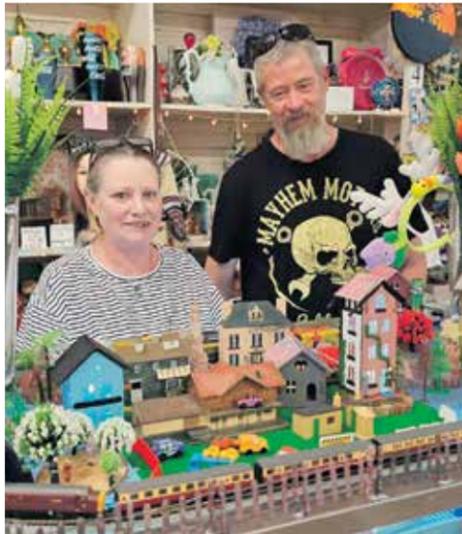
Please note, these specials run from 12th March until 9th April only.

**Don't forget to mention the Western Echo newspaper!**

Wynyard is just fifteen minutes west of Burnie and is a little known Tasmanian treasure. Do yourself a favour and head on out here for a day at the markets, a wander by the river and some of the best food and drinks you will find in the state.



Petrice at 'Gypsy Lea' has 10% off crocheted tops



'Be Creative' has 10% off matchbox cars and Handmade spoon rings



Steph at 'Love me two times' has 10% OFF everything



Glenda has four hairbands for just \$10



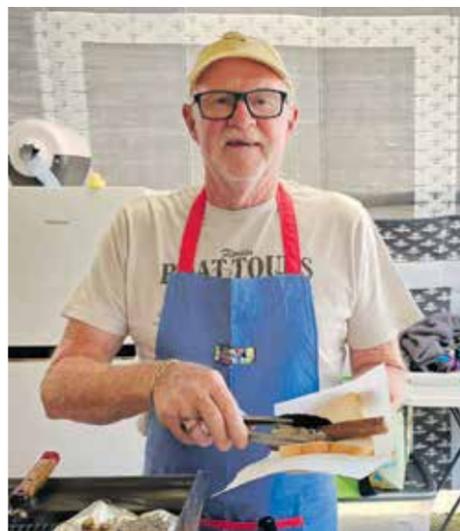
Daniella at 'Blankslate.Co' is offering 10% off all stock



Suzanne is offering 20% off all jewellery in black cabinet



'Beryl's Crafts' has 10% off stuffed and crocheted animals



'Pete's Snags' - Half price snags



Rick has 10% off Everything!



Buy three bags of dog treats and get a fourth one free from Lynette at 'Bone Zone'



Get 10% OFF concrete figurines at 'Anjay Creations'



Tania from 'Tee's Vintage & Not' has taken 10% off handbags for this promotion.



'Maker's Haven's' Sonia is offering \$5 off all belts and Marie is offering \$5 off baby and toddlers flared pants



# CIRCULAR HEAD Community News

## International Women’s Day Announcement Celebrates What Happens When a Community Works Together

Circular Head Council and Soroptimist International of Circular Head hosted an International Women’s Day breakfast at Tall Timbers, bringing the community together to celebrate local women and reflect on ongoing challenges.

This year’s theme, “Balance the Scales,” highlighted the need for fair and accessible justice for women and girls. Guest speakers Dr Natasha Vavrek from The Bubble Tasmania – Women’s Health Clinic, and Kristen Wylie from Tasmania Legal Aid, spoke about barriers that continue to affect women’s healthcare, safety and equality, particularly in regional areas.

Together their message was clear – if the scales are going to balance, communities need to keep speaking up and advocating for change.

A highlight of the morning was also a local story that reflected the spirit of the day – a story about listening to the community and working together to remove barriers for women.

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Women’s health clinics are now held monthly on Fridays at Ochre Medical Centre in Smithton.

## Church Street, Stanley Master Plan – Works to Begin

Council is about to start work on the first stage of the Church Street Master Plan. This plan was shaped by community feedback over the past few years, with residents asking for a safer, more walkable main street.

Stage One focuses on addressing the long-standing safety concerns at the Wharf end of Church Street.

The current layout creates safety risks for drivers and pedestrians. To fix this, we will:

- Close the Church Street and Wharf Road junction
- Change Church Street to one-way traffic heading north
- Extend the footpath to make walking safer and easier

These changes will:

- Mean fewer tricky spots for drivers
- Make traffic flow simpler and safer
- Improve pedestrian access
- Deliver the first step in the community’s long-term vision for Church Street

Works are expected to take 4–6 weeks and start dates will be provided shortly.

Visit Council’s website for more information or call us if you still have questions.

PICTURED: Mayor Gerard Blizzard, Dr Natasha Vavrek, Kristen Wylie, Deputy Mayor Annette Dawes



## Up Coming Events

**Harmony in the Park**  
West Esplanade, Smithton  
Friday 13 March

**World Plumbing Day**  
Wednesday 11 March

**An Afternoon of Comedy**  
Duck River Pavilions, Smithton  
Sunday 15 of March

**Men’s Health Event**  
The Pavilions Cafe, Smithton  
Friday 27 March

**Circular Head Relay for Life**  
Smithton Recreation Grounds  
Saturday 28 March

**Clean Up Australia Day**  
Main Wharf Stanley  
Friday 24 April

## New Community Groups to Strengthen Local Voices

*Council is improving how we listen to, talk with, and work alongside our community.*

To do this we are setting up two new community groups. The groups are a practical way for community members and Council to have regular, constructive conversations and to work through ideas together.

Check our website for more information and to find out how to get involved.



## Save the Date

### Community Catch Ups

**Marrawah**  
Date: Friday 10 April 2026  
Time: 1pm  
Location: Marrawah Inn

**Rocky Cape**  
Date: Tuesday 12 May 2026  
Time: 2:30pm  
Location: Rocky Cape Tavern

**Smithton**  
Date: Friday 12 June 2026  
Time: 10:30am  
Location: Hugo’s Brew N Chew

# SMITHTON

*Where rich heritage meets great produce*

## Dairy



Duck River Butter Factory - 1904. Tasmania's favourite butter still made in Tasmania. Dairy produce continues today - visit Duck River Pavillions for a Robotic Dairy Tour and La Cantara Artisan Cheese factory to see modern day farming practices

## Timber



Brittons Timber - 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Timber milling right here in Smithton. View examples at Duck River Pavillions and keep an eye out for local timber products as you make your way north west



## Beef



Greenham's 4<sup>th</sup> generation meat processing proudly produces world renowned Cape Grim Beef and Robbin's Island Wagyu here in Smithton! Found on tables in our great local restaurants and at Perry's Meats

## Honey



The Charles family have been bringing world class honey to jars since 1955 at Blue Hills Honey, Mawbanna. With over 50 awards you're sure to find something you like at their tasting experience or Colony Cafe

**Visit Us! 12 Nelson Street, Smithton**



Smithton Visitor Information Centre acknowledge the traditional owners and continuing custodians of Northwest Tasmania. We honour their sacred connection to this land, skies, and seas, and the care they continue to offer to this Country. We recognise the contemporary custodians of this Country and their dedication to preserving and promoting the culture, history, and heritage of the first people to leave their footsteps on this land.

# Tales from Emmerton Park - meet the residents

## My Story – Dean Ollington



I was born at our family home in Scotchtown. Nurse Bates, a well-known icon of the district and a great friend of Mum's, delivered me. We lived on our 365-acre farm, where we milked cows. We started out with 30 cows but eventually grew to 130. My parents worked hard to provide for us. Money was often

tight, but we always had what we needed.

I didn't start talking until I was five years old—the doctor said I was simply too lazy to talk. The first time I spoke was to our neighbour, and she claimed I swore at her! After that, I came right.

I went to Smithton Primary School and later to Smithton High. For the first five years, I never missed a day of school. Then, when I was eleven, I got appendicitis, which broke my perfect attendance streak. I left school at fifteen and worked on the family farm for my keep. I did a lot of hard work on that farm.

I had five brothers and five sisters, sadly only Audrey and Lynette are still with us. We had a lot of fun growing up and got into our fair share of mischief. I remember one time I accidentally put the crosscut saw through a window. I can still feel that one! I could never imagine growing up

anywhere else. Circular Head was the best place in the world.

My parents were Christians, and we attended the Brethren Church on the corner of King and Emmett Streets in Smithton. I went to Sunday School for thirteen years and didn't miss a single Sunday.

When I turned twenty-one, I moved to Warragul in Victoria and got a job at the Drouin Milk Factory, working on the milk separator. The milk came in cans back then. I was happy to be earning fifteen pounds a week. I boarded with a fellow named Ray Marshall. When I wasn't working, I helped Ray milk 120 cows in a steel herringbone dairy, it was the best. I stayed in Victoria for two years before returning home, back to the place I loved.

After returning to the family farm, I decided to build a herringbone dairy for Dad. I bought enough steel to make it and asked Alva Marthick to help me with the welding. It made life a whole lot easier.

1962 was the best year of my life because that's when I met my wife, Peggy. She was from New Zealand and had just returned from watching the Commonwealth Games in Perth with her friends.

They decided to visit family who lived next door to our farm, lucky for me! When they returned to New Zealand, Peggy stayed behind and got a job at Ambroses in Smithton.

Peggy and I were married in 1964, we were a great pair. We worked on a farm in Trowutta, milking cows for twelve

months, and started our family there. Our first three children arrived close together, and then, seven years later, Alistair came along. Over those years, we worked on farms in Alcomie, Trowutta, and Scopus before finally settling in Togari on our own 220 acres farm. We stayed there for nine years before giving the cows away and moving to Edith Creek.

Over the years, I developed a love for breeding and training quarter horses. I broke them in myself and spent countless hours with them. I remember moving a cow and calf at Robbins Island one day with my horse Sam McCloud (Paddy), he took control and did the job perfectly on his own. He was something special.

The last job I had was fencing at Woolnorth. It was the kind of job that was never truly finished. I didn't think I'd enjoy it, but I stayed for ten years and finally retired at sixty-eight. During that time, I also served as a pastor at the Presbyterian Church in Stanley, where I made many lifelong friends.

After turning eighty, Peggy and I retired to Somerset, where we enjoyed living for four years. Later, when two places became available at Emmerton Park, we finally had the chance to return home. It was the best move we ever made.

Looking back, I feel proud of the life I've lived. I've known hard work, love, loss, and joy. Most of all, I'm grateful for the people who have walked beside me on this journey, especially Peggy.

## Not all banks offer 100% offset on their home loans.

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Our Complete Home Loan offers 100% offset on fixed and variable home loans. Which means you could own your home sooner.

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Terms and conditions, fees, charges and lending criteria apply. All information including interest rate is subject to change without notice. Full details available on application. Full offset facility is available for Bendigo Complete Home Loan for both fixed and variable loans. Offset facility can only be linked to one loan at any one time. A maximum of 6 offset facilities can be linked per loan account. Linked offset facility must be in same customer name/number. Credit provided by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 Australian Credit Licence 237879. (1728832-1767000) OUT\_47248454, 24/09/2025

# THE 2026 CIRCULAR HEAD CUP

Photos by Alan Jennison

Burnie Harness Racing Club (BHRC) currently hosts eight race meetings during the racing season - October to March each year - at its racetrack in Pearl Street Wivenhoe.

BHRC has enjoyed the support of the Circular Head community over many years since Smithton's racetrack was closed. This support has grown since the demise of the harness racing track in Devonport in March 2022, leaving BHRC as the only race track conducting

harness racing in the North West of Tasmania.

In honour of such patronage, BHRC have initiated and implemented, together with Tas Racing, a new feature race named the Circular Head Cup during the 2025/26 racing season, dedicating the entire race day to the Circular Head community. The inaugural Circular Head Cup 2026 was run on Sunday 1st March over 2789 meters, with a prize pool of \$14,000 plus rug and trophy.



# News from Wyndarra - Year for volunteers

2026 is the International Year for Volunteers and volunteers are a vital and important part of the Circular Head Community. Wyndarra extends their appreciation to all who volunteer and as acknowledgment, we will be conducting various events to celebrate during the year.

Events will be open to all who are, who have or are interested in volunteering.

Keep an eye out on Social Media platforms for dates and times.

## Profile of a volunteer.

Brett has been volunteering at Wyndarra for 8 years, predominately providing transport and social support for those going to medical appointments.

We asked Brett why he wanted to become a volunteer. His reply was to help and give back to the community. The greatest satisfaction he gets from volunteering – “Interaction between myself and the person I am supporting, hearing their stories and leaving them with a smile on their face.” We simply couldn’t

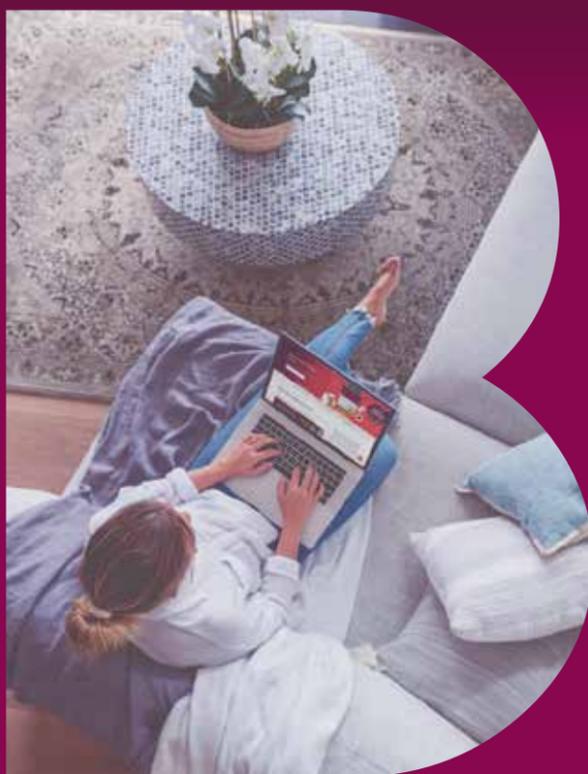
provide the services we do without dedicated volunteers like Brett.

Wyndarra participants and staff have had a hectic, activity-filled start to the year. They have ventured to Burnie for a safari adventure at Wild on West followed by a picnic lunch and had plenty of fun had at the Ulverstone Pedal Cars.

Closer to home, there has been several dining out experiences, a visit to the Walking Words Literacy Trail, assisting with the painting of Collins the caterpillar, planted the vegetable patch.

During activities in the building, the group experienced and welcomed Jacinta, a local author who read from her new book and Emma for a creative art therapy session which showed we have some wonderful artistic talent in the group.

Participants and staff have also dabbled in a game of tennis, tried their hand at golf with the Smithton Golf Club ladies and met up with Volunteer Elyse at the recent Circular Head Pony Club’s One Day Event.



## How healthy is your home loan?

With the current cost of living, there’s never been a better time to review your home loan.

We’ll look at your rate, term, repayments, and equity, giving your loan a full check-up to make sure it’s still right for you and your current needs.

Enquire online at [bendigobank.com.au/healthcheck](https://www.bendigobank.com.au/healthcheck) or visit your nearest branch.

📍 Community Bank · Smithton & Districts 6452 2465

**Bendigo Bank**  
The better big bank

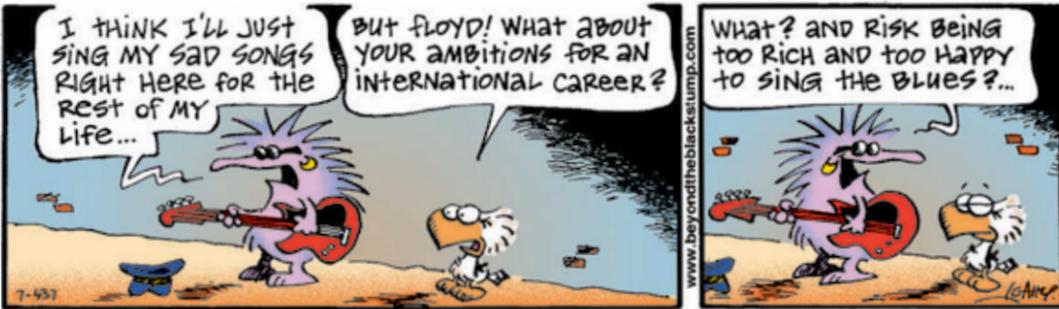
All loans are subject to the Bank’s normal lending criteria. Fees, charges, terms and conditions apply. Please consider your situation and read the Terms and Conditions, available online at [www.bendigobank.com.au](https://www.bendigobank.com.au) or upon request from any Bendigo Bank branch, before making a decision. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL 237879 (2083101- 2126290) (02/25)

# WESTERN ECHO PUZZLE PAGE

## SWAMP



## BEYOND THE BLACK STUMP



## CLANCY



## INSANITY STREAK



## AGAINST THE GRAIN



## JUMBLE No. 697

B	I	M
C	T	S
I	Y	O

**TODAY'S TARGET**  
 10 Words **Good**  
 12 Words **Very Good**  
 14 Words **Excellent**  
 16 Words **Genius**

**THE RULES:** How many words of 4 letters or more can you make from these 9 letters? In making a word each letter may be used only once, and the centre letter must be included. There must be at least one 9-letter word. No slang, foreign words, plurals, hyphens or apostrophes.

## SUDOKU No. 018

	7	5						
		5		2		9		
3			9	8				
8					4			2
				4				
2	3					6		
			4	5				8
	3	1						2
1		6						

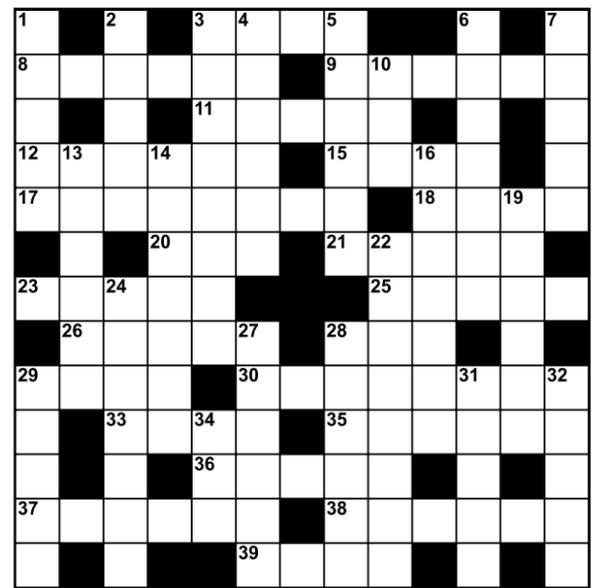
## CROSSWORD No. 10866

### ACROSS

- Very extensive
- Dealer in textiles
- Shaving instruments
- Conceals
- Gazes fixedly
- Church recess
- Dregs
- Send out
- Female swan
- Type of car
- Arabian republic
- Painful emotions
- Tinges
- Piece
- Unit of inheritance
- Gifts
- Notion
- Unassuming
- Incubate
- Bread morsels
- Charge with gas
- Vast ages

### DOWN

- Wrongly

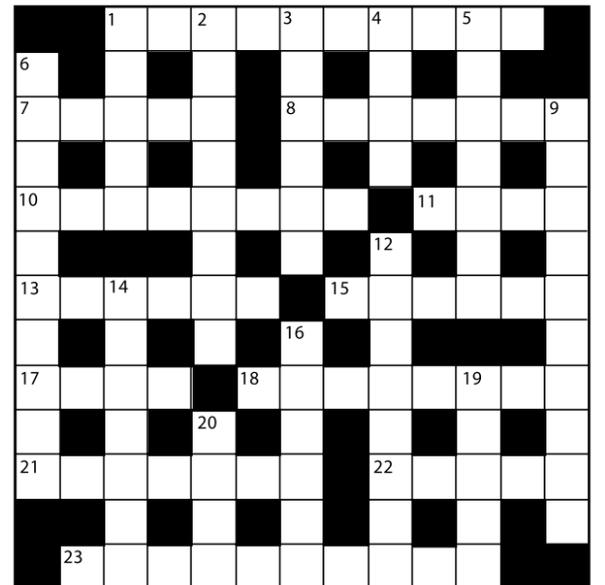


- Staff of life
- Strongly emotional
- Unassuming
- Got up
- Pays another's expenses
- Superintendent
- Advantage
- Serpent
- Smooth and cylindrical
- Matured
- Calmed with drugs
- Metal castings
- Serial parts
- Least amount possible
- Scanty
- Lament
- Sugared, as cake
- Himalayan republic
- Metal
- Flow back

## CRYPTIC CROSSWORD No. 16517

### ACROSS

- Prosaic epithet for a footman (10)
- What those still in the air do (5)
- Got into mix-up warning other road users (7)
- Elmer and Dan have become local bigwigs (8)
- Alcoholic to be successful with nothing (4)
- China is supplied with this popular pattern (6)
- Seaman to hit the mark (6)
- Kind of door for a carriage (4)
- What one who is too drunk to stand should do! (3,5)
- Wellingtonia in Russian forest (7)
- Rose I confused with (13 Across (5))
- Normal neat arrangement is decorative (10)



### DOWN

- Put down the flags (5)
- Where developments are not treated lightly (8)
- Glossy fabric noticed round a tent top (6)
- Cross a quarter of an acre (4)
- Continual noise in a sizable setting (7)
- Where a star winger is transferred (10)
- A relation with some spirit (5,5)
- There's no collection after this final tribute (4,4)
- Hero worshipper! (7)
- What the bowman uses is a swindle! (6)
- Cross-examine in part of the restaurant (5)
- Seat made from strips of arbutus (4)

## ANSWERS

### Crossword No. 10866

C	D	A	N	C	E	S	F	O			
C	O	W	E	D	H	C	O	L	O	N	
H	L	E	V	I	T	A	T	E	U		
B	E	G	U	N	L	E	T	T	E	R	S
A	R	I	D	S	L	A	T	E	O		
B	E	R	E	T	E	R	E	R	E	C	T
E	L	O	U	T	E	R	N	E			
L	O	S	E	R	S	E	D	A	N		
W	A	M	B	I	T	N	E	R	O		
L	E	S	S	E	E	S	A	D	D	E	R
U	P	E	N	E	L	O	P	E	N		
T	W	I	S	T	A	S	A	L	A	D	
E	N	S	I	M	M	E	R	S			

### Sudoku No. 017

7	3	1	4	9	5	6	8	2
9	8	5	3	2	6	7	4	1
2	4	6	1	7	8	9	5	3
3	2	8	9	1	7	5	6	4
1	7	4	5	6	3	8	2	9
6	5	9	2	8	4	3	1	7
8	6	2	7	3	1	4	9	5
4	9	3	6	5	2	1	7	8
5	1	7	8	4	9	2	3	6

### Cryptic No. 16516

**Across:** 6 Prophet; 7 Acres; 9 Met; 10 Stampedes; 12 Small change; 15 Managership; 17 Constable; 19 Tax; 21 Brave; 22 Emulate.  
**Down:** 1 Green; 2 Spy; 3 Left; 4 Schematic; 5 Revenge; 8 Smacks; 11 Impassive; 13 Leeway; 14 Favours; 16 Caste; 18 Lame; 20 Ilk.

### Jumble 696

chert chore chou churn chute echo etch hector hero heron hone horn hornet hour hunt hunter hurt north notch oche ochre other ouch retch retouch rochet ruche techno tench then thorn thou throne torch touch touche trench TRUNCHEON

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE WEST

## "DOING IT FOR THE ANIMALS" FUNDRAISER BBQ

JOIN ANIMAL WELFARE CENTRE INC. FOR A COMMUNITY DAY OUT  
BBQ WITH FAMILY FRIENDLY ENTERTAINMENT AND STALLS.

10 AM TIL 3PM, 28TH MARCH 2026



LIVE MUSIC BY THE SHEYANA BAND,  
BULLY HAY, MOOSE ON DASH AND  
MORE LOCAL TASSIE ARTISTS.

ZEEHAN LIONS CLUB WILL BE RUNNING THE SAUSAGE SIZZLE!



**Zeehan Football Clubrooms:**  
Parking and entry via  
Fincham Street, Zeehan, Tas.



SCAN QR CODE FOR MORE  
DETAILS & TICKETING.

### WEST COAST CATHOLIC PARISH

Fr. Arokia Aruldas - Administrator  
2 Pontifex Street, Queenstown 7467  
Phone: (03)64711731

### HOLY WEEK MASS TIMING - 2026

**Palm Sunday (29th March, 2026)**  
5:00 pm (28th March, Saturday vigil),  
St. Joseph's church, Queenstown  
9:30 am (29th March Sunday)  
St. Fursaeus' Church, Zeehan

**Maundy Thursday (2nd April, 2026)**  
11:30 am (Only Mass) - St. Joseph's  
church, Rosebery (With the School)  
7:30 pm (Only Adoration) - St.  
Joseph's church, Queenstown

### Good Friday (3rd April, 2026)

9:30 am (Stations of the Cross)  
St. Fursaeus' Church, Zeehan  
11:30 am (Stations of the Cross)  
St. Joseph's church, Queenstown  
3:00 pm (Passion of our Lord)  
St. Joseph's church, Queenstown

### Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil (4th April, 2026)

7:00 pm (Saturday Vigil)

### Easter Sunday (5th April, 2026)

9:30 am, St. Fursaeus' Church, Zeehan  
11:30 am, Holy Trinity Anglican  
church, Strahan

### Wanted to buy

Heritage plants, trees  
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## 2026 DATES

Memorial Hall, Orr Street, 10.30am-1.30pm

February	March	April	May
1	1	12	10 Mother's Day Market
June	July	August	September
7	5	2	6 Father's Day Market
oct	nov	dec	
4	1	6 Christmas Market	



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# AGM

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Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April  
6~7pm

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**THE  
BIG FREEZE  
MND**

SLIDE INTO THE FREEZE FOR MND!  
**JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2026**  
AT THE ZEEHAN GOLF CLUB

DONATE

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE NORTHWEST



## HARMONY IN THE PARK

FRIDAY 13 MARCH  
4.30PM - 7.30PM  
WEST ESPLANADE, SMITHTON

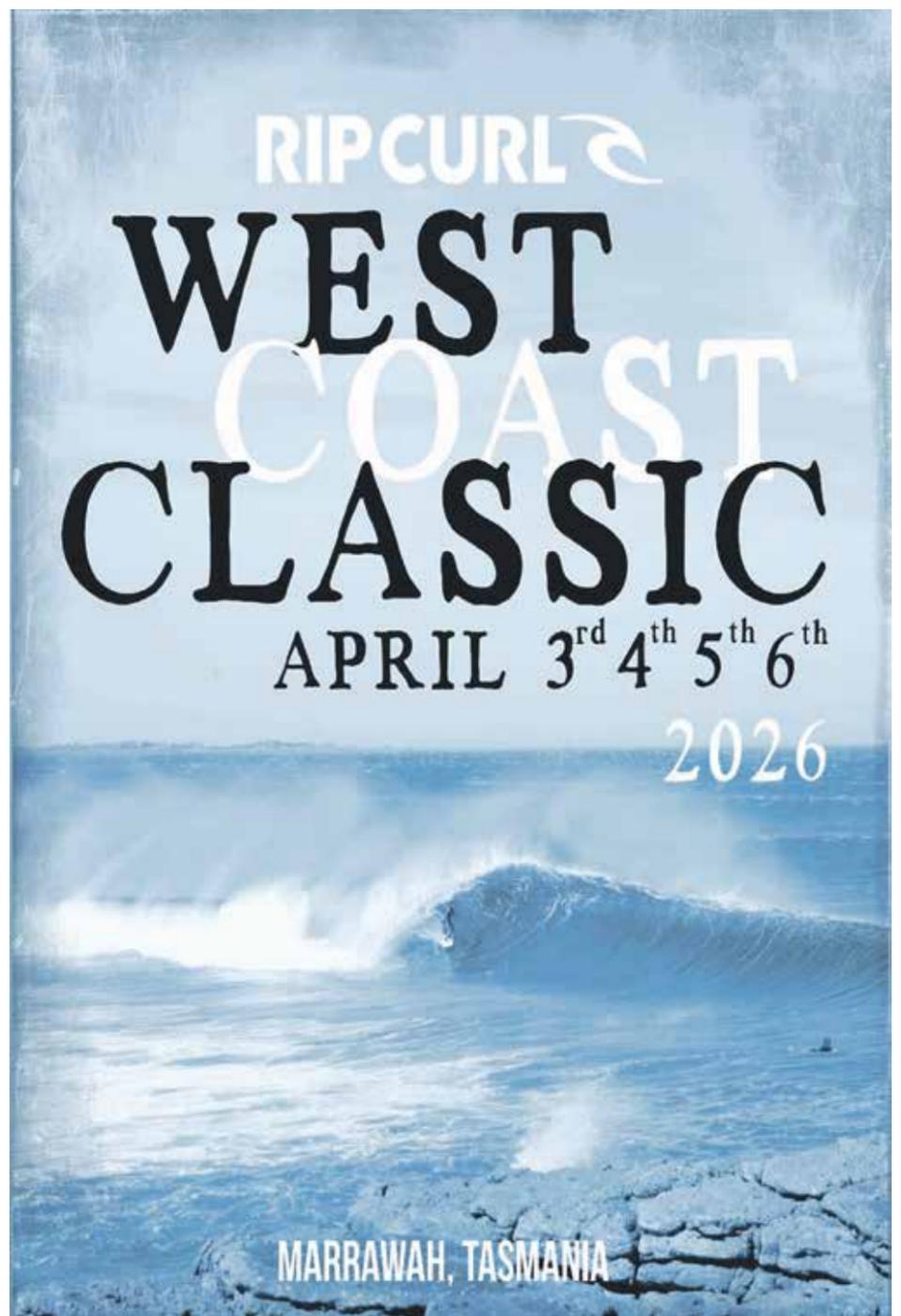
MUSIC, FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT, CONNECTION

**HARMONY WEEK**  
EVERYONE BELONGS HARMONY.GOV.AU

Celebrate Harmony Week with us at Harmony in the Park, a free community event bringing people together to recognise the diversity that makes our community so special. We're excited to showcase cultural performances by our local Filipino, Samoan, Papua New Guinean, and Fijian entertainers

Enjoy a vibrant afternoon and evening of: Cultural activities and entertainment, delicious food and juice (free), fun activities for children, including henna body art and face painting, music, connection and community spirit

Harmony Week (16-22 March) is a national celebration of inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural background.



RIPCURL  
**WEST COAST CLASSIC**  
APRIL 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup>  
2026

MARRAWAH, TASMANIA

# MEN'S HEALTH EVENT

For Blokes, Families & Mates

When was the last time you talked openly about your health? Join us for a free, relaxed community evening focused on prostate health – one of the most important (and often avoided) health topics for men.

**GUEST SPEAKER**  
PETER COLGRAVE

**FREE ENTRY**  
**FRIDAY 27 MARCH AT 6PM – 8PM**  
Pavilions Café, Duck River Pavilions







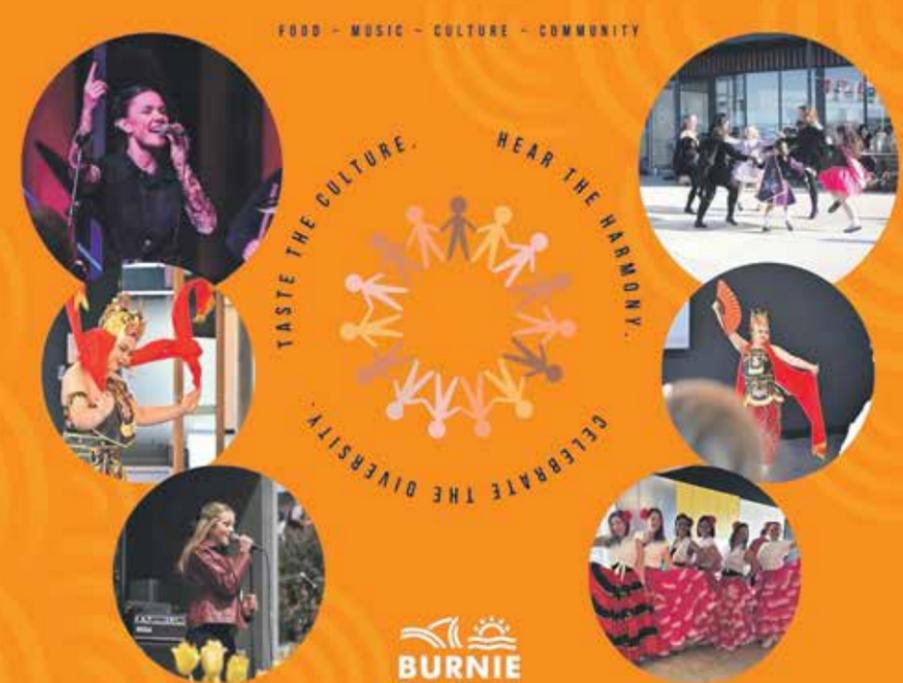
Light refreshments will be provided on the night.

RSVP by 24 March to  
kmaher@circularhead.tas.gov.au  
ph: 6452 4858

## Taste of HARMONY

FOOD - MUSIC - CULTURE - COMMUNITY

TASTE THE CULTURE. HEAR THE HARMONY. CELEBRATE THE DIVERSITY.



**BURNIE CITY COUNCIL**

**everyone BELONGS**

HILDER PARADE, BURNIE FORESHORE  
FRIDAY 20 MARCH | 4 PM TO 8 PM

# ROSEBERY FESTIVAL

Photos by Alan Jennison

Well the 2026 Rosebery Festival has come and gone and what a great day out it was.

The pet parade was a laugh, lots of fun and I was co-judge with Selina Collins. Most unusual pet was won by a Cheshire Cat carrying a chicken but everyone seemed to get a ribbon or a prize of some sort. I Might have to enter Western Echo Wendy next year.

The art exhibition was a huge hit as was the very busy indoor market.

Rides for little kids and big kids were also very popular as was the colour run around the skate park.

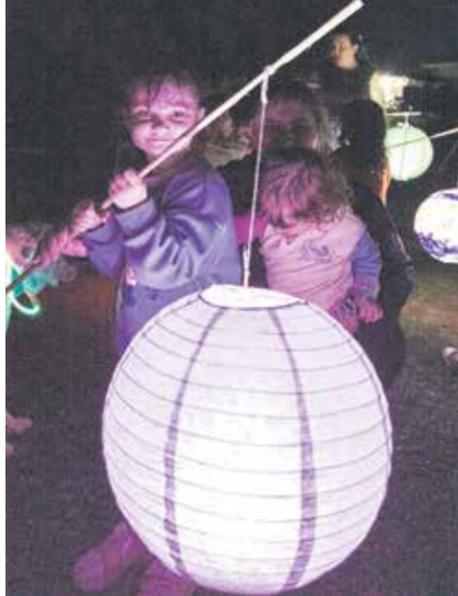
The day finished with a fabulous lantern parade and of course the fireworks to ooh and aah over.

A lot of thought and effort goes into such a festival and the organisers can be proud of themselves judging by the smiling faces, full bellies and screams of delight from those on the rides. Definitely a day to put into your diary for next year.



# ROSEBERY FESTIVAL

Photos by Alan Jennison



## Telstra community drop-in sessions at Queenstown Memorial Hall

Telstra will be holding community drop-in sessions at the Queenstown Memorial Hall over two days, giving locals the chance to come in, have a conversation, and get practical help with their services.

When:

Tuesday 24 and Wednesday 25 March  
10:00am to 4:00pm

Our team will be available to talk through mobile coverage, home internet options, and answer questions about what is available in Queenstown and the surrounding West Coast communities. We know that connectivity in regional and remote areas is not just about convenience. It supports safety, productivity, and staying connected to family, work and essential services.

Technology moves quickly, and it can sometimes feel overwhelming. During the sessions, we will be helping customers get more confident using the My Telstra App, which is a simple way to manage your services in one place. We can walk you through checking usage, viewing and paying bills, tracking outages, managing extras, and accessing support when you need it. The aim is to make everyday tasks quicker, easier, and more transparent.

Telstra Satellite to Mobile messaging is an important step forward for connec-

tivity in regional, rural and remote Australia. Eligible Telstra customers with compatible handsets can send and receive text messages even when they are outside mobile coverage, as long as they are outdoors with a clear view of the sky.

For people who live, work or travel in more remote parts of the West Coast, satellite messaging provides an extra layer of peace of mind. It is not a replacement for mobile coverage, but it can be a useful backup when staying in touch really matters.

For households and businesses where traditional fixed-line services may not meet their needs, we will also be available to discuss Starlink-powered satellite internet options. These can offer an alternative for customers looking for improved performance or additional resilience in harder-to-reach locations. Our team can help explain whether this type of solution may be suitable and how it can work alongside other Telstra services.

Whether you want to check your current plan, understand new technology, or simply ask "what's my best option here?", you are welcome to drop in. There is no appointment needed and no such thing as a silly question.

Queenstown Memorial Hall  
24 to 25 March | 10am to 4pm



ANNOUNCEMENT

ANNOUNCEMENT

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**For more information call  
Darren Lord  
0457 525 646**

# We're coming to Queenstown to answer your questions



Join us, as we cover the many different ways we can help keep you connected, whether it's at home, on the go or in business.

See you at  
Queenstown Memorial Hall, Orr Street  
Tuesday 24th & Wednesday 25th March, 10am-4pm

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*Fiona Blizzard*

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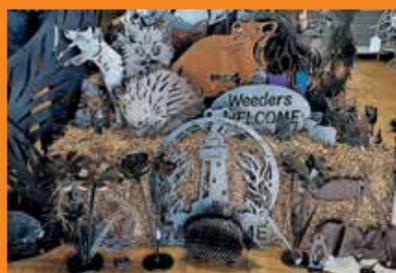
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Furniture, clothing, shoes, white goods, kitchenware, appliances, DVDs and much more.

We sell on consignment, buy, sell, and we accept donations too. Both cash or card payments are accepted.

We are open Wednesdays through to Sundays from 10am to 3pm

Follow us on facebook too for updates, or call us on 042 173 5693...

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# WYNYARD YACHT CLUB

Photos by Alan Jennison

The Wynyard Yacht Club (WYC) was formed in 1961 in a clubhouse nearby the existing.

As membership grew the clubhouse built by volunteer labour extended three times.

In 2015 the opportunity arose to partner with the Waratah Wynyard Council (WYC) to build the current clubhouse that was eventually opened in 2023.

WYC has a long term lease with the WCC and has a community focus where all people are catered for in an respectful, inclusive, safe environment.

WYC has a number of boating groups that use the clubhouse.

Marine Rescue operates from the facility and is aligned with Surf lifesaving Tasmania to deliver this service to the community.

Sailability is a program that provides opportunities for those with a disability or aged to get on the water

WYC Paddling group, aligned with Paddle Tasmania, operate from the facility during winter months while sailing operates during summer providing a full year of facility use.

WYC is an accredited Australian Sailing Centre that delivers training to the public through its junior Tackers and Youth / Adult Learn to Sail programs.

Saturday sailing program occurs weekly from October through till April with a

qualified Coach watching over the programs safety and learning.

WYC is also a Marine and Safety Tasmania (MAST) powerboat licence provider running monthly licence programs.

WYC has a large amount of equipment made available for members use. This allows community to try without the need to purchase a boat themselves.

WYC hosted three major events this year.

In January 2026 WYC hosted the International Mirror Class Australian Championships. Ideal weather over the five days of competition allowing the 50 competitors and 30 volunteers

In late February WYC was the finish for the 10th edition of Gone Nuts 101 Adventure Run with 980 registrations.

April 2026 WYC in partnership with Burnie Surf Lifesaving Club will host the Australian Ocean Racing Championships. Planning is well underway with 120 plus expected to register

The WYC facility is available for community use with large downstairs area plus meeting rooms upstairs.

Information about facility bookings, events and club activities can be found on the WYC website <https://www.revolutionise.com.au/wynyardyc/>

WYC is active on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wynyardyachtclub>

WYC welcomes new members



# OVERLAP, building a running community across the Northwest and beyond



Since launching in 2021, OVERLAP Consistent Running Coaching has become a growing part of the Northwest Tasmanian running scene, offering both personalised coaching and a strong sense of community.

Founded by Zac Harris, OVERLAP was built on a simple idea: help people discover the joy of running through consistency, connection, and a sustainable approach to training. As Founder and Head Coach, Zac says the focus has always been on making running feel accessible and enjoyable.

“Running should add to your life, not take away from it,” Zac said. “We take a holistic approach, with a strong focus on feel-based training and consistency, so people can build a positive and lasting relationship with running.”

OVERLAP now has a team of seven coaches, each bringing their own knowledge, experience, and coaching style. That variety allows the service to sup-

port a wide range of runners, from complete beginners through to experienced athletes chasing new goals.

The business offers 1:1 online coaching, along with regular group training sessions at 6am on Tuesdays in Ulverstone and 6pm on Thursdays in Wynyard.

Beyond formal coaching, OVERLAP and its team also facilitate several free weekly run and walk clubs across the Northwest, helping create welcoming spaces for people to move, socialise, and connect. These include The Pier Pub Run in Ulverstone, The Pub Run in Devonport, Sunday Penguins in Penguin, and The Coffee Run and The Beer Run in Stanley.

Over the past five years, OVERLAP has coached hundreds of people and has also played a role in helping bring running events to the region. Zac heads up the organisation of the Northwest Trail Running Series as well as the popular Pub 2 Pub Summer Running Event, both of which showcase the region’s trails, towns, and vibrant running community.

For Zac, the community element remains at the heart of everything OVERLAP does. “We want people to feel like there is a place for them in running, no matter their background, pace, or experience,” he said. “If we can help people enjoy running and be consistent with it, then we’re doing what we set out to do.”

“Running is for everyone”

Those wanting to learn more about OVERLAP can visit [www.overlap-coaching.com](http://www.overlap-coaching.com) or follow @overlap.crc on Instagram. We currently only coach Adults (18+) and can help with anyone from absolute beginner to ultra marathon runner, and everything in between.

# Circular Head Relay 2026 format change

Scan to register

10th Anniversary  
**RELAY FOR LIFE**  
**CIRCULAR HEAD**

Get on track to end cancer

28 March 2026 | 12pm - 3pm  
Smithton Recreation Grounds  
Cake

Cancer Council Tasmania  
RELAY FOR LIFE  
PRINCIPAL SPONSOR  
IGA YOU CAN'T BEAT LOCAL

Cancer Council Tasmania today announces an updated format for the Circular Head Relay For Life.

CH RFL continues to celebrate the Circular Head community and raise vital funds in support of Cancer Council Tasmania.

Funds raised at the CH RFL contribute directly to the operation of our life-changing support programs in the far NW region, funding the t2t car that operates across the Circular Head/far NW Coast region providing life-changing support to people when they need it the most.

The CH RFL will continue to celebrate the community, but the changes are designed to ensure the best experience for all participants.

We've listened to the community and the hardwork-

# Zeehan Roadrunners Relay for Life team

A sincere thank you to Heemskirk Motor Hotel Zeehan for supporting our Relay for Life team over the past two years by generously covering the cost of our hire tent. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated and plays an important role in helping our team take part in this meaningful event!!

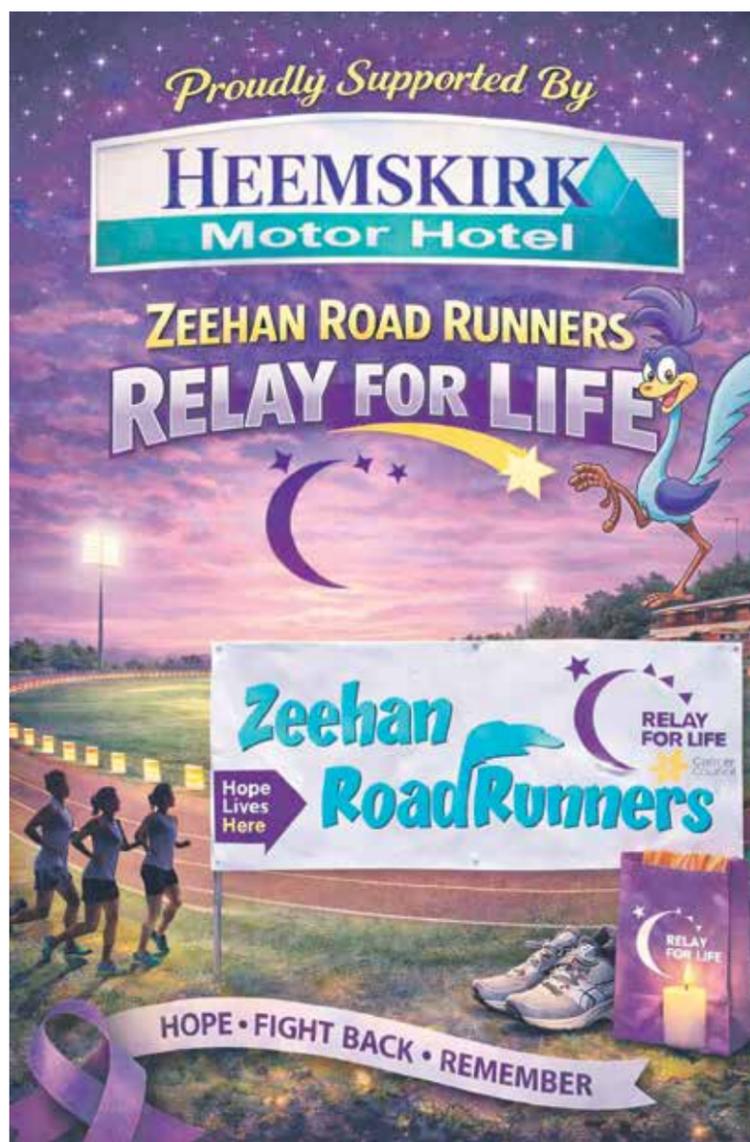
This year is particularly special for the Zeehan Road Runners, as it marks our 20th year participating in the Penguins Cancer Council Relay for Life. Being involved in such an important event for two decades is something our team is extremely proud of.

On the 21st of March, we take on the track once again, walking together to

support the Cancer Council and raise awareness and funds for those affected by cancer.

If you would like to support our team or become part of the team, we would love to hear from you. For those who may not be able to participate but would like to help, we also welcome sponsorship from individuals or businesses who wish to contribute. Please feel free to reach out to one of our team members.

As a thank you for your support, we will proudly promote your business with signage displayed at our marquee site during the relay, recognising those who help us continue supporting the Cancer Council and this important cause.



ing and dedicated committee and made thoughtful adjustments to ensure that this event remains inclusive and enjoyable – our priority is to deliver an engaging experience whilst also maximising support for Cancer Council Tasmania.

### What's changing:

**New Format** – we are transitioning from a 12-hour event to a 3-hour celebration.

**Location** – remains the same - Little Athletics Field, Smithton Recreation Grounds. Havelock St, Smithton  
**Updated schedule** – 12.00pm to 3.00pm

Including our Survivors and Carers lap/afternoon tea, Cake cutting, Spice Kids Choir, BBQ Saints Hockey Club, Remembrance Flowers ceremony and much more

### What attendees can expect:

As only the Circular Head region could do, ALL schools in the CH catch-

ment have signed up to Relay Their Way School Challenge. Support your local school with their RFL

For our 'on the day' event numbers are growing – we have 17 teams and around 80 participants. The more the merrier! Registrations open and people can come along and register on the day!

We are well on the way to reaching our \$30,000 fundraising target – we are nearly halfway there!

We're excited about this refreshed format and believe that it will make the CH RFL even more impactful and hope that everyone will join us in supporting Relay and celebrating the incredible CH community. Event contact: Jo Porteus | [jporteur@cancertas.org.au](mailto:jporteur@cancertas.org.au)

# Sendy Sundays at Somerset Surf Club



Hi everyone, we've just started a new Sunday morning run club in Somerset called Sendy Sundays.

We meet at the Somerset Surf Club at 10:00am each Sunday and run for 30 minutes (15 out, 15 back). All fitness levels welcome — walkers, joggers and runners. It's very relaxed and community-focused. We had our first run this weekend and would love to see a few more locals join us next Sunday!

Feel free to bring a friend or family member. Participate at own risk

# Review to ensure a strong freight future moving forward

Federal Assistant Minister for Regional Development, Senator Anthony Chisholm, has visited Tasmanian producers, farmers and manufacturers this week as the government's review into the Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme continues.

Senator Chisholm has met with businesses across Tasmania's diverse economy, including the Boyer Paper Mill, Pure Foods Tasmania, BioMar and Fruit Growers Tasmania. TFES financially supports Tasmanian freight, including the state's world-class produce, and passengers to cross the Bass Strait.

Since July 2025, Tasmanian businesses have already been benefitting from a 25 per cent increase in assistance rates under the scheme — putting more money in their back pockets at a time it's needed most. The Albanese Labor Government is providing this additional \$95 million to increase assistance for Tassie producers, and an independent review of the scheme. The review will consider if TFES could better support local businesses, including farmers and producers, to compete in domestic and other markets.

The review is being carried out by independent reviewers Dr David Parmeter and Dr Jenny Gordon.

Collectively, the TFES and Bass Strait have delivered more than \$6

billion to Tasmanian businesses since their introduction in 1976 and 1996 respectively. A final review report and recommendations to the government are expected in the first half of 2026.

Assistant Minister for Regional Development Senators said "It's been a really insightful few days meeting with Tassie farmers and businesses and hearing about the issues that matter to them.

"It's clear they all share a passion for sharing Tasmania's premium produce with the mainland and the world.

"Tasmanian businesses rightly deserve a level playing field when it comes to sending their produce overseas, but also when it comes to importing goods to maintain their business at home.

"This review is all about ensuring the TFES continues to deliver tangible benefits for Tasmanian businesses and sustains them for many years to come."

Member for Braddon Anne Urquhart said "For the community of Braddon, freight isn't just a business cost it's a lifeline. From our farmers and manufacturers on the Northwest Coast to producers on King Island, the Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme plays a critical role in keeping local industries competitive and jobs secure.

On King Island in particular, where isolation adds another layer of cost and complexity, getting freight settings right is essential. Whether it's moving world-class mbeef and dairy to mainland markets or bringing essential goods back to the island, TFES must properly recognise the unique challenges our island and regional communities face.

This review is about making sure the scheme works as intended delivering real support to Braddon businesses, strengthening regional supply chains and backing the communities that power Tasmania's economy."



Pictured above is Senator Anthony Chisholm and Anne Urquhart MP





## FUTURE OF VOLUNTEERING

### STATEWIDE CONNECTION

### POP-UPS

Volunteering Tasmania is coming to a community near you!

Volunteering is changing, and we're here to support your organisation. Drop in to our pop-up sessions to chat with our team, ask questions, and access practical tools and updates to help your volunteer programs thrive. We would love to hear about your local experiences and insights so we can better advocate for the needs of the volunteering industry.

**Let's strengthen volunteering across Tasmania, together.**

stay updated through [www.volunteeringtas.org.au](http://www.volunteeringtas.org.au)



DATES & LOCATIONS			
Mon	2	March	11am - 2pm
Thurs	5	March	11am - 2pm
Tues	10	March	12pm - 3pm
Wed	11	March	10am - 12:30pm
Wed	11	March	2pm - 4pm
Thurs	12	March	10am - 12:30pm
Thurs	12	March	2pm - 4pm
Fri	13	March	11am - 2pm
Mon	16	March	11am - 2pm
Tues	17	March	10am - 12:30pm
Tues	17	March	2pm - 4pm

For more information contact us  6231 5550  [elisar@volunteeringtas.org.au](mailto:elisar@volunteeringtas.org.au)

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 Sorell Library  
 Strahan (Venue TBC)  
 Queenstown Library  
 Rosebery Neighborhood House  
 Wynyard Library  
 Ulverstone Library  
 Kentish House, Sheffield  
 Scottsdale Library  
 Ross Reading Room  
 Swansea Library

# Ireland voyage - history in music

Giselle O'Meara, whose soaring, soulful voice carries the emotion of Ireland's story from ancient times to today is the lead vocalist for Ireland - the voyage and I had the pleasure of watching the show recently at the Burnie Arts Centre.

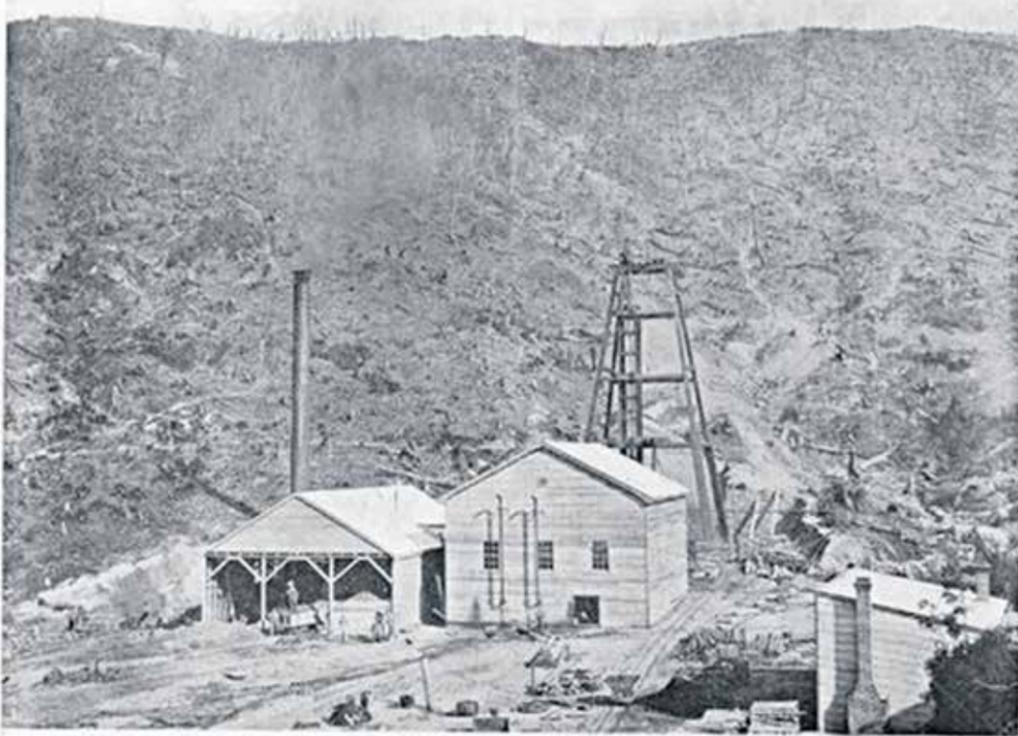
She is joined on stage by live musicians direct from Ireland, performing with traditional instruments and modern arrangements that honour the island's rich musical legacy. Their sound forms the beating heart of the show - raw, real, and unmistakably Irish.

'The voyage' spans centuries: from the mysticism of the Celts to the thunder of Viking invasions, the arrival of the Normans, and the spiritual transformation shaped by St Patrick. Each chapter erupts onto the stage through breathtaking visuals, cinematic soundscapes, and the fiery passion of Irish dance, performed by a cast of world-class dancers whose rhythm and athleticism ignite the stage. It was a wonderful experience and gave a real feel for the country of Ireland. *Ed*



# Tales from a Zeehan graveyard

## MAN SUFFERS HEART ATTACK AFTER FILLING MINING TRUCK WITH MULLOCK



A very sudden death occurred in the north drive, No. 7 level, at the South Spray Mine about 1:00 a.m. on Friday, 7 August 1908 when James O'Neil collapsed after filling a mining truck with waste rock. When his working mate James Lonergan went over to check he found O'Neil was already dead.

The next day a Coronial Enquiry was held at the Caledonian Hotel at 10:00 a.m. before Coroner E.W. Turner. It was somewhat unusual as it was convened to enquire into two separate deaths, James O'Neil being one, and Horace Sherrin the other. Sherrin (17) had been badly injured at the Smelters on the previous Thursday after getting caught up in machinery, and he had died the day after O'Neil. The Enquiry into his death was heard on

the following Monday.

The first witness was Dr. Gilbert Edward Butler, who deposed that at 1:40 a.m. on the night in question he had been called to the Spray Mine by a messenger. He proceeded there with Constable Mathews and Mr A.D. Sligo. On arrival he saw the body of deceased and found life to be extinct. There was a slight abrasion over the right eye. In company with Mr T.H. Vincent (mine manager) and James Lonergan he descended to where the deceased had been working, and found a splash of blood on the wall about [1.5 metres] from the face of the drive, and a hat was lying nearby. The air was quite good, and there were no signs of any earth having fallen. Lonergan picked at the face, and it was quite sound.

He had made a post-mortem examination, and found an old injury to the right eye, and just above that was a recent wound from which blood had exuded. He saw that the heart was largely degenerated by fat, being about twice its normal size, and filled with a large clot of blood. He found no traces of any other disease. He believed that the condition of the heart was likely to cause death at any time should there be any undue exertion.

The next witness called was George Brown, a miner, who deposed he had known deceased for about four months, and during that time they had often worked together. He had not heard

O'Neil complain of any illness. He last saw deceased alive on the night of the sixth of August at about 9:40 p.m. at Buckley's Hotel, when he was talking to Mr Howard, a contractor at the Spray Mine, who had asked deceased to work a shift for him, and O'Neil had agreed. A little later deceased stated he was going to his daughter's to change and then go to work at midnight. He then seemed to be in good health.

Son of deceased, George, stated his father was born in Cheshire, England, and he was 61 years of age. He had last seen his father alive about 10:00 p.m. on the night of the sixth of August, when he appeared to be in good health and spirits. He had never heard his father complain of any illness, ex-

cept about his back if he had done any heavy lifting.

John Lonergan, working mate of the deceased, said he had gone below at about 12:10 a.m. with O'Neil, and they went to the face on Number 7 level, where he filled a truck and deceased partly filled another truck. He was preparing a hole when he heard deceased fall down behind him. He immediately went over to O'Neil, who didn't answer him, and when he lifted him up witness thought he was already dead. He then went and found two more men, and they carried O'Neil's body to the surface.

He added he had been working in the same place for three weeks, and had always found the air good. Deceased had said nothing about feeling unwell, and seemed in the best of spirits. He had known deceased about thirty years, and was on the best of terms with him. In answer to a question he stated he had pushed the first truck out alone and all deceased had done was to partly fill a truck.

Constable John Mathews deposed he had accompanied Dr. Butler to the Spray Mine and took charge of James O'Neil's body.

The jury, without retiring, brought in a verdict that deceased had died from natural causes.

His funeral left for the Cemetery from the Zeehan and Dundas Hospital on Sunday, 9 August at 3:30 p.m. It is known where he was buried but today no physical trace remains. This is an abridged excerpt taken from books edited by Malcolm Ready, *Burials at the Zeehan General (Pioneer) Cemetery*.

## Burnie Medicare urgent care clinic now open

The Albanese Government is delivering for residents in Burnie with the opening of the Burnie Medicare Urgent Care Clinic.

The new Burnie Medicare Urgent Care Clinic, located at 16-20 Mooreville Road, Park Grove, is now open extended hours, seven days a week.

No appointment is needed, patients can walk in and all services are bulk billed.

The highly trained doctors and nurses are equipped to treat a range of conditions and injuries that need urgent attention but aren't life threatening, including cuts, viral infections, or a sprained ankle.

The Burnie Medicare Urgent Care Clinic will ease pressure on the busy Northwest Regional Hospital, where around 40 per cent of presentations in 2024-25 were for semi-urgent or non-urgent conditions.

The clinic will join the existing network of six Medicare Urgent Care Clinics across Tasmania, with a further clinic to commence operation in Kingston over the coming months.

This is part of the Albanese Govern-

ment's commitment to deliver more Medicare Urgent Care Clinics across the country with 4 out of 5 Australians to live within a 20-minute drive from their

local clinic. Labor's Medicare Urgent Care Clinics have already seen more than 2.4 million presentations since the first sites opened in June 2023, including over 142,100 presentations to Tasmanian Medicare Urgent Care Clinics.

One in four of these were patients aged under 15 years old, more than one in four were on weekends, and over one in three were weekday after hours visits (at or after 5pm).

The Burnie Medicare Urgent Care Clinic is commissioned by the Tasmanian Primary Health Network.

Minister Butler said "The Burnie Medicare Urgent Care Clinic is a game changer for families in the region." "The Burnie Medicare Urgent Care Clinic will ease pressure on the emergency department at

the North West Regional Hospital and free up staff to provide care to people with more serious conditions.

"This clinic is a key part of the Albanese Government's commitment to strengthen Medicare and make health care more accessible and affordable."

Anne Urquhart MP, Member for Braddon went on to say

"For people in Burnie and the surrounding community, this Medicare Urgent clinic will make a real difference, by offering accessible, bulk-billed urgent care right here in the heart of Burnie."

"It means families can get the care they need, when they need it, without added cost or long travel."

"Opening the urgent Care Clinic is a big positive for the Burnie community, easing pressure on the Northwest Regional Hospital and strengthening local health services."

"During the 2025 election the community of Burnie strongly supported a Medicare Urgent Care Clinic, their voices have been heard. I'm proud to be a part of the Albanese Labor Government which is delivering for the community of Braddon."

## Around the traps



Walking Wendy around Wynyard we come across all sorts of happenings and sights including Meg and Sebastian working with a large hoop. Of course I had to find out more. The Cyr wheel, also known as the roue Cyr, is an acrobatic apparatus that consists of a single large ring made of aluminum or steel with a diameter approximately 10 to 15 cm (4 to 6 in) taller than the performer. Now we have all learnt something new! Ed

# WYNYARD TIGERS CRICKET CLUB

Photos by Alan Jennison

## Third Grade Match Report Wynyard Tigers v Ridgley Saints

Wynyard Recreation Ground  
Wynyard Tigers Third Grade secured a solid 7-wicket victory over Ridgley Saints, chasing down the target comfortably in 19.3 overs after an excellent all-round team performance.

Batting first, Ridgley Saints were restricted to 5/102 from their allotted 40 overs, thanks to disciplined bowling and sharp fielding from the Tigers. Despite occupying the crease for the full innings, Ridgley struggled to lift the scoring rate, finishing with a run rate of just 2.55 runs per over.

Ridgley's innings was anchored by Nathan Walton, who top-scored with 39 from 64 balls. Bailey Radford remained 8 not out, but the Saints were unable to build partnerships that threatened to post a larger total.

Wynyard's bowlers maintained excellent control throughout the innings. Veteran Ben Sandow was the standout performer, producing a superb spell of 2/5 from 5 overs, including two maidens, to put the Saints under sustained pressure. Jake Granger, Brandon Cashman, and Riley Nolan each picked up a wicket, while the remainder of the attack kept things tight and ensured the scoring opportunities were limited.

Chasing 103 for victory, the Tigers approached the run chase with confi-

dence and composure. The highlight of the innings was a powerful knock from Wynyard legend Brett Lee, who led the charge with 38 from 46 balls, striking three fours and two sixes to put Wynyard firmly in control of the contest.

Lee was well supported by Ben Sandow, who made a valuable 26 from 43 balls, and Riley Nolan, who contributed 24 from 35 balls as the Tigers steadily worked their way towards the target.

Although Ridgley managed to claim a few wickets, Wynyard never looked under real pressure. Darren Simpson (2)\* and Brandon Cashman (1)\* were at the crease when the winning runs were scored, sealing the victory with more than 20 overs remaining.

The result reflected a well-rounded performance from the Tigers, built on disciplined bowling, controlled batting and strong contributions across the side. Restricting Ridgley to a modest total laid the foundation for the win and the batting lineup ensured the chase was completed in quick time.

With both bat and ball performing strongly, the Tigers will take great confidence from the performance as they continue building momentum through the latter stages of the season as the club looks to have all three of their BCL teams competing in the finals.



# Scotchtown Football club

Over the past month we've officially kicked off preseason training, and it's been fantastic to see the numbers we're getting on the track. The energy and commitment from the players across all age groups has been really positive, and it's great to see both familiar faces and new ones getting involved.

It's shaping up to be an exciting season ahead, and the work being put in now will set us up well for 2026. We're also looking forward to our upcoming Intraclub Match on March 27th at 6pm. This will be a great opportunity for all age groups to get out there, have a run, and for everyone to see the squad in action.

The afternoon will double as a "Meet the Coaches" event, giving players, families and supporters the chance to connect with our coaching group for the season ahead.

Following the match, we'll be hosting a complimentary tea night, and we'd love to see as many of our supporters, life members and families there as possible. It's a great way to bring everyone together before the season gets fully underway.

We're building something really positive at Scotchtown — strong numbers, great culture, and a club that's welcoming to all. Looking forward to seeing everyone on the 27th. Go Tigers!



**Meet the Coaches**  
27th March from 530pm

Footy, food and a chance to connect with the coaches. The boys will also play a quick game commencing at 6pm followed by a meal, please bring a dish to share.

Bar will be Open, AFL on the TV



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