



WESTERN ECHO

Burnie, Wynyard, Sister's Beach, Stanley, Smithton, Marrawah, Waratah, Tullah, Rosebery, Zeehan, Strahan and Queenstown - The West's own newspaper



FREE

WE MEANS COMMUNITY

EDITION 45 AUGUST 14TH, 2025

New playgrounds a huge hit



It seems 2025 is the year for playgrounds. They are being constructed all over the West and Northwest and are proving very popular with kids of all ages.

The one above is in Howard's Park, Zeehan, where the local school recently brought the students to test it out. Lots of smiles and thumbs-up were the order of the day as you can see here.

The new Queenstown playground is currently under construction and others include a recent one at Strahan, one at Rosebery, Sisters Beach and a few are more planned for other towns in the

Northwest. Investing in the safety and stimulation of our children is perhaps one of the most important aspects of a true community. It's nice to know the west does that in spades.

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**YOUR FREE
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WE MEANS COMMUNITY

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

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Lions cleaning up the west



With the launch of the Recycle Rewards program in Tasmania, the Lions Club of Rosebery has initiated a community campaign to clean up the West Coast roads between Tullah and Zeehan—key routes for tourists and visitors to our region.

Lions Club members are collecting discarded cans, bottles, and general litter to raise funds through the recycling scheme, supporting local charitable efforts. Over 2,000 items have already been removed from the roadside.

We kindly ask motorists to exercise caution when passing volunteers and offer a friendly wave or toot to show support. If you'd like to contribute, donations can be made using the Lions Club barcode. Just photograph the barcode

here and use it at the recycle place machine. Alternatively, cans and bottles can be dropped off at the Lion's Den in Hollywood Street, Rosebery, where members will process them on your behalf.

A message to litterers: Please keep your recyclables in your vehicle and donate them to the Lions Club. If you must discard them, do so in areas where it is safe for volunteers to collect.

Need further information:
Email Lions at mouseitau@gmail.com

Lions Club of Rosebery



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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

To the Editor.

Still nothing done, there are 12 of these Death Traps situated close to the old Eureka Mine site and they measure 8 metres in depth. They have been exposed thanks to the recent bushfires. They have been reported to Mineral Resources Tasmania over two months ago and to date nothing done. Friends of Tracks and Tramways would like to see some action taken to address this major safety issue ASAP before someone disappears.

Grant Hodge - Zeehan



Big Z is open!



The 'Big Z' is aproving very popular! Recently opened, the 'Big Z' Cafe and Restaurant is serving coffee and great food right here in Zeehan.

Mal Basnayake, family and some lovely staff will be running the cafe the quality of their food is fast becoming known. Opening times are currently 8am to 2.30pm and will of course be customer dependent.

Do yourselves a favour and drop in to the 'Big Z', Zeehan's newest cafe and restaurant.

Western Echo 'Wendy'

What an exciting time I am having! Not only did I get that horrible collar off but my fur Dad has come to stay for a couple of weeeks. He is not S.P.A.Y.E.D. (I know what that means now grrr), but my sister, Tinkerbelle, who Teddy (my fur Dad) lives with, is on heat, so he has come to live with me for a while. He is a bit quieter than me, being soooo old but we still have fun. My human dad says there is not any room on the bed but there is lots until HE gets in. Anyway... see you next month - Woof to you all



Me relaxing with my fur Dad 'Teddy'

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Queenstown residents fight to save last bank on West Coast

Recently a large gathering of Queenstown and district residents at the Memorial Hall unanimously called on Bendigo Bank to reverse its decision to close the last bank on the West Coast of Tasmania.

They also called on the Albanese government to respond to the report of the Senate inquiry into bank closures in regional Australia.

On behalf of the Citizens Party, which was instrumental in establishing the 2023-24 Senate inquiry, Research Director Robert Barwick flew in from Melbourne for the meeting, and was joined by local CP representative Ray Williams, a former NAB branch manager.

Barwick told the meeting that the scrutiny of the Senate inquiry had succeeded in forcing some banks to reverse closure decisions.

"By reversing those decisions under political and community pressure, the banks proved those branches had been viable all along", he said.

"I believe Bendigo Bank's Queenstown branch is viable, and there is chance that political pressure could save this branch too."

Federal ALP Member for Braddon Ann Urquhart, and state members for

Braddon Gavin Pearce, Liberal, and Anita Dow, ALP, also attended the meeting.

Bendigo Bank is scheduled to close the branch on 26 September, even though it will continue to pay rent on the premises until June 2026.

The Bank prefers to pay rent on an empty building instead of providing a service to its customers, the last banking service on the entire Western coast of the state.

Barwick noted that the Senate inquiry concluded by putting the onus on the banks to provide a service.

"Do not accept this is a legitimate business decision and Queenstown is just unlucky", he said.

"This is bank CEO Richard Fennell being greedy, to fatten his bonus by cutting costs, regardless of how much this decision will devastate the region."

Barwick informed the crowd that Queenstown was unique, as the town where the Commonwealth Bank was conceived by King O'Malley, the first representative for the area in the federal parliament at Federation, who founded the Commonwealth Bank as a People's Bank in 1912, which originally started in post offices.

The Citizens Party is campaigning for a new government-owned bank to provide a guaranteed service for all Australians, which it advocates should be a postal bank, operating in Australia's 4000+ post offices, which is more than all Bank branches combined.

He observed: "Literally across the street from Bendigo Bank's pokey branch is the magnificent, historic Queenstown

post office, which could double as a full-service bank that always serves the region, if the government has the fortitude to take on the Australian Banking Association and sets it up."

The Senate inquiry recommended the government should establish an expert panel to investigate the feasibility of re-establishing a government bank, including a postal bank.



Bendigo Bank closure from our representatives viewpoint

Local, State and Federal representatives have strongly backed West Coast residents who turned out on the weekend to call on the Bendigo Bank to reverse its decision to close its Queenstown branch and remove its ATM.

Residents and their representatives were blind-sided by the Bank's recent decision which will mean that from September there will be no remaining bank branches across the West Coast. Just opening a bank account will in future require a minimum 4 hour round trip to the nearest face-to-face facilities in Burnie.

Over 1200 people have signed a petition calling on the Bank to stay and more than 50 people met in Queenstown on Sunday with the West Coast Mayor, Shane Pitt, Federal Member Braddon Anne Urquhart, State Labor representative Anita Dow and newly elected State Liberal Member for Braddon Gavin Pearce. Bendigo Bank was invited to the meeting but chose not to attend.

Residents and supporters are angry that Bendigo Bank did not undertake local consultation or discuss alternatives prior to its decision. The bank has been reluctant to meet to consider any variation to its decision, including the possibility of continuation of ATM services to the community.

Ms Urquhart, Ms Dow and Mr Pearce are jointly calling on the Bank to do the right thing and stand by the local community by keeping the branch open.

A recent Federal Inquiry into regional bank closures has highlighted the concerns around loss of face-to-face banking facilities. It made a raft of recommendation that would protect access to personal and business banking services in regional, rural and remote locations. It also recommended a code of conduct for branch closures administered by a regulator with expertise in consumer protection.

The report also calls on banks operat-

ing in regional areas to work with consumer organisations, local communities, and all levels of government to make sure regional communities have adequate access to face-to-face banking services – something the Bendigo Bank has failed to do in making its recent decision.

The Federal Government has not yet responded to the Inquiry, and the meeting called for a response.

Anne Urquhart Federal Member for Braddon said:

"Business closures in regional communities hit residents hard, and the closure of bank branches is particularly damaging. Banks are returning profits to shareholders, but they are failing to maintain a social licence in our communities. When banks turn their back on places like the West Coast, they make it harder for everyone to invest and build resilience in regional and remote communities.

Anita Dow, State Member for Braddon went on to say "It's easy to say people

should bank online or in Burnie, but a lot of West Coasters simply can't do that.

Not everyone wants to use internet services and as a matter of equity I don't think they should have no other option, with the nearest other Bendigo Bank branch two hours away in Burnie.

We will always continue to advocate for good local services for regional Tasmanians, and we won't stop standing up for the West Coast."



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A Huge Thank You to Volunteer Marine Rescue Ulverstone

I recently had the privilege of visiting Volunteer Marine Rescue Ulverstone alongside some of my fellow Independent candidates.

When I pulled up in the car park, it was so good to see the crew already in action with @Daniel Nicole, and his boys down at the boat ramp helping load the Leven River Cruises boat. They were there as local recreational fishers, sharing their perspective and lending a hand and I jumped in too.

That's the kind of community spirit I love being a part of people turning up, chipping in, and working together for the good of our coastal towns.

A big thank you to the entire Marine Rescue Ulverstone team for making the time to meet with us and speak so openly about the challenges you're facing.

As someone who's had a lot to do with Marine Rescue through rec fishing, the local fishing club, and even assisting in a rescue earlier this year I already knew how vital their role is. But hearing directly from the team today was humbling and eye-opening.

What we heard today:

- Marine Rescue Ulverstone is a not-for-profit organisation, made up entirely of passionate and highly trained volunteers.

- They're struggling due to a lack of funding, making it harder to maintain gear, support operations, and respond quickly in emergencies.

- Critically, they need a facility upgrade to house their vessel and keep vital rescue equipment safe, dry, and ready to go.

- These aren't just volunteers — they are the lifeline for boaters, fishers, and coastal families when things go wrong on the water.

This isn't just a local concern — it's a statewide responsibility.

Marine rescue teams like Ulverstone's are essential to Tasmania's coastal safety network, yet they're too often left unsupported by government. These teams are the ones who answer the call when no one else can and they deserve better.

It's time for the State Government to listen, recognise, and properly resource them.

We owe these crews more than just thanks we owe them real support.

Let's stand with the people who stand by us.

Let's get Marine Rescue Ulverstone the tools, facilities, and recognition they've earned and need to help our community.

Cristale Harrison - Independent Candidate for Braddon



New Minister for West Coast churches

The West Coast welcomes a new permanent Minister for the Anglican churches of St Martin's Queenstown and Holy Trinity Strahan, David and his wife Margie Williams. You are invited to the Commissioning Service held at St Martin's church, corner Russell and Driffield St, Queenstown on Monday the 8th September at 6.00pm. It will be followed by a light dinner at Queenstown RSL with home cooked food provided by church members.

David and Margie are parents of two daughters and three grandchildren. They have been living and working in South Australia. They will be supported by the Anglican Diocese of Tasmania, Bush Church Aid (which supports ministry in

rural and remote locations of Australia) and of course the people of the churches at Strahan and Queenstown. The Anglican Bishop of Tasmania and the national head of BCA will be attending. We're looking forward to you coming, as well. RSVP 0407 003 778



Family Day Care Educators needed



Do you hold a Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care and have a genuine passion for nurturing and inspiring children? Thrive Group is currently seeking caring Family Day Care Educators who are ready to make a meaningful difference—all from the comfort and safety of their own homes or approved venues.

Family Day Care offers a unique and rewarding approach to early childhood education. As a Family Day Care Educator, you can create a warm, welcoming environment where small groups of children can learn, play, and grow. You'll provide personalised learning experiences tailored to each child's needs, fostering their development in a safe and nurturing setting that feels like a second home.

At Thrive Group, we value the importance of supporting every child's individual journey. We also understand the crucial role strong family and community connections play in a child's life. That's why our Family Day Care Educators, while independent professionals running their own businesses, are never alone. We offer comprehensive training, valuable resources, and ongoing mentoring and support to ensure you have everything you need to succeed. Having worked in the early childhood space for the past 50 years, we proudly support over 60 wonderful Family Day Care Educators across Tasmania.

Our presence on the West Coast is well-established and growing. Thrive Group proudly operates the Queenstown Early Learning Service, where we employ locally qualified Educators committed to delivering high quality care and education. We're passionate about creating local opportunities and have worked hard this year to expand our team —increasing Educator numbers, offering employment within the community and access to flexible, quality education and care.

Whether you choose to provide care during standard hours, after school, on weekends, or even overnight, your work will have a lasting impact on families and children in your community. Flexible care options are vital in regional areas, where access to quality early learning can be limited.

By becoming a Family Day Care Educator with Thrive Group, you not only make a difference—you can earn a great income while working from home or an approved venue, while supporting the community you love.

Ready to take the next step? If you don't have a residence to operate from, we are happy to work with you to source a suitable venue for your Family Day Care.

Please reach out to chat further – we are happy to help.

Caitlin cheyward@thrivegroup.org.au (03) 6341 1555

Queenstown mine raising funds

Sibanye Stillwater Mount Lyell mine site participated in Jeans for Genes Day last week, raising much needed funds for the children's medical research institute.

A morning tea was held on site & a total of \$565:00 was raised, this is an amazing effort by all & helps towards supporting a great cause. A very big thankyou to all that donated & helped to make this possible.



Tullah gets basketball/netball hoop thanks to Hydro grant

The Tullah Progress Association has received a Hydro Tasmania Community Grant that will fund a reversible basketball and netball hoop for the community.

Six Tasmanian organisations working to make their communities a better place are the recipients of Hydro Tasmania's 2025 Community Grants.

The Community Grants program provides community groups with up to \$5,000 in funding for projects and activities that make a difference to the lives of people in their area.

Tullah Progress Association representative Nicole Ashwood said the basketball and netball hoops would benefit both children and adults.

"Tullah is one of the few towns on the West Coast that doesn't have a basketball hoop at the local park," said Ms Ashwood.

"Having a free access basketball and netball hoop will encourage young people to play sport and help us become a

more active and healthy community."

The Tullah Progress Association is planning to have the hoops installed in time for summer.

Hydro Tasmania Executive General Manager of People and Corporate Affairs Ruth Groom said the business was thrilled to help Tullah achieve its goal.

"The purpose of the Community Grants is to fund projects for not-for-profit community organisations that will make a real difference for people in Tasmania," said Ms Groom.

"We want to give back to the communities we work in, and a basketball and netball hoop is a fantastic initiative that will help get young people outside and moving."

Other grant recipients include the Central Highlands Community Garden, Bears of Hope, the Tasmanian Transport Museum, Pets in the Park and the Jordan River Community Theatre.



Lions Club of Rosebery 2025 Citizen of the Year

The Lions Club of Rosebery would like to congratulate Ryan McGowan - recipient of Lions Club of Rosebery's Citizen of the year 2025.

He is a very humble man who volunteers so much time and energy into his Community with his music, organising Rosebery Festival Music and Bands program, being on many committees and always helping with the lighting of the Fairy House each year for the Lions Club. Well done Ryan, well deserved!! Congratulations!!



7XS COMMUNITY AWARDS NIGHT IN QUEENSTOWN

On the 11th July the 7XS Community Awards Dinner was held at the Empire Hotel in Queenstown. Ashley Scherger (absent) and Courtney Scherger were the recipients of the awards. Simon Whittington accepted the award on Ashley's behalf.

An excellent night was had by everyone who turned up including Mayor Shane Pitt plus Labor and Liberal politicians who were in Queenstown anyway for meetings about the recent Bendigo Bank announcement.

A big thank you again to those who nominated Ashley and myself for these awards, we are eternally grateful that we were recognised like this.



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News from Wyndarra

Wyndarra Mega Raffle

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported the Raffle.

To those who bought or sold tickets we truly appreciate your time and support. A big thank you to the generous businesses who kindly donated prizes. Your contributions made this raffle a great success. A thank you to Simon from Dutch Mill Tas Dairy for helping with the draw. Congratulation to all the winners, results can be found on the Wyndarra Facebook page.

Tickets for the Gala Dinner and Auction on the 11th October are on sale and available through Humantix.

Tickets are \$135 each or \$1350 for a table of ten. If you are a group of 10 we recommend you buy all your tickets at the same time to ensure you will be seated together.

Come and join us for a great night of food, fun and live music.

Congratulations to community and staff members who recently participated in the Volunteer Induction.

Jenny and Libby recently met up with Ruth Hanson during her visit to the area. Many Circular Head residents will remember Ruth and her late husband Gib, both who have been longstanding advocates and dedicated supporters of Wyndarra. As a former Chair of the Board, Ruth played a key role in launching several important programs as well as being a Life Member of the organisation.

The latest Newsletter is out now.

A copy is available from the website – www.wyndarra.org.au. If you would like a copy sent out or join the email list, please give Bec a call - 64522722

St Vincent De Paul update



The Queenstown Community Pantry is now open every Wednesday at the Queenstown Library, offering a helping hand up to those in the community who are in need.

This St Vincent de Paul Society project has been made possible through grant funding and is designed to support individuals and families with access to food and essential items. We kindly ask that community members are respectful of the space and of others who may also be in need. Please take only what you need, with a limit of one bag per family per week. We are accepting donations to keep the pantry stocked. A donation bin is available at Evans IGA, and any contributions are greatly appreciated.

The St Vincent De Paul Society offers emergency assistance appointments across the West Coast Region. Emergency Assistance appointments aim to help people with extra food support, clothing, blankets, food vouchers, as well as provide referrals through to other local services. To book emergency assistance please call the Northwest Regional office on 6146 0524.

Vinnies is also proud to be supporting

the Uniting Church, to provide a community morning tea. Held every third Thursday of the month, at the 3 Driffield Street (previously called the Senior Citizen Centre). It is a great opportunity for locals to come together, enjoy a hot drink & sweet treat, and connect with others in the community. Bookings are essential to book please call the Northwest Regional office on 6146 0524.

Volunteers Needed – Join the Vinnies Van Team in Smithton

Are you looking for a way to give back to your community in a meaningful way? The Vinnies Van service in Smithton is looking for volunteers to join our team. The van heads out two nights a week, providing soup, sandwiches and a familiar face, to community members accessing the van.

You don't need any special skills, just a willingness to help, and give back to the local community. Van volunteers can choose to volunteer as little as 2 hours per month, or as often as once per week.

If you'd like to learn more or sign up to volunteer, please email volunteering@vinniestas.org.au



Always wanted to make your own home compost?
 Visit our website to find out how: www.nwrrr.com.au/homecomposting

While you're there go into the draw to **win a \$100 gift card** by sharing your best food waste hack.

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Victory in the Pacific 80 Years since the end of World War Two

Victory in the Pacific Day: 80 Years Since the End of World War Two

Friday, August 15, 2025, marks the 80th anniversary of Victory in the Pacific (VP) Day the formal end of World War Two. The Circular Head RSL will host a combined commemorative service for VP Day and Vietnam Veterans Day (traditionally observed on August 18) to honour and pay respects to all those who served.

The service will take place at ANZAC Park, Smithton, on Friday, August 15, starting at 11:00 am, followed by a light lunch at the Smithton Seniors Centre.

World War Two was the most destructive conflict in human history. For Australia, the war lasted six years, from 3 September 1939 to 15 August 1945. From Circular Head alone, over 1,100 men and women enlisted. Of those, around fifty-five were killed in action or died from their wounds. Twenty-three perished while held as prisoners of war, and in total, seventy-six individuals from the region became POWs.

One of the prisoners of war who died was Laurie Grey born on the 16 January 1921, he was the second son of Horace John Grey and Doris Beasley Walters, Laurie enlisted on the 2 of July 1940. Laurie died in the Thanakan Hospital, Kanchanaburi, Thailand. At the time of his death, he was a prisoner of the Japanese working on the Burma Railway. Laurie's death was caused by Beri Beri and Amoebic Dysentery. and his remains

are buried in the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery, Grave ID50. The names of the other four Tasmanians inscribed on the plaque are Charlie Bond who died while a prisoner of war, he was visiting a friend at Marrawah when he enlisted, Eric Edwards was killed in action in the HMAS Perth's epic battle with the Japanese forces in Sinda Straits, Clive Horton, also of the 2/40th Battalion was the son of Mr and Mrs Arthur Horton of Redpa and Ivan Sharman, who was killed in action with HMAS Australia and the son of Mr I Sharman of Irishtown.

At the time, the population of Circular Head was approximately 7,210. Over 50% of eligible men and 8% of eligible women from the community served in the war a remarkable testament to the district's commitment and sacrifice.

Rural communities in Tasmania particularly on the North West Coast played a vital role in supporting the war effort. Farmers supplied essential produce, including potatoes, peas, dairy, meat, and other goods to sustain the Australian forces. During the war, more than three hundred Italian prisoners of war were sent to assist with agricultural labour shortages, working on farms in Circular Head and surrounding areas such as Table Cape, Burnie, Penguin, Kentish, the Leven Valley, Devonport, and LaTrobe. Many of these men formed lasting friendships with local families.

Sixty men from Circular Head served in the Vietnam War. One of them, Sap-

per Geoffrey Coombs, made the ultimate sacrifice. At 21, Coombs enlisted in the Australian Army and joined 3 Troop, 1st Field Squadron. Deployed to Vietnam as an engineer, more specifically, a "Tunnel Rat" he demonstrated immense bravery. On March 22, 1968, while operating with 3RAR in the Long Hais, a separate patrol nearby triggered enemy land mines, sustaining multiple casualties. A radio call for help went out, and as he had done so often before, Geoffrey responded without hesitation. Despite the known danger of further mines and booby traps in the area, Geoffrey and four fellow sappers moved swiftly to aid their wounded comrades. Tragically, he was

killed instantly when he encountered a newly laid enemy mine. Geoffrey's courage and sacrifice reflect the best of Australian service, echoing the spirit of all who have given their lives for the freedoms we enjoy today.

It is incredible how much history lives in communities like Circular Head, quietly courageous, profoundly generous.

On Friday, August 15, we will commemorate those who served in World War Two and the Vietnam War. Circular RSL President Terrence Holland sincerely welcomes veterans, family members of those who served, and community members to attend. "We will remember them".



The Stanley Hotel Bistro - superb food

It was a dark and star bejeweled night but there are very few lights to guide the way as we make our way up the sidewalk to what looks like a thoroughly closed hotel.

Checking the three closed doors and reading the text on the door (in the gloom) we find the right entrance which opens to a short hall into the establishment proper with stairs to the upstairs rooms.

Doors off to a closed side bar and closed souvenir shop and stairs leading down a somewhat steep incline to the Bistro (if you are tall, watch your head. There is also a marked beam halfway down this.)

We are greeted by pleasant but overly officious waitress who escorts us to our table and presents us with the main menu, dessert menu, wine list and specials board all before allowing us to sit down.

We very quickly order wine (to appease the waitress, who I feel is highly mindful of everybody's 90-minute time window to dine and would blow a fuse if they were to go over), and decided on four appetisers between the two of us to better gauge the quality of the food.

This is amazing, I



must tell you.

We tried Abalone, cooked to perfection, salt and pepper squid, tender not chewy and full of flavour. deep fried camembert that melts in your mouth and pumpkin arancini balls that were just plain morish both with mind-blowing flavours.

We then ordered coffee. I asked for soy milk. No soy. I asked for any non-dairy milk. No.

I asked for black coffee with honey. No honey. My friend ordered cappuccino. A few minutes later, the poor waiter came back.... The coffee machine was broken.

Overall, definitely go there for the food. Go later in the evening, and they might not chase you out so quickly. Just don't try and order coffee with your desserts.

EJH

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**For more information call
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0457 525 646**

Howard's Park Open

A rejuvenated Howard's Park in Zeehan was recently opened, just in time for the July school holidays. It has been fantastic to see the park being well used by people of all ages, with positive feedback received about the upgrades.

The project to create a modern, fun & safe play space and park has taken several months and whilst there is some minor work to be completed, the park is now open for all to enjoy.

Planning for an official opening is underway, with the community to be advised as soon as a date is confirmed. We thank the Federal Government for their contribution to the project.



Howard's Park, Zeehan. Photo: Tracie Phillips

Community Recycling Hub

A new FREE recycling hub is now available in the reception area of the Council Office in Queenstown, providing another opportunity to recycle items. A great range of items can be dropped into this new hub, including:

- Batteries
- Oral care products and packaging, like toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Medication blister packs
- Pens and markers
- Mobile phones and accessories
- Razors and their packaging
- Small e-waste such as remote controls, a computer mouse, handheld cameras

People can call into the Council office Monday-Friday during opening hours to use the hub at no cost. It is hoped this will be the first of a few units to be set up in West Coast towns.

This Community Recycling Hub is another step forward as part of our focus on improving waste and recycling options and management.

West Coast Council offers weekly general (landfill) wheelie bin kerbside collection, and monthly recycling wheelie bin collection. For more information visit our website.



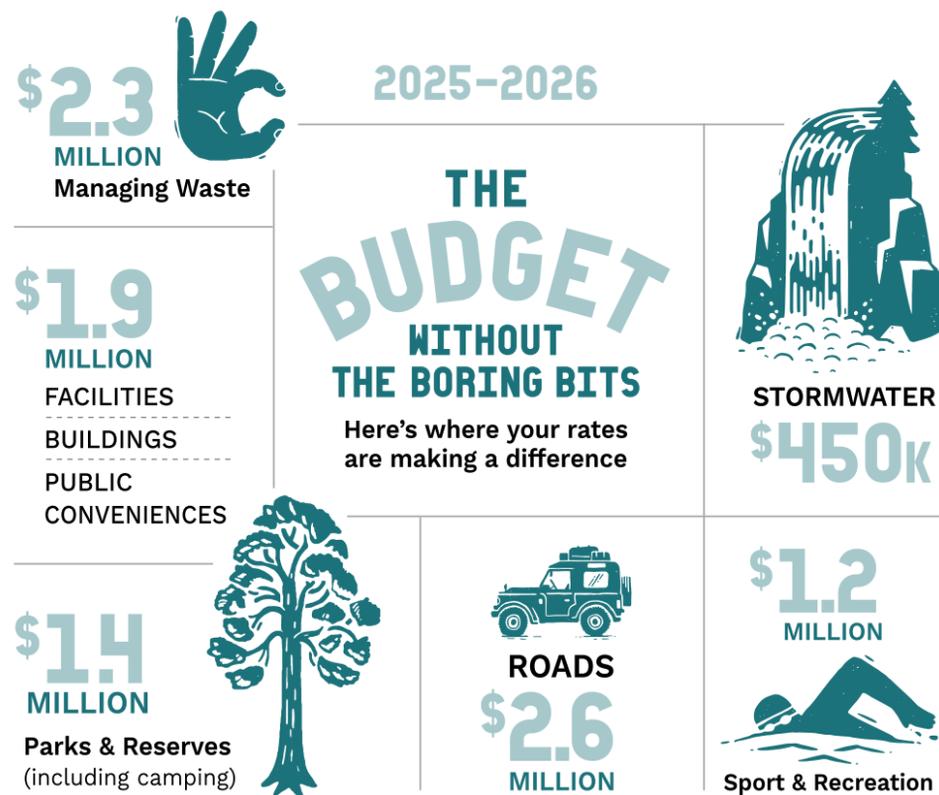
2025–2026 Annual Plan and Budget

Following the invitation for community submissions earlier this year, the 2025–2026 Annual Plan has been developed, with Council adopting the plan at its meeting in July.

The Annual Plan is built on the focus areas of our community, people, economy, infrastructure, environment,

and leadership, as detailed in the West Coast Community Plan 2035. Acting as a roadmap for our future, the Plan will guide us toward a healthier, more prosperous region for all.

The full document, along with a breakdown of the budget and priority actions is available on our website.



Capital Works Program

2025–2026 will be a year of consolidation in terms of capital projects – ensuring those projects that are ongoing are completed and that we robustly prepare for the next round of major projects. New projects to be undertaken this financial year include:

- Queenstown Swimming Pool: \$430,000 (\$215,00 grant funded)
- Truck & Tag Trailer: \$120,000 Council funded
- Light Plant: \$50,000 Council funded
- Strahan Gym Equipment (within the new Strahan Gym & Multi-Purpose Centre): \$100,000 Council funded
- Road Patching Program: \$180,000 Council funded
- Intersection Renewals: \$300,000 Council funded
- Roads to Recovery Program: \$1,000,000 grant funded
- Stormwater Upgrades: \$200,000 Council funded
- Preparation for Future Projects: \$200,000 Council funded

Recycling Shed Construction

Contractors have broken ground on the recycling shed project, with excavation works commencing and survey pegs installed.

Located at the Zeehan Landfill site, the recycling shed will move the region towards more efficient and sustainable waste management by providing a dedicated facility for the receiving, sorting, and temporary storage of recyclable materials.

The recycling shed project is primarily funded by a \$635,000 State Government grant, with additional support from the Landfill Levy (\$185,000).

West Coast Council offers weekly general (landfill) wheelie bin kerbside collection, and monthly recycling wheelie bin collection. For more information visit our website.

Doggie checklist!

Whether you've got a new pup or an old mate, here's a quick checklist to keep tails wagging:

- Dog-proof your property
- Microchip your dog
- Sterilise your dog if not planning to breed (this also qualifies you for a discounted dog registration)
- Register your dog. Annual registration is available however registration for 3 years or whole of life is recommended as a great option to save money and remove the risk of forgetting to register.
- Remember to carry poo bags when walking your dog around our wonderful communities.
- Keep some warm blankets, treats, and toys handy to spoil your furry friend.

Restricted Access to Slipway Carpark

Access to areas of the slipway carpark on Strahan's Esplanade will be restricted to allow for the upgraded slipway to be unloaded and reinstalled.



- 10am–2pm, Tuesday 19 and Wednesday 20 August – large section closed to the public.
- Tuesday 19 to 5pm Friday 22 August – smaller section closed to the public.

The slipway upgrade will allow larger vessels to berth and undergo maintenance locally. Please adhere to the barriers and signage in place at the carpark. Access to the toilets and showers located in the carpark will not be impacted.

Rates Notices

In response to the continued delay in the distribution of rates notices for the new 2025–2026 financial year, Council has approved extending the first instalment/pay in full due date.

Rates will now be due in full by 30 September 2025. If paying by instalments, dates for payment in 2025–2026 are:

First instalment: Tuesday 30 Sept

Second instalment: Friday 31 Oct

Third instalment: Friday 30 Jan

Fourth instalment: Tuesday 31 Mar

With the software issue continuing, rates notices will be generated and distributed as soon as possible. Register at the Council office or on our website to receive your rates notice direct to your email.

For those unable to pay the full amount or meet the instalment dates, our team can help you work out a payment arrangement that works within your budget. Ratepayers receiving government concessions may also be eligible for a discount – talk to our team or visit our website for more information.

West Coast winners!

Council has launched a new way to say thanks for paying your rates on time.

If you've paid in full by 30 September 2025, you'll automatically go into the running to win one of four vouchers valued at \$2,000, \$1,000, \$500, and \$500. Winners will be drawn at the October Council meeting, and vouchers can be spent at West Coast businesses. Don't want to be included? Just let Council know otherwise, you're in.

Please note: properties owned by businesses, government departments, Council staff and councillors are not eligible, but their family members are welcome to enter.

Rosebery Childcare a step closer

Childcare services in Rosebery are a step closer following the Council meeting on 23 July, where Council determined a plan of action and release of information relating to a Rosebery Childcare report included in the closed session of the meeting.

With demand for childcare increasing, and only one provider located on the West Coast (in Queenstown), Council will now proceed to negotiate with Coastal Family Day Care to activate 13 Blackwood Avenue, Rosebery as a family day care use, for a minimum of two years.

General Manager Scott Riley has been authorised by Council to finalise all negotiations, property modification changes and execute the lease with Coastal Family Day Care. Mr. Riley is also to action a planning application for the property to be used for family day care.

When a previous model to deliver the childcare service in Rosebery didn't proceed, Council worked in partnership with key stakeholders, including the Western Region Strategic Partnership and Coastal Family Day Care to find a solution.

The Council-owned Blackwood Avenue property has been vacant for some time and listed for sale. The property will now be removed from the market and held for the purpose of family day care use.

As part of their decision to support the service, Council will provide a letter of support for any grant applications sought by Coastal Family Day Care to assist with funding the service establishment. Council will also continue working with the Western Region Strategic Partnership and other key industry stakeholders.

Council's support for the establishment of childcare services in Rosebery continues their commitment to build strong industry partnerships to delivery projects and programs for community benefit, as detailed in the West Coast 2035 Community Plan. The West Coast 2035 Plan also highlighted the importance of Council's role in supporting the delivery of childcare services to the region, as a vital aspect in the support of families and local industry.

West Coast Council also supports the regions only other childcare service – owning the building in which Thrive operate in Queenstown.



13 Blackwood Avenue, Rosebery

REMINDERS

14 AUGUST
Macquarie Heads site invoices due

5 SEPTEMBER
Recycling collection Queenstown, Gormanston/Linda and Strahan

12 SEPTEMBER
Recycling collection Zeehan, Rosebery and Tullah

30 SEPTEMBER
Rates due (full or first instalment)

COUNCIL MEETINGS

26 August

23 September

28 October

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

westcoasttas.com
#westcoasttas

Bendigo Bank Closure

West Coast Council stands with the community in their dismay at the announcement that the Bendigo Bank in Queenstown will be closing its doors in September.

West Coast Mayor Shane Pitt, along with Councillors, General Manager Scott Riley and several politicians, stood alongside over sixty residents at a public meeting on 3 August to voice their concern about the closure.

Despite an invitation, Bendigo Bank representatives did not attend the meeting.

The following motion was supported by all attendees at the meeting:

In light of the West Coast losing its last bank, the Bendigo Bank, the West Coast Community calls on the;

• *Bendigo Bank to cease the closure of the Queenstown Bendigo Bank Branch, and;*

• *Albanese government to respond urgently to the report of the Senate RRAT Committee's inquiry.*

The petition organised by the community will also be concluded.

Council will now follow up actions related to the above motion, continuing discussions with Bendigo Bank representatives, community members, and the Federal Government.

Thank you to those residents who have taken the lead in coordinating a response against the closure, organising a petition and public meeting, and gathering personal impact statements.

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
Jun to August: 9am–4:30pm
September to May: 9am–5pm
13 Esplanade Strahan
Phone: (03) 6471 7171

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



Rosebery Mine

Community Newsletter

August 2025



Image: Epiroc Battery Electric Production Drill

Powering a greener mining future

MMG Rosebery is the first mine in Tasmania to introduce a battery electric production drill to its underground mining fleet.

The Epiroc Simba E70SG is a 34-tonne, 14 metre long underground drill rig designed for blasting holes to open up production areas in mining operations. It is equipped with 150 kW of traction power and a 150 kW battery system, marking another step toward more sustainable mining practices.

This is the first phase in the operations' transition to battery-electric vehicle equipment.

The battery-electric production drill provides the additional benefits of a reduction in noise and vibration for operators of the equipment, reducing heat generation and the emissions of diesel particulate matter,

The multi-million dollar investment in battery electric equipment follows the introduction of three low emission diesel electric loaders into our underground fleet in 2023.

As we navigate higher operational costs and a community expectation to reduce our environmental impact, this highlights our commitment to mining in a more sustainable way.

Applications open for MMG's Vacation Program

Students undertaking their university studies can gain practical experience in the mining industry as part of MMG Rosebery's Vacation Program.

Five positions are being offered across areas including Mining Engineering, Metallurgy, Geology, Geotechnical/Civil Engineering, Surveying, Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering.

Hamish Douglas joined Rosebery Mine as a vacation student late last year, while studying Mechanical Engineering with a major in mining, at the University of Queensland.

He said the program has provided him with valuable hands-on and real-life experience in the mining industry.



Image: Vacation Student Hamish Douglas

Deepest onshore exploration hole in Tasmania

MMG Rosebery mine has drilled the deepest ever exploration hole onshore in Tasmania, at a depth of 2.6 kilometres.

The three-month project has delivered encouraging results and the discovery of further polymetallic resources.

This is significant for the long-term future of MMG Rosebery and the ongoing contribution we make to the local community, the West Coast and more broadly Tasmania for almost 90 years.

This is significant for the long-term future of MMG Rosebery and the ongoing contribution we make to the local community, the West Coast and more broadly Tasmania for almost 90 years.



Image: Exploration drill site

1800 767 664

ROSCOMMUNITY@MMG.COM

MMG.COM/HOME/ROSEBERYFUTURE

MMG.COM/CAREERS

Zeehan Neighbourhood Centre turns Hydro wool into beanies for charity

A participant of the Zeehan Neighbourhood Centre's craft group has turned a donation of wool from Hydro Tasmania into cosy beanies for the community.

June Williams knitted a total of 57 beanies which have been donated to City Mission in Burnie.

Ms Williams said it was a joy to knit the beanies and help others.

"I love to help people and it helps to keep my mind active," said Ms Williams.

"Helping people in need gives me that warm fuzzy feeling."

The craft group is one of the Zeehan Community Centre's regular programs. Participants meet every Tuesday to work on their creative projects together, have a cup of tea, and share ideas.

Zeehan Neighbourhood Centre Manager Mel Sullivan said the craft group was a great way for people to connect.

"The weekly craft session is not only about learning and sharing skills, it's a place to make friends and feel you belong," said Ms Sullivan.

"The donation from Hydro was very exciting and welcomed by all. June has spent many sessions working on beanies for the homeless with the wool we received."

Hydro Tasmania donated the wool to Zeehan Community Centre in 2024 as part of its West Coast Community Benefits Sharing Program.

The program is designed to help fund grass-roots community initiatives and recognise the importance of Tasmania's West Coast communities for Hydro Tasmania.



Zeehan Neighbourhood Centre Craft Group members Jenny Revel, Gloria McBain, Sylvia Jackson, Annie Williams and June Williams with Anne Urquhart MP (second from left)

Circular Head show is on the way



Plans are well underway for the 115th Circular Head Show to be held on Saturday 29th November.

Josh "Pezza" Perry from Perry's Quality Meats, Smithton, and MasterChef Runner-up 2024, will be again showcasing local produce under the banner of Graze the Region.

Apart from the traditional areas of an agricultural show including the various cattle competitions, horse jumping, chopping and the Exhibition Hall, there will be something happening all day for the entire family including:

- Animal Nursery
- Burnie Highland Pipe Band
- Singer, Jeff Power
- Ritchie and the Edith Creek Working Bullocks
- Majick Feathers, an interactive bird display
- Sheaf Tossing competition with Three Classes – Novice, Ladies and Open
- Dog High Jump for small and large dogs
- Sheep dog trial demonstration by Pandara Kelpies
- Shearing demonstration accompanied by the Sea Eagle Spinners and Weavers
- Working blacksmith
- Lynden's laser Tag (Free)

• Pearn's Steam World with their model traction steam engine and music organ

• NW Snake Catchers reptile display

• Historical Machinery Club, Veteran Cars, NW Bird Club

• Unique Chainsaw Sculptures with Eddie Freeman

• Working model display

Opening of the Show occurs at 12 noon followed by the McCains Country Showgirl and Boy Competition with the Smithton & Districts Community Bank Grand Parade at 3pm which is the pinnacle of the day.

For the first time in a number of years there will be a second day of horse jumping classes held on the Sunday following the Show which is open to the public to view.

Admission prices:
Adults: \$15; Children 5-14 Yrs \$10 (\$8 on-line), Under 5 Free

Follow the Circular Head Show Facebook Page to keep up to date with details for the day.

Email: chagsociety@gmail.com
Phone: 0428 581285

The Circular Head Show Society would like to thank all sponsors, without whom there would be no Show.

Bilbo's Cottage is a must stay place

In the July edition of the Echo I wrote about my stay in Little Bird, an airbnb in Smithton and how much I loved it.

The same property has another bnb on the premises called Bilbo's Cottage

and this is another winning place to stay when you travel Tasmania's Northwest.

Situated at the end of a driveway, which makes it very safe and secure, this cottage is quirky, cosy, a little bit mad and very, very comfortable.

I have stayed here twice now and this (and Little Bird) definitely rate among the favourite bnbs that I have stayed in. With its coffee machine, books, games, artworks adorning the walls, whisky, port, gin and wines as well as a great selection of breakfasts, Bilbo's will leave you wanting for nothing more than a few more nights in this delightful cottage.

Located in the Smithton CBD, bookings can be made at [Booking.com](https://www.booking.com) or [Airbnb.com.au](https://www.airbnb.com.au) Phone 0450 911 955 or email littlebirdsmithton@outlook.com





Sisters Beach Playground Renewal Complete

The renewal of Sisters Beach Playground, located at the end of East Boulevard, is now complete, offering an exciting new space for the community to enjoy. The upgrade includes a flying fox,

swing set, multi-age and accessible play equipment, exercise stations, balancing beams, and slides — all designed to complement the natural environment. A natural colour palette and Robinia timber were chosen following

community feedback, helping the playground blend beautifully with its surroundings. Council thanks the community for their input and patience during the works, and invites everyone to come and enjoy the new facilities.

Somerset/Wynyard Outline Development Plan – Public Consultation Ahead

Somerset & Wynyard Tasmania

Waratah-Wynyard Council has prepared Draft Outline Development Plans (ODPs) for potential residential growth along River Road, Wynyard and Malakoff Street, Somerset. These draft plans explore how these areas could be developed in the future to support housing needs and community growth, while considering infrastructure, access, open space, and the local character of each area.

Council has already consulted directly with impacted landowners to inform the preparation of these plans. This process has focused on understanding local perspectives and identifying practical considerations before sharing the draft with the wider community.

Importantly, these draft ODPs are not about rezoning land, and Council is not proposing to rezone any land as part of this process. The plans are intended to provide long-term guidance for potential development if landowners choose to develop in the future, and to help Council plan for supporting infrastructure and services.

The next step is to open the draft ODPs to community consultation, inviting feedback from the broader public before finalising the plans. To have your say, visit the Council website for details on how to view the plans and provide feedback.

www.warwyn.tas.gov.au

FREE

DEMENTIA ACTION WEEK
15 SEP 2025

Dementia Awareness Expo

Virtual Reality Experience
 This session enhances knowledge of dementia through virtual reality technology that allows participants to see the world through the eyes of a person living with dementia.

Session 1: 10:30am-12:00pm
Session 2: 1:00pm - 2:30pm

To book the VR experience, contact:
 ph: 0418 634 699
allison.mcmahon@dementia.org.au

Also on offer:

- Wynyard Historical Society Photo Display
- Vinyl records playing
- Information stalls
- Tea/coffee and light refreshments

Location: Wynyard Yacht Club
 For more info:
 6443 8333

Wonders of Wynyard
 Exhibition & Visitor Information Centre

8 Exhibition Link, Wynyard
wondersofwynyard.com
 03 6443 8330

Open Daily 10am to 4pm

Information, Brochures and Maps · National Parks Passes · Free Wi-Fi and Phone Charging · Giftware and Souvenirs · Veteran Car Collection · Exhibition Centre



Spring Loaded is Here!

Spring is just around the corner — and so is Spring Loaded 2025!

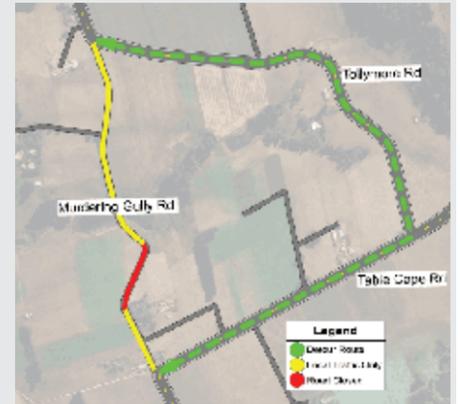
Council is excited to present a jam-packed program of events and activities throughout October. From family-friendly school holiday fun and Seniors Week celebrations to live music, markets, and the iconic Tulip Festival — there's something for everyone.



Council Works and Projects Update

Footpath Works – Saunders Street, Wynyard

Improvement works on the Saunders Street footpath started Monday, 11 August 2025 and are expected to continue through to 22 August (weather permitting). The footpath will be closed



these essential works progress.

Temporary Road Closure – Murdering Gully Road

From Monday, 25 August 2025, Murdering Gully Road will be closed for approximately two weeks to allow for drainage improvements. Local access will be maintained at both ends; please observe detour signage and exercise caution.

Temporary Access Restrictions – Port Road, Boat Harbour Beach

Effective from 5 August 2025, Port Road beyond Cummings Street (Boat Harbour Beach) is restricted to local traffic and deliveries, due to construction of a new sea wall near the café. Access to the beach and café remains open via a pedestrian walkway from the new carpark.

and parking restricted in the work zone during this time. Please follow signage and use caution.

Tree Pruning & Vegetation Clearing – Multiple Roads

Vegetation clearing in preparation for road resheeting is underway from 7 August to 22 August 2025. Roads will be partially accessible to local traffic only. Your patience is appreciated as

For more information on these projects please visit www.warwyn.tas.gov.au.



Community Activation Grants Now Open!

Applications are open for Round One of Waratah-Wynyard Council's Community Activation Grants, offering up to \$2,000 for eligible not-for-profit organisations.

Funding can support events, programs, or small infrastructure projects that deliver social, cultural, recreational, or educational benefits

within the local area.

Applicants must be based and operating in the Waratah-Wynyard LGA, with projects to be delivered locally. Applications close 26 August 2025. Guidelines and the online form are available at:

www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/get-involved/community-grants



New Lights at Langley Park, Somerset

New lighting at Langley Park is earning praise from both the Somerset Football and Cricket Clubs, marking another milestone in the Somerset Sporting Precinct Master Plan.

The upgrade is expected to attract more teams and visitors, boosting local sport and the economy.

This project, funded under Phase 4 of

the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, is one of several improvements planned for the precinct. View the full Somerset Sports Precinct Master Plan at:

www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/projects/somerset-sports-precinct-master-plan

Tales from Emmerton Park - meet the residents

My Life Story – Millie Quilliam



I was born on the 23rd of August 1931 at the family home in Alcomie, about 14km from Smithton. I was one of twelve children. We didn't have electricity at our place until I was older, I can't remember exactly when, but we didn't miss what we didn't have.

I was a good girl growing up, but I was a bit cheeky too. I liked getting into

mischief. I remember one day when Dad was sick in bed, and I kept running up and down the veranda. That didn't go down too well when Dad eventually got up!

We lived on a 150-acre dairy farm. All us kids worked in the dairy before and after school. We had 30 cows to milk by hand then. Dad and his brother Jack did all the other jobs on the farm, it was mostly bush back then, so there was a lot of clearing to be done.

It wasn't all work, though. I remember the day Uncle Bill said he had an orphaned lamb. I worked on Dad until he gave in and as soon as he said yes, I ran off before he could change his mind! I called her Flossy and raised her myself. We

had her for 10 years. I also used to play with our cattle dog, "Pooie." I can't remember why he was called that, but he was a good dog.

I left school at 13. I would have loved to go further with my education; I always longed to be a nurse. Instead, I looked after my younger brothers and sisters, any

baby, stray or sick animal I could find.

I have fond memories of the Sunday School picnics growing up in the Northwest. We'd go to places like Montagu, Irishtown, Trowutta, and Godfreys Beach at Stanley. I couldn't swim, but I'd still go into the water and pretend I could. Goodness knows what I looked like, no one ever tried to save me! We played all sorts of games, slippery pig, sack races, and the Lolly Man. We'd sew lolly bags onto his clothes (we call him "The Goose,") and chase him around trying to pluck off all of the bags.

I met my husband Ernest, Ernie at the Sunday School picnics. I'd always known him, but one day he just stood out in the crowd. He was just nice, not too tall, just right. He liked to talk and was a bit cheeky, like me. He got on really well with Dad, which was lucky for me.

Ernie and I got married in 1952. Soon after, we bought a farm at Irishtown and started our family. We were blessed with six children—Edwin, Ruth, Sue, Noel, Bevan, and Jamie. The kids played outside all the time—there was no TV in those days! Ruth and Sue both followed the nursing path I once dreamed of Edwin and Jamie worked on the farm, Noel started as a teacher, and Bevan went on to study science at university.

Later we moved to Hervey Bay with our two youngest children for a couple

of years caring for children from the out-back. But the call of home was strong. We returned to the Northwest and eventually bought back my family farm. Our son Edwin eventually took over the farm in the late 1960s.

We donated about 30 acres to the Riverbend Trust through our church, and that's how the Riverbend Youth Centre began in 1970. Local kids came to stay in bunk beds, take part in Bible studies, and played games. The flying fox was the favourite, but there was also a hurdy-gurdy, ponies, and old car bonnets used as sleds. We even had rodeos back then, it was great fun.

Ernie and I were the camp parents. We'd have around 100 kids at a time, plus the leaders. We looked after everyone who stayed. The meals and desserts were all homemade using local produce, they were magnificent.

After we retired, Ernie and I travelled quite a bit. We especially enjoyed visiting missionaries around the world. But home was always where the heart was.

In 2021 I was Circular Head Senior Citizen of the year in recognition for all the community service and mentoring of young people which was a great honour.

I now live at Emmerton Park—and I'm very happy.



THE CHARTS FESTIVAL 2025

AUGUST 31 TO OCTOBER 5

Circular Head - North West Tasmania

Look out for nesting birds on our beaches

As you walk along the beach this spring, keep an ear out for the squeaking call of oystercatchers as they fly by and watch out for plovers darting at the water's edge picking up insects, sandhoppers and crabs to eat.

The north-west coast of Tasmania is home to many charismatic beach-nesting birds such as Pied and Sooty Oystercatchers, the threatened Hooded Plover and the tiny Red-capped Plover. These birds typically spend all year in coastal habitats, nesting through spring and summer on the beach.

It is now fast approaching the time of year when beach nesting birds will form a shallow scrape in the sand, just above the high-water mark, and lay their eggs. The eggs blend in with the sand and shell grit on which they sit so that they are less obvious to predators. This camouflage, plus the lack of an obvious nest, makes it easy for eggs to be accidentally stepped on. If you see an adult plover or oystercatcher behaving unusually on the beach, dragging a wing as if it were broken, this is their way of distracting you away from their nest. Be careful where you tread, move away from the bird and down to the water's edge.

Starting out life as a young chick on the

beach can be fraught with dangers. They are small, hard to see and cannot fly for up to five weeks. While the parents try to protect them, the small fluffy chicks can very easily be taken by predators such as cats, gulls and ravens, stepped on or picked up by a dog, and run over by vehicles on the beach. For these and other reasons, the survival of chicks can be low.

Sharing space on beaches with these endearing birds is important for their survival. Spring and summer are when most people visit the beach and human activities can disturb breeding birds. Beach goers can reduce this disturbance by keeping dogs on leads when walking on the beach, not driving on the beach, and not walking or driving up into dunes and above the high-water mark where there may be nests – stick to the water's edge!

Beaches are important havens for wildlife which are not always obvious and easy to see. This spring, keep a look out for beach nesting birds and other shorebirds on the beach and remember to give them some space! *Vicki Stokes, Biodiversity Program Manager 24 July 2025*



Hooded Plover): Hooded Plover adult feeding amongst wrack on the beach for invertebrates.



The simple nest of a Red-capped Plover is just a scrape in the coastal substrate. The nest is very exposed and so it is important the two eggs are well camouflaged.



Sooty Oystercatchers prefer rocky coastal shores where they use their long bright bills to prise open molluscs.

Tales from a Zeehan graveyard

MAN RUN OVER BY TRAIN BETWEEN ZEEHAN AND DUNDAS

At about 8 o'clock in the evening of Easter Monday, 1 April, 1907, William Thomas "Kelly" Mathieson was killed when he was struck by a train returning to Zeehan from Dundas. Mathieson, who was originally from Malmsbury in Victoria, was aged 38 and had lived in Dundas for about sixteen years, while working mainly at the Comet mine.

A Coronial Enquiry was held at the Caledonian Hotel the next afternoon before Coroner Chambers and a jury of seven.

The first witness called was Dr. Butler who deposed he had seen the remains of the body in the morgue. The body presented the appearance of being run over by a train, and death must have been instantaneous. The body was completely and terribly mutilated, there hardly being an intact bone. Mary Mathieson stated that her husband had left home about 9:30a.m. planning to visit a friend in the Hospital, then go to the races, and return home on the last train. When he left he was in the best of health and in good spirits, kissing both her and the children.

Albert Thomas Cowburn, licensee of the Shelverton Hotel deposed that Mathieson had eaten tea there, and appeared somewhat drunk. He thought Mathieson had left the hotel between 6 and 7 p.m.

Thomas James Westbrook, who was on the West Coast looking for work, deposed that he had left Zeehan on foot at 8:45p.m. that night, and after walking about (2.5 kilometres) he

noticed a body lying across the rails. Prior to this he had not seen anyone else. He went back to Zeehan, and reported it to the police. He returned with the police and had then looked around and found two boots, a tie and a handkerchief, and he had also noticed a pool of blood on the ground.

While travelling out with the police they had met three men, William Vernon, and Thomas and John Jones, who had also seen the body and were going into Zeehan to report it. Vernon also testified at the Enquiry providing corroborative evidence.

Sergeant Lonergan deposed that after being told of the discovery of the body at 9:45p.m. he informed the Superintendent, obtained a trolley from the stationmaster, and then proceeded to the scene of the accident. He described the state of the body before saying he had searched the clothing and found a shilling, a return ticket Zeehan to Dundas, some papers, and a cherrywood pipe. He had examined the train line and found several body parts and traces of blood over about (45 metres) on the Dundas side of the body, as well as a broken bottle. He believed that Mathieson had been struck by the train coming from Dundas, and dragged along over the above-mentioned distance. He had taken the remains to the morgue, and then inspected the engine, on the right-hand side of which he found traces of what appeared to be brain matter.

The next witness called was Samuel Craig, the driver of the train running

to and from Dundas that night. He said the train consisted of three carriages and two vans. He had left Zeehan at 6:30 p.m., and Dundas at 7:40p.m., and arrived back at Zeehan at 8:10, travelling at about 12 to 15 miles per hour. On the way to Dundas, he noticed nothing unusual, but on the return journey there was a period when he felt that the engine was going over something like gravel on the rails. He did not consider it unusual. He had kept an extra sharp lookout, as the night was dark, and sometimes there were cattle wandering. He was sure that Mathieson was not standing up at the time, otherwise he would have seen him. He had shut off the steam, and was leaning out of the window looking for cows. Fireman Ray Connors, and Guard James Ryans were on duty with him. That morning, he had inspected the engine, and found blood on the cow-catcher, and something like flesh on the top headlight.

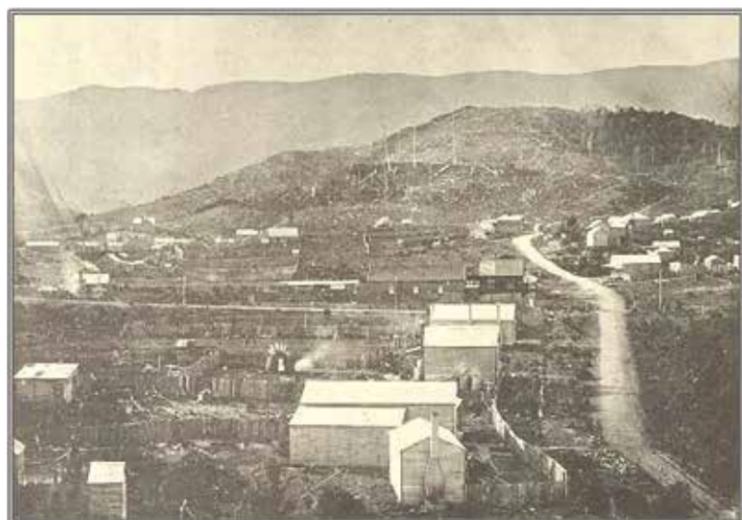
James Evans, who was in charge of the Tasmanian Government Railways Number 11 train from Maestri's (a terminus 2.2km past Dundas) to

Zeehan, said they left at 7:20p.m. and reached Zeehan on time. He observed nothing out of the ordinary during the trip, but he did say that Mathieson had caught an earlier train at the Racecourse about 5:45p.m., and had travelled into Zeehan. He was far from sober then.

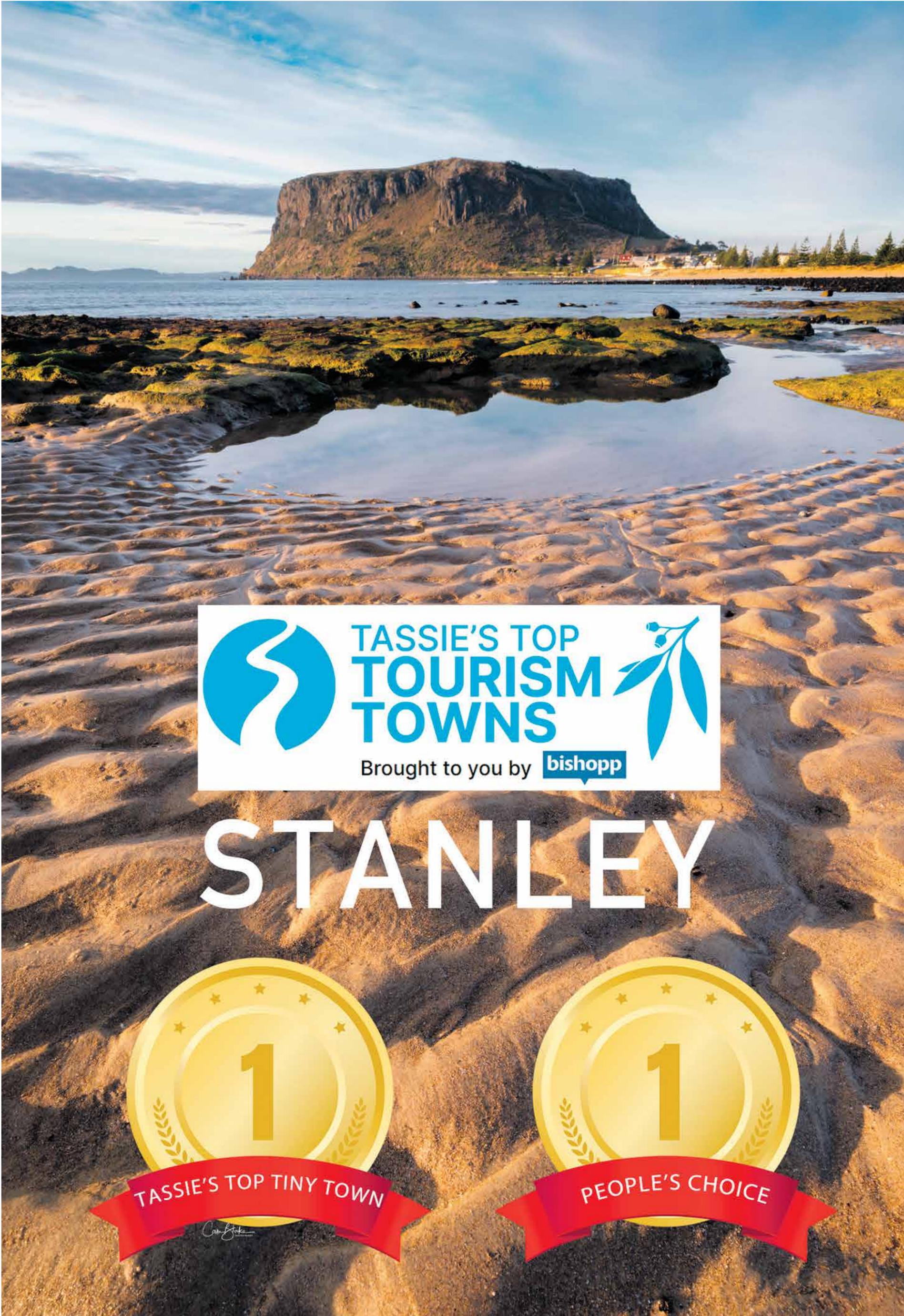
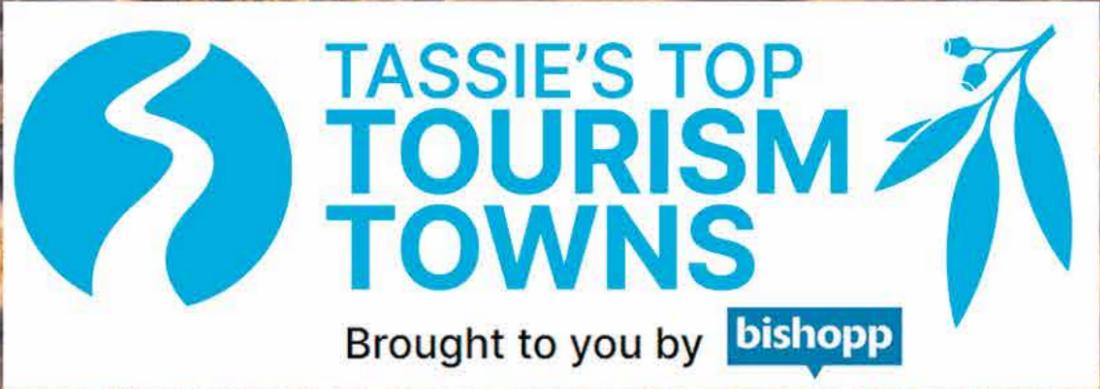
The coroner summed up, before the jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

The funeral of William T. Mathieson left the Zeehan and Dundas Hospital at 2:30p.m. the following Wednesday afternoon. It is known where he was buried but no physical trace remains today.

This is an abridged excerpt taken from books edited by Malcolm Ready, *Burials at the Zeehan General (Pioneer) Cemetery.*



The township of Dundas, home of Thomas Mathieson. (Tasmanian Mail, 13 July 1907.)

**TASSIE'S TOP
TOURISM
TOWNS**

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STANLEY



TASSIE'S TOP TINY TOWN

Cambridge



PEOPLE'S CHOICE

Italian POW's on Northwest Tassie farms

Italian prisoners of war (POWs) were captured in 1941 during the North Africa campaign of the Second World War. In September 1943, Australia received a significant number of Italian POWs, primarily from British camps in India. Approximately 13,000 Italian POWs were transferred to Australia, with 950 of them being allocated to Tasmania

During this time Australia faced a severe labour shortage due to a large number of men enlisting in the army and fighting overseas. To address this, the Australian government initiated a program that involved allocating prisoners to individual farms to work as labourers. This scheme aimed to alleviate the labour shortage and ensure agricultural production continued despite the war. The program was considered successful, fostering close relationships between prisoners and their hosts, with some continuing even after the war.

The Italian POWs were paid a weekly wage of one pound, and they were employed by farmers who applied for their labour. Farmers who applied for POW labour had to meet certain requirements, such as providing suitable lodgings, meals, and any necessary working clothes. A limit of three prisoners per farm was typically imposed to ensure a more even distribution of labour.

Many farming families in the Waratah-Wynyard district employed POWs. Some of the local farmers were; Bauld at Oldina and Flowerdale, Busby at Doctors Rocks, Elphinstone at Myalla, Hyland at Mt Hicks, Jones at Henrietta, Lowrie at Oldina, Margetts at Flowerdale, Meredith at Wynyard and McKenzie at Seabrook.

Historian Dr Ian McFarlane, author of

Italian Prisoners of War in North West Tasmania 1943–1946, has researched and written about their experiences, including an article on Mr Alfred Jones, a mixed farmer at Henrietta. There were two POWs assigned to the Jones property. They were Petro Sigolini and Cesario Securo.

Mr Jones' son Lance revealed the pair were popular, worked hard and impressed with their cooking skills. In Lance's words:

"They used to do quite a bit of cooking and sometimes helped Mum out – they shared their meals with us in the house. Mum tried to cook dishes they liked, ordering pasta from Burnie, but some of the ingredients were unobtainable. The Italians used to laugh at the quality of our food compared to what they were used to – they thought that our olive oil was rubbish, for example. Our

blokes used to grow their own tobacco and make their own wine – they were very industrious and would have a go at anything. Cesario was what we used to call a horse pug – he was very handy with horses."

After Petro and Cesario were repatriated in 1946 the Jones family received several letters from them.

While some POWs experienced harsh conditions, others found that working on farms provided a more tolerable experience compared to the camps. Despite being prisoners of war, many formed close relationships with the farmers and their families, with stories of shared meals, social activities, and even the teaching of Italian language and songs. While many POWs were eventually repatriated back to Italy after the war, some chose to return to Tasmania and settle here.

The story of the Italian POWs in Tasmania is a testament to the resilience of human connection during wartime and the capacity for empathy and understanding to bridge divides. It highlights a lesser-known aspect of Tasmania's wartime history and the enduring impact of these interactions.

To learn more about the history of the Waratah Wynyard district, contact the Wynyard Historical Society by email wynyard.historical@gmail.com or visit us at Room 1, Wynyard Community Centre, Little Goldie Street Wynyard, 2-4pm Mondays.



The Jones family with Cesario Securo (left) and Petro Sigolini (front) at Henrietta



Cesario Securo and Petro Sigolini doing their washing at the Jones farm at Henrietta

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Circular Head Corner

Connecting our Community

Circular Head Council
(03) 6452 4800
council@circularhead.tas.gov.au
www.circularhead.tas.gov.au



Discover CHArts Festival 2025!

Circular Head Tasmania

It's almost that time of year again – CHArts Festival 2025 is set to bring a burst of colour, music, and creativity to Circular Head this September... and the brand-new festival brochure is out now!

Packed with a month's worth of events, the CHArts program has something for everyone – from live music, pop-up exhibitions and community theatre to the famous MOO'D day, the invigorating

Spring Swim, and the toe-tapping Sounds Around Town. Plus, don't miss your chance to enter competitions like the \$2,000 CHArtschibald Award.

Whether you're an art lover, a music fan, a foodie, or just looking for something different to do, CHArts is your ticket to a September full of fun.

Grab your copy of the brochure now – available on the Council website and at local outlets – and start planning your festival adventure!



FOGO Bins Arriving Soon

Smithton & Stanley Circular Head

From 28 August to 3 September, Stanley and Smithton households will receive their new lime-green FOGO (Food Organics and Garden Organics) bins.

The new service starts in September and will turn kitchen and garden waste into compost for local farms, helping cut landfill, reduce emissions and save money.

FOGO will be collected fortnightly, with urban areas moving to fortnightly general waste collection to match rural areas.

Look out for your bin delivery and information pack. Together, we can make a big difference.

Find out more at
www.circularhead.tas.gov.au/FOGO
or call (03) 6427 4646
hello@nwrrr.com.au.



Have Your Say on Circular Head's Future

Circular Head, Tasmania

What do you want Circular Head to look like in 2050? Circular Head Council is inviting locals to help shape two major plans that will guide our region for decades to come – Community Vision 2050 and the Population Strategy 2025–2050.

The Vision 2050 plan captures the big picture – our shared aspirations for the environment, community, economy, places, and leadership. The Population Strategy focuses on how we can grow from 8,300 to 10,000 residents by 2050,

attracting new people while keeping what makes our region special.

Now it's your turn to get involved. Both drafts are open for feedback until 22 August 2025. You can review the plans online or join one of our August drop-in sessions to share your ideas in person.

Mayor Gerard Blizzard says it best: "This is about our community's future – we want to hear from everyone."

See the draft plans and have your say at:

www.circularhead.tas.gov.au

SMITHTON VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

A VISITOR CENTRE WITH A DIFFERENCE!

Open Daily 9 am - 5 pm
Sat, Sun, Public Holidays 10 am - 2 pm

- Free Information, Brochures, Maps
- Accommodation & Tour Bookings
- Robotic Dairy Tours
- Milk Sales, Cheese Tastings & Sales
- National Parks Passes
- Free WIFI & Computer Usage
- Giftware & Souvenirs
- Theatrette, Cafe, & Museum

Our back paddock

Museum Kids under 15 FREE

Cheese, Honey tastings and sales. Milk fresh from the dairy

Pavilions Cafe Milkshakes and treats

See the cows being milked by robots

CONTACT US: 03 64 135 333
12 Nelson Street, Smithton, Tasmania
www.stanleyandtarkine.com.au
www.discoverthetarkine.com.au



Weeks Left to Apply for Community Grants in Circular Head

Circular Head, Tasmania

Applications for Round One of the 2025–26 Circular Head Community Grants Program will close on 31 August 2025.

The program offers grants of up to \$3,000 to eligible not-for-profit organisations to support projects that benefit the local community. Funding can assist with a wide range of initiatives, including events, facility improvements, and equipment purchases.

One of last year's recipients, the Forest Sports Centre (known locally as The Blackberry), used their grant to upgrade their playground, creating a more welcoming space for local families. The project was also supported by Saputo and local volunteers.

Pictured are Cr Oldaker and Cr Dawes with committee members, families, and Saputo staff at the upgraded facility.

For more information and to apply, visit:

<https://www.circularhead.tas.gov.au>

STRINGS ON FIRE



The music of Queen and Coldplay

Saturday 13 September - 7pm at Stanley Town Hall
\$40 - Tickets via Humanitix



GET IN THE MOO'D

FOR A DAY OF FOOD, FUN & FLAVOUR!

FEATURING TASSIE'S BEST BEEF COOKED BY
2024 MASTER CHEF RUNNER-UP JOSH 'PEZZA' PERRY



Cape Grim Beef - Robbins Island Wagyu - Perry's Quality Meats

Free La Cantara Artisan Cheeses Tasting

Free Robotic Dairy Tours - Pavilions Cafe House Made Meals and Desserts

Market Stalls - Live Music - Games - Face Painting - Art and Craft Activities

SUNDAY 21 SEPTEMBER, 11AM - 3PM
DUCK RIVER PAVILIONS, 12 NELSON STREET, SMITHTON



BE BRAVE

Spring Swim



SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER, 2PM

GODFREY'S BEACH, STANLEY

Wear pink for this cold water plunge and a chance to win \$100!

Register early to save time on the day.



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 Circular Head Council, 33 Goldie St (PO Box 348), Smithton TAS 7330, with office hours from 8:15am 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@circularhead.tas.gov.au.

UP-Market: Where fashion, friendship, and community come together

Three women - Denise Hamilton, Natalie Smith, and Joanna Jolly share a passion for community, connection - and a little bit of shopping. Together, they dreamed of creating something that was fun, light-hearted, and meaningful - a space where women could connect, share stories, support local causes, and enjoy fashion with heart.

They imagined an event where good clothes could find new homes, where sustainability wasn't a trend but a way of life, and where every person involved felt seen, valued, and part of something bigger.

Now, that dream is becoming a reality. Welcome to UP-Market.

A Market with Meaning

UP-Market is a curated indoor fashion market that makes it easy to sell your quality clothing - and even easier to enjoy the experience. As part of the Annual CHarts Festival this event is set to inspire women to get creative and find that unique fashion piece that complements their style and completes their look!

Using our simple 'Hire a Hanger' system, you can rent hanger space for just \$2.50 each. We provide the tags, handle all the sales, and even offer a card payment option for shoppers. After the event, your earnings are transferred directly to your bank account via EFT.

No online listings. No endless messag-

es. No strangers on your doorstep.

And most importantly - all hanger hire proceeds go directly to North West wildlife rescuers, helping care for injured and orphaned animals right here in our community.

Held at the much-loved Lanigans, this event is about more than shopping - it's about sharing. Catch up with friends, browse our market racks, enjoy a cheeky drink or something tasty to eat, and soak up live music from the incredibly talented Eloise Walter.

Register to sell via Humanitix
Sunday 7th September @ Lanigans,
11am - 3pm

Live music, local food & fashion, and beautiful company

All hanger proceeds go to local wildlife rescue



DIVERGE Skyruns coming soon to a mountain near you



Runners, part of the new DIVERGE Skyruns, taking in the views from Mt Owen

The West Coast will be home to a brand-new sky and trail running festival starting in 2026, with the announcement of DIVERGE Skyruns.

Around 500 runners are expected to take part in the 3-day event, that will be based in Queenstown and see runners traverse the ridgelines of Mt Owen and Mt Lyell, as well as the surrounding trails and even the Queenstown Airfield.

Trail Ventures, which also puts on the successful Kunanyi Mountain Run in Hobart, will deliver the event, which is presented by the global outdoor brand Arc'teryx.

Trail Ventures Director Lincoln Quilliam said excitement has rippled through the Australian skyrunning and trail run-

ning communities since its launch in early August. "The West Coast mountains are epic and deserve to be recognised as that.

"We're really stoked to be partnering with the West Coast community, the council, with the support of the Tasmanian Government, to make DIVERGE Skyruns a reality," Lincoln Quilliam said. Queenstown-born Alice McGushin, who now lives in Canberra, is excited to have a world-class event like DIVERGE come to her hometown.

"It's so nice that other people from around Australia, from around the world, will see what it's like," Dr McGushin said.

"We already have people from Hong

NAIDOC Week with Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation celebrates culture, community and the next generation



The Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation (CHAC) hosted vibrant and heartfelt NAIDOC Week celebrations in Smithton in early July, bringing together community members, Elders, partner organisations, and—most importantly—local youth, in a day that honoured the 2025 NAIDOC theme: The Next Generation: Strength, Vision and Legacy.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of NAIDOC Week, and CHAC's event reflected that legacy through a celebration steeped in culture, community pride, and a deep commitment to the future.

Camilla Woolley, CHAC's Culture Manager, opened the event with an Acknowledgement of Country that set the tone for the day. "The 2025 NAIDOC theme invites us to celebrate the young people who are already shaping our future, while continuing to honour the strength and sacrifices of those who came before," she said. "They are leading with vision—imagining and building a future grounded in truth, respect, and justice."

Youth involvement was central to the celebrations, with young people taking part in cultural performances, leading dances, and raising the Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, and Australian flags during the ceremony in the Flag Raising Ceremonies held on the Monday of NAIDOC Week. Their presence, energy and pride embodied the theme in action—representing both the legacy of

their Elders and the promise of a strong future.

The central day for CHAC is the Community Day held on the Wednesday of the week; the day featured a rich cultural program including a traditional smoking ceremony and dance, as well as a feast of cultural foods such as abalone, muttonbird, wallaby, oysters and crayfish. These were complemented by native bush flavours including pepperberry and Kakadu plum, celebrating the connection to land and tradition through taste.

A range of activities invited hands-on participation, including bush tucker tastings, snake viewings, and drumbeat sessions—encouraging cultural learning in fun, engaging ways for all ages.

Woolley's words echoed throughout the day: "When we invest in the next generation, we honour our past, strengthen our present, and create a future where culture and community continue to thrive—for everyone."

The event drew strong community attendance and engagement from partner organisations, all coming together in celebration and support of Aboriginal culture, leadership, and resilience.

CHAC thanks all those who attended, contributed and shared in this special day. The success of the event stands as a reflection of a community walking forward together, rooted in legacy, guided by culture, and inspired by the strength and vision of its young people.

Kong and Europe planning to run the inaugural event," Mr Quilliam said.

But he expects, and hopes, West Coasters will also embrace the event.

"We'll have shorter trail runs which will be perfect for those who might be newer to running, or to trail running, or those who make the Zeehan parkrun a regular part of their week".

"The West Coast community is central to this event. Where a dollar can be spent in the West Coast, it will.

The DIVERGE Skyruns team will be holding a community run, and meet and greet on Friday September 12 at 4pm, at the Queenstown train station, and invites the West Coast community to come along and have a chat.

There is also significant trail maintenance work that will be required, with

plans to "reclaim the Lyell Comstock railway from the bush" as it will be a key feature of the event's skyrunning courses. "It took 3 very big days, but we have now groundtruthed it and the formation is definitely still there.

"It will be an absolutely epic tourism walk and run once it is cleared, well beyond our event," Mr Quilliam said.

Trail Ventures is currently fundraising funds to employ local people for 3 months of track work to get ready for the event, starting in October.

The DIVERGE Skyruns team looks forward to running with the local community on 12 September.

DIVERGE Skyruns is supported by the Tasmanian Government through Events Tasmania.

Tasmania unveils Australia's first 'Tub Trail' experience



In a celebration of wellness, nature, and regional charm, Tasmania is now home to Australia's first Tub Trail, a unique tourism initiative placing the state on the map for travellers seeking something truly different.

The Tub Trail of Tasmania at Tubs of Tasmania is a collection of beautifully placed and unique bathing tubs, set across some of the state's most scenic locations, including our own North West & West coasts. From coastal cliffs to lush rainforest, visitors can soak in warm waters under open skies, immersed in Tasmania's dramatic natural beauty. It's a "wow" experience where luxury meets wilderness.

The concept was brought to life by Judy Martin, founder of Tubs of Tasmania, who was born in Rosebery and spent her school yrs in the North West. "The rest of the world has finally caught up with the beauty of the West and North West coasts," she says.

Spearheaded by Judy, Tubs of Tasmania has now created a Tubs Trail around the state. Here in the NW and West, it stretches from the rugged coastline near Stanley to rolling hills and forest hideaways. Each location offers a different kind of soak, overlooking Bass Strait,

tucked deep in rainforest, or under a canopy of stars.

"The Tub Trail is about creating immersive, sensory experiences," says Judy. "It's wellness tourism with a distinctly Tasmanian soul, raw, beautiful, and deeply relaxing."

Local operators and tourism centres across the West and North West have embraced the idea, and Tubs of Tasmania is inviting more accommodation providers that have a tub to join the trail and Tubs community. Many of the tub stays can be paired with local produce, artisan goods, and cultural storytelling connecting visitors with the heart of the region.

From the heritage charm of Stanley and The Nut, to Table Cape's farmgate food and the wild Tarkine edge, the West & North West is rich in natural wonder and warm hospitality. Now, with Tubs of Tasmania leading the way, the region is emerging as one of Australia's newest wellness destinations.

For those looking to slow down, switch off, and soak up the scenery, take a peek at www.tubsoftasmania.com.au or follow them on Instagram @tubsoftasmania

For those who have a tub in the region and want to highlight it, we suggest contacting Judy or join via the website.

Those three four wise monkeys



Bronte, Faith, Sarah & Danieka looked warm and cosy sitting at the recent Crows versus Saints footy match last weekend and I couldn't resist asking them to pose for the camera. Normally it would be the three wise monkeys; see no evil, speak no evil and hear no evil. In this case though we get the fourth monkey glued to a mobile phone. Sign of the times I guess. *Alan/Ed*

Celebrating Women Who Make a Difference Soroptimist Event Shines a Light on Local Heroes

Soroptimist International of Circular Head is gearing up to honour the quiet achievers of our community at the 2025 Unsung Heroines / Soroptimist Awards, with this year's recipients to be announced at a special celebration on Friday, 22 August.

These awards recognise women who make a meaningful difference—those who generously give their time, skills, and heart to strengthen our region. They may be the steady hands behind local initiatives, resilient women who have overcome challenges, or compassionate leaders who uplift others through lived experience.

"They're not always in the spotlight, but their impact is lasting and meaningful," said a Soroptimist spokesperson. "This is our chance to say thank you and show just how valued they are."

The awards evening is just one part of a busy season of community involvement for the Circular Head Soroptimists.

On Friday 19 September, the group will present a writing prize at the Art of Words evening—a creative and inspiring celebration of local writers and storytellers.

On Saturday 20 September, they'll host their biggest fundraiser of the year: the Trivia Night at Smithton Primary School. Doors open at 6:45pm for a 7:00pm start, and teams of 6–8 are encouraged. Tickets are \$15 per person and include a shared grazing platter. A bar

will be available for drink purchases, and gold coins will come in handy for bonus games. The night also features a fantastic silent auction with a range of locally donated items.

"It's always such a fun night," the spokesperson added. "You don't need to be a trivia buff to have a great time—and every dollar raised goes straight back into supporting local women, girls, and families."

On Sunday 21 September, Soroptimists will be at the Moo'd community event, adding a playful twist with old-school games that promise fun for all generations.

In recent weeks, the group has also supported the Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation's NAIDOC celebration, contributed to STiCH's mental health event with Justin Koschitzke, sponsored the Strive to Drive program, and hosted at Emmerton Park's Memory Lane café.

Part of a global movement, Soroptimist International works to improve the lives of women and girls through education, empowerment, and advocacy. Here in Circular Head, that mission comes to life through hands-on community service and a strong focus on recognising the everyday women who help make our region a better place for all.

For more information about SICH booking for events and initiatives, follow Soroptimist International of Circular Head on Facebook.



Tassie Kids Need Foster Carers

Foster carers are ordinary, everyday people, just like you. Make an extraordinary difference in the lives of vulnerable children and become a foster carer today!

To find out more scan the QR code or call our team on 0472 869 969

LIFE WITHOUT BARRIERS
lwb.org.au



Strahan airport gets a lick of paint

Strahan Airport recently received some fresh line marking as part of meeting safety and operational requirements associated with being a licensed airport.

The line marking works are usually completed every one to two years, depending upon wear and tear.

Did you know?

The Strahan Airport (along with the Queenstown Airport) is owned and operated by the West Coast Council?

The Strahan Airport is the only licensed airport in the region?

Whilst there's no regular passenger transport (not quite large enough for Jet-

Star, planes land at least twice a week at the Strahan Airport

What's the difference between licenced and unregistered airports?

As a licenced airports the Strahan Airport is open to public and commercial air traffic and follows strict rules and regulations.

As an unlicensed airport, access to the Queenstown Airport is only available via request and the standard of infrastructure is different to that of a licenced airport.

To learn more about our airports visit <https://www.westcoast.tas.gov.au/facilities-and.../airports/>



Hugo's are so friendly



I dropped in to Hugo's in Smithton's main street a short while back and was planning to just have a coffee. That was until I saw one of the staff delivering eggs benedict to another table. Well what is one to do?

I had to see if it tasted as good as it looked. I was very happy I did, the taste was delightful, the staff were all so friendly, the place is cosy and the coffee is great.

Need I say any more? *Alan/Ed*

Supporting Britton Timbers

At it's July Council Meeting, Circular Head Council resolved to back Britton Timbers' submission to Sustainable Timber Tasmania for an allocation of plantation hardwood sawlogs. The decision reflects Council's commitment to strengthening the district's economy and protecting one of the municipality's largest private employers.

Britton Timbers currently employs 125 people, about 20 per cent of Circular Head's manufacturing workforce, and spent more than \$6.25 million with local suppliers in 2022-23. Its operations generate an estimated \$22 million in value-added output across Tasmania each year. A proposed \$15 million upgrade to process plantation timber could add more than 100 new jobs and inject a further \$10 million into the regional economy.

Mayor Gerard Blizzard said Council's backing demonstrated clear confidence in the mill's future.

"Supporting Britton Timbers is supporting our community," Mayor Blizzard said. "Keeping Circular Head-grown logs in the district safeguards existing jobs, creates new ones and drives investment throughout the local supply chain."

General Manager Paul Gardner added that Britton Timbers' success is critical to the region's long-term prosperity.

"The socio-economic benefits are compelling," Mr Gardner said. "Investment in Britton Timbers through the plantation log allocation will help secure the livelihoods of families

and businesses across Circular Head for years to come." Circular Head Council has formally written to Sustainable Timber Tasmania, expressing its strong support for Britton Timbers' and endorsing the company's capacity to deliver significant regional benefits.

Council encourages Sustainable Timber Tasmania to recognise Britton Timber

Home Library Service

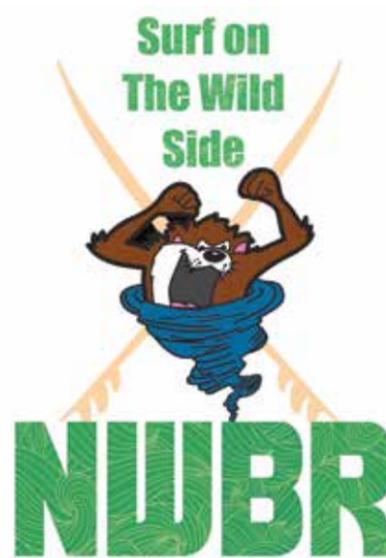
What is the Home Library Service and is it for me?
The Libraries Tasmania Home Library Service is a **free** and convenient way for homebound residents and carers to maintain a vital connection with all that the library offers. The library staff will help you select library materials for reading or listening, and these are regularly delivered to you by our volunteer couriers.

The Home Library Service is available if you:

- have a temporary, recurring or permanent illness or disability which prevents visiting the library in person
- can visit the library but are unable to carry library items home
- live in a private home, aged care facility, hospital, hostel or supported accommodation house
- provide daily care for someone with a disability, who has a medical condition, or who is frail or aged, and you are therefore unable to visit the library during opening hours

Service available for Queenstown, Strahan, Rosebery and Zeehan contact Queenstown Library to arrange your service: Queenstown Library, 9-13 Driffield Street, Queenstown, Tas 7467
Email queenstown.library@education.tas.gov.au, Phone (03) 6495 1530

The Phantom is back!



traditional knockout format if the swell hangs around for long enough!

There will be divisions for Juniors, Opens and 0/40's for both men and women. The long range forecast looks a little sleepy for the next couple of weeks so the event will be in a holding pattern until the swell engine fires up again.

North West Boardriders

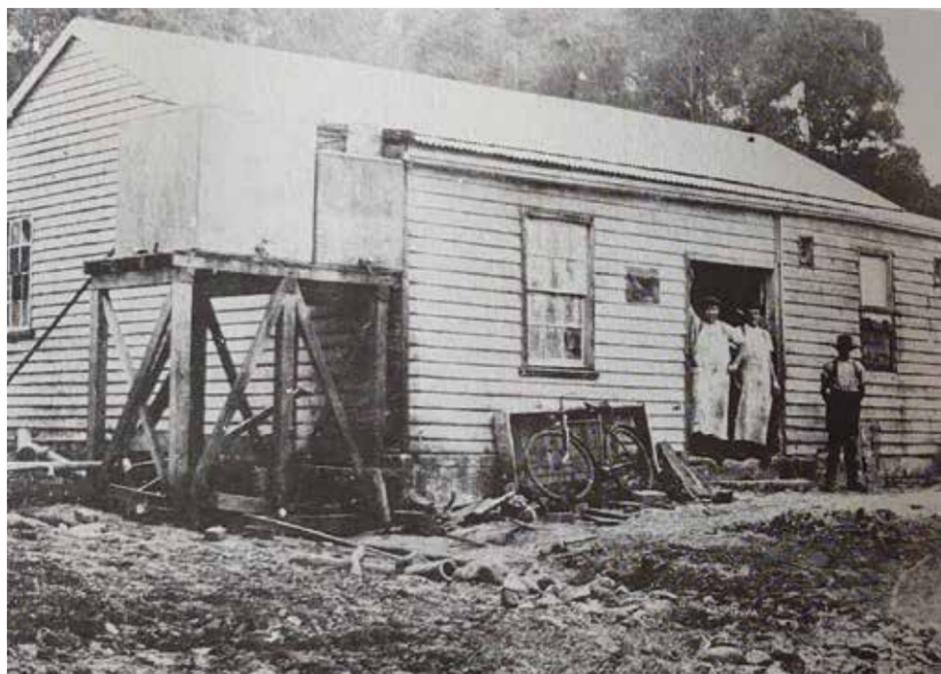


After a hiatus in 2024, North West Boardriders host the 2025 Phantom Coast Classic presented by 100.9 7BU and 101.7 Sea FM.

With a two month waiting period event organisers will be looking for Bass Strait to fire up on a weekend during August/September. A huge pool of cash and prizes are on offer for the event that will feature a flexible format that will depend on conditions and entry numbers.

In the past we have run the Eddie Aikau format, but don't rule out a

Duck River Butter - A Tasmanian institution



The first Duck River Co-operative's factory which began in Smithton in 1904 and was replaced in 1918. From these humble beginnings it grew to be Tasmania's largest single unit butter factory. It's record production was 4106 tons in the 1970-71 season

The Duck River Cooperative Butter Factory Company was founded in 1904. The factory was a small wooden building on Irish Town Road (Later changed to Goldie Street.) Cream collection was done by horse and cart, over muddy tracks from Sunny Hills (Nabageena), East and West Montagu, Irishtown, Scotchtown, Mowbray Swamp, Mengha, Forest, Black River and Christmas Hills.

From these very humble beginnings it grew into Tasmania's largest single butter factory.

The speculation on building a new factory was discussed for many years, before building started in 1917.

'The new building will be one of the most up to date in the Commonwealth, and as we shall also have some of the best machinery procurable, we humbly solicit the support of all dairymen in the district'-Chairman F. J. Parsons.

The new factory was officially opened Wednesday 25 September 1918.

A stone tablet was built into the base of the wall-

'The Duck River Cooperative Butter Factory Co. Ltd.

Directors G. E. Allen, A. Beattie, L.W. Brooks, G.H. Boatwright, A Champion, W. Geale, K.M. Harrison, S. Moore

Chairman F.C. Parsons, Manager H. Carr Secretary E.C. Howe.

Charles I. Rice Melb. March 31 1917.'

Charles I. Rice also built a very similar butter factory in Victoria, using a mixture of the arts and craft style and Queen Anne and French Chateau.

It would appear that the original board members were so invested in the new factory that they donated their own time and money, at various times throughout the years. Credit must also be given the various men on the board and different managers, who had the foresight to expanded and contract and diversify over the next 60 years.

There were many problems over the next 10 years. The 1929 floods caused a serious loss of supply, also the great depression, breakdowns, refrigeration problems and clean water.

An upgrade in equipment, clean water

and better hygiene created a better-quality product and 1938,39, & 40 were record years. In 1937 there was a general store which sold cream cans, pig food and dairy equipment.

In 1938 the factory was enlarged by the addition of a new wing to the receiving room for cream cans. This allowed enough floor space for 80 tons of butter a week. An additional store room was also built.

At this time an update to the existing piggery, which was located at the south end of the current St. Peter Chanel School.

A manager's residence was also built at the southern end of the factory, along with a garage.

The new Bacon Factory and abattoir was built in 1951.

In 1957 the Duck River Butter Co. Op. also built a new garage in Upper Havelock Street. for servicing their own vehicles, as well as helping farmers with their farm equipment.

The 19th of September 1958 was a huge day for the company as the Tasmanian Premier Eric Reece opened the new store and offices. This store had showrooms, a self-service grocery section, meat, clothing, farm produce, paint and hardware.

In 1965 another extension to the factory was built for the purpose of receiving bulk milk to produce casein powder.

The 1950s ,60s and 70s were the "Golden years of production" for the company. With record production of butter, cheese, bacon and meatworks. Exports flourished along with Australian markets.

In 1972 a decision was made by the Directors, and supported by the shareholders, of both companies to 'rationalise production' and centralise Tasmanian's milk production.

Therefore, the Table Cape Butter and Bacon Factory Company Limited and the Duck River Cooperative Butter Factory Company Limited merged to form United Milk Products. U.M.P.

The next merger was with the Ledgerwood's North East Co. Op. Dairy Soci-



Many additions were made to the original buildings over the decades and will forever be part of Tasmanian history but now the building is up for sale and looking rather sad.

ety Ltd. And Devonport's North West Co. Op. Dairy Co. Ltd. companies and UMP in 1983 and the name changed to United Milk Tasmania. The Duck River Butter Factory closed and butter production moved to Wynard.

The Duck River Butter is now made at Fonterra in Spreyton, still using the original recipe.

For Circular Head, the company closed or disposed of all its factories in the municipality. Butter, cheese, casein and piggery, all ceased manufacturing. In 1988 the Edith Creek powdered milk factory closed. Although in 1990 a 50/50 contract between UMT and Classic Foods for packaging UHT long-life milk, kept the factory working. It is now owned by Dutch Mills. In 1987-8 UMT Meat Products sold to Blue Ribbon, and it is now Greenhams. The new retail store and garage in Upper Havelock Street was opened in 1985 by The Hon. Robin Grey, MHA, now Nutrien Ag. Solutions.

The Circular Head Council bought the Trading Store and offices in 1984 and after extensive renovations opened in 1986.

For almost 80 years the Duck River Butter Factory was a huge part of the lives of the population of Circular Head.

It was the biggest employer for many, many years. Numerous local families and sometimes generations of families worked for the company. Between the butter factory, cheese factories, powdered milk factories, the abattoirs, garages, stores and offices, not to mention the dozens of dairies, hundreds of locals worked for the company over the years.

Along with the various boards and managers, the workers considered themselves part of the company family.

A dark heavy cloud of gloom and sadness hung over the town for many years, after the closure of the factory. Many are disappointed with the disrepair of the building today in 2025.

The factory has been used for some sports, but it has been vacant for many years. It was owned by Tas Seafoods and Van Dairy Ltd., and is currently for sale.

The Circular Head Heritage Centre has a pop-up photo exhibition on the building of the factory and some workers, please call in and add your family stories.

Written by Elayne Blake

References: 'The Duck' A history of the Smithton CBD 1856-1996 by Bruce Grey; Born of Necessity by Margery Godfrey & Ron Neilson; C. H. Chronicle; C. H. Heritage Centre.



I was fortunate to be let inside the building to take photos, and after all these years there are still butter wrappers across the floor in some areas. Alan/Ed

Influenza outbreak and Tasmanian healthcare in 1919

With the influenza season currently upon us, it is interesting to look back at the world-wide epidemic in 1919 which had so many casualties.

Spanish influenza swept the world in 1918-19 and killed about 10,000 Australians after reaching here towards the end of the epidemic.

Strict quarantine measures reduced its impact in Australia but did not prevent severe disruptions to everyday life.

In 160 Years of the Mercury 1854-2014, it was reported that

Over a period of about three weeks in August and September 1919, production of the Mercury was disrupted to varying degrees due to the flu.

The number of pages was reduced on several occasions, some news items and advertising material had to be omitted, and delivery was interrupted as newsboys fell ill.

When the influenza outbreak was rampant in Melbourne, the local health officer, Dr McCausland, inoculated a large number of residents as a precaution.

Some relief was expressed when the s.s. Marawah was quarantined due to a case of influenza on board as this was a direct link from Melbourne to Stanley.

Some essential commodities like sugar and flour were sold in small lots until stocks could be replenished.

When the outbreak did hit the district in November, all schools, Sunday Schools, theatres, public halls were closed and a number of functions were postponed or

cancelled including the Circular Head Show.

A special influenza committee was appointed by the Circular Head Council to manage all matters in connection with the epidemic; to consist of the Warden, Deputy Warden and Treasurer.

Once the outbreak assumed serious proportions, Dr Camm was sent from the Health Department to report on the situation in November. It was considered that prompt action was necessary at Black River, Forest and Stanley with at least four nurses required. It was felt that no provision was necessary for Smithton.

At the time there was a large volume of men working on the Stanley to Myalla railway construction works. When some of the men became ill, the school at Black River was equipped as a hospital and operated for four weeks; 18 patients were admitted with one death. With the large number of school children at Black River approval was to be sought to use the Church of England at Black River as a temporary school.

When the disease spread to Stanley, the committee appointed by the Council, opened the Stanley School as an isolation hospital with 16 patients being treated. The Stanley Red Cross ladies were praised for

their help to equip the hospital and provide milk and broth. The hospital closed on the 6th December.

Fortunately the influenza epidemic proved to be of a fairly mild character and not as severe as in some districts.

The special committee reported that the total cost of maintaining the hospitals, retaining the nurses and preparing the premises ready to receive patients was approximately £366. It reported that

The thanks of the community are due to Dr McCausland for his untiring efforts

and skilful treatment of patients, and so successfully stamping out the serious outbreak.

The Stanley Museum have a large display of medical instruments and items that have previously been donated by Tasmania's Medical Museum which has been disbanded. Among the items donated is Dr H.A. (Harold) Lane's obstetric bag. Dr Lane practiced at Stanley from 1952 for over 25 years.

Compiled by Stanley Discovery Museum



public recycling hub

located at the west coast council chambers - queenstown

recycle your:

- oral care products and packaging
- blister packs
- pens and markers
- razors and packaging
- small e-waste
- mobile phones & accessories

Not just a mine, but a community built from scratch!

The challenge for EZ (Electrolytic Zinc Company) was more than building a state-of-the-art mill in a rugged part of the state—it needed a skilled workforce willing to live in a remote area.

That meant creating not just jobs, but an entire town, and the people who came would need to form a community. Twenty-six acres of the mining lease were set aside for a housing scheme.

Blocks of land were offered to employees at nominal prices, and homes were built.

To support workers and their families, the company helped establish the EZ Co-operative Council (then called the EZ Community Council). This group set up stores in Rosebery and Williamsford so employees could access goods at minimal prices.

EZ aimed to foster a "family atmosphere" that supported every aspect of its workers' lives.

It assisted with transport to and from Zeehan, created an accident insurance fund—quite innovative for the time—and supported initiatives like Co-Op and meat stores, as well as supplying firewood and organising the annual employee picnic at Strahan.

The company also built a Community Hall and purchased beach holiday cottages on the North-West Coast for employee use. The Community Council became involved in nearly every part of daily life. It launched a dental scheme,

offered education scholarships, and lobbied for a road connecting the town to the coast.

A wide variety of social and sporting groups sprang up. There was a brass band, an orchestra, and numerous sporting clubs, including football, cricket, tennis, hockey, and rowing.

Volunteers helped build a wooden tennis court, clear bushland for football ovals, and construct a swimming pool. A grandstand went up in Williamsford, and a gravel cycling track was laid in Rosebery.

This was more than industrial development—it was the foundation of a thriving, self-sustaining community.

And thus a community was born! **Rosebery Heritage Centre Collection**

The Rosebery Heritage Centre is open Monday–Friday, 10 am–2 pm. Entry is by gold coin donation.



Study Hubs update

Study Centre Circular Head

Semester 2 is officially underway, and if you're new or missed the re-registration deadline, it's not too late—drop in and get set up to access our free facilities, now featuring widescreen curved monitors for an even better study experience.

We kick off August with First Aid training on the 7th and 8th, followed by Anaphylaxis First Aid on the 12th. UTAS Nursing students are invited to join local workshops with the Cradle Coast School of Nursing on the 7th and 28th—an excellent opportunity to connect with peers, receive guidance on coursework or assignments, and practice for upcoming pre-PEP (placement) assessments.

On August 11, we'll be at the Circular Head Big Science Gig at the Community & Recreation Centre from 4:30pm. Come along and help us decode the universe! Then on August 21, unleash your creativity at our Patchwork Paint Party, 3–5pm at the Study Centre. Registered students are invited to sip mocktails and paint with friends—check our socials for details.

Looking ahead, we're hosting a UTAS Scholarships and Enrolments session on September 2. If you're considering study in 2026, this is your chance to explore

financial supports and get help with your application.

For updates and event info, follow us on Facebook or Instagram, or reach out to Tony or Patsy at students@studycentrech.com.au

Study Hub West Coast

After a quiet July break, we're back in full swing for Semester 2 - we have been planning more training and fun workshops and are ramping up for August and September.

July saw us reach out to current students to re-register to continue using the Hub. Thanks to all our students who re-registered—your quick responses help us keep things running smoothly.

August is packed: WHS for Managers and Supervisors and Assist with Medication are already booked out, but we're considering more if demand continues. We're also lining up a fully funded Food Safety Supervisor course, plus Confined Space and Working at Heights training later in the month. To book a spot give us a call or drop in for a visit.

September will bring even more opportunities. If you're curious about study options or training for yourself or your business, get in touch at info@studyhubwestcoast.com.au or call 6451 2807.



Get your trip off to a great start with a stay at Crayfish Creek Van & Cabin Park. Conveniently situated on the creek itself, this park puts you close to local attractions and great dining experiences.

20049 Bass Highway, Crayfish Creek
6443 4228

caradale@bigpond.com

www.crayfishcreekaccommodation.com.au

Community voices sought

West North West Working (WNWW) is calling for expressions of interest from residents across Tasmania's North West and West Coasts and King Island to join our Community Advisory Group.

The Advisory Group will play a key role in supporting WNWW's work to increase employment, boost engagement in education and training, and create better pathways for people across the region.

Program Manager Danielle Kidd said the group would help ensure that local voices, lived experience, and community insight are embedded in the decision-making process.

"We know that local people are the experts in their own communities," Danielle said. "This Advisory Group is about bringing together a diverse group of people who can share their knowledge, challenge assumptions, and help us stay focused on what really matters for our region." WNWW is seeking individuals from a wide range of backgrounds, including those with lived experience navigating employment or education sys-

tems, young people, community leaders, employers, educators, and others with strong local knowledge or sector insight.

Advisory Group members will provide strategic advice, connection with local partners, and help maintain alignment with WNWW's vision of a more inclusive, people-centered, and place-based approach to workforce development.

"We are looking for people who are passionate about creating positive change for our region and its people, whether they're well-networked in their communities, working in industry, or simply have ideas and experiences to share," Danielle said.

Interested community members can view the Terms of Reference and submit an expression of interest via the WNWW website <https://wnwworking.com.au/careers/>

Expressions of interest are now open and close Friday 29th August 2025

To learn more or discuss the opportunity, contact Danielle Kidd at danielle@wnwworking.com.au or 0490 189 966.



Praise for Zeehan

We have just arrived home to Brisbane after a fabulous 2 weeks in Tasmania. I just wanted to share our delight in discovering the gorgeous town of Zeehan - a place we had never heard of until we drove in, in search of a petrol station on our way from Strahan to Stanley.

We are so glad we did - what a beautiful little town! As we were on a fairly tight time frame we didn't even plan on stopping but a small sign with the promise of homemade bacon and eggs pies caught my eye and we pulled over.

While my husband waited for the pie and coffee I crossed over to check out the Animal Welfare op shop and met the amazing Kerrie and Arnie, her little rescue paddymelon. I'd never seen one before and neither had my husband.

Kerrie is such a wonderful asset to your town, not only for the work she does rescuing wildlife but for the way she 'sells' the town. We learned so much about Zeehan from her that we are going to come back again next year and spend more time in the town as there is so much we want to see.

We told everyone we met who was heading towards Strahan to make sure they stopped in to Zeehan to meet Kerrie and Arnie and explore the town.

A big thank you from Maurice and Philippa. Kerrie - we hope to see you again next year.

Regards, Philippa

PS - The bacon and egg pie was delicious. I can thoroughly recommend it!



Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation wins award

We are thrilled to announce that Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation has been selected as a 2025 Semi Finalist for the Konica Minolta Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Community Achievement Award!

This recognition is a testament to the unwavering commitment, dedication, and passion of our team, who strive to make a positive impact in our organisation and the community every day.



What the first year of Fogo meant for the North West...

What was it all about?



8,352 tonnes out of landfill and ready to feed the soil



We proved that there was between **36% and 55% of organic material** in the 2 bin system that can be reused



Almost \$375k in state waste levy saved - this is money your Council can spend on projects and programs important to your community



292,638 Bins collected across the region - thanks to all you awesome humans who made this possible!



Let's see what we can do with the Burnie and Circular Head communities joining this in September.

Make sure to remember:

Loose is lovely in the recycling and FOGO bins - **No plastic bags**



People hand sort your recycling and FOGO bins so **don't add things you wouldn't touch.**

Large yard items go to the Waste Transfer station not the wheelie bin



Some things aren't meant for any of your bins - **batteries, electronics, flares, gas bottles and vapes**

'SURFACE' exhibition a huge hit at Soggy Brolly

I recently attended Annette Betlehem's exhibition at the Soggy Brolly gallery in Queenstown and immediately wished I had an unlimited budget for art purchases. I have been a fan of Annette's works for several years now and this exhibition did not disappoint.

Titled 'SURFACE', Annette's exhibition showcased her sublime style, delv-

ing into the depths and minutiae of our natural world in a way that we don't normally consider. The longer you look at her works, the more you see.

Fifty or so people turned up to gaze upon the art covered walls and it didn't take long for many of the artworks on the walls to soon receive a 'sold' red sticker and deservedly so.



Waratah-Wynyard council team claims Australasian title

Waratah-Wynyard Council is celebrating a historic win on the national stage, and it's a victory for our whole community.

Council's team, The Gutteridge Guardians, has taken out first place in the 2025 Australasian Management Challenge, becoming the second Tasmanian team ever to win the title since the competition began nearly 30 years ago.

Mayor Mary Duniam said the win highlights the strength and capability that exists within Council and the Waratah-Wynyard community.

"This isn't just a Council achievement, it's something our entire community can be proud of," Mayor Duniam said.

"It proves that a regional Council from the North West Coast of Tasmania can lead the nation. We've got the people, the ideas and the drive, and now we've got the national recognition too."

The Gutteridge Guardians earned their spot in the national final by winning the Tasmanian round earlier this year. In

Perth this week, they competed against leading teams from across Australia and New Zealand, not only taking out the overall title, but also winning Best Performing Team in a key challenge focused on risk management.

The Management Challenge, run by Local Government Professionals Australia, is a highly respected competition that develops leadership, problem-solving and teamwork, skills that directly benefit the way Council serves its community.

"We invest in growing our people because it helps us deliver better services, stronger planning and smarter leadership for our region," Mayor Duniam said.

"This win reflects the excellence of our staff and the culture we've built, one that values learning, supports emerging leaders and puts our community at the centre of everything we do."

The team described the journey as "incredible" and said they were proud to represent Waratah-Wynyard on the national stage.

"We've had so much fun along the way and couldn't have done it without the support of our Council, our colleagues and our community. We're proud to bring this win home." Adding to the excitement, next year's Australasian final will be hosted in Tasmania, giving the Gutteridge Guardians the opportunity to

defend their title on home soil.

Council congratulates the other runner up teams from City of Mandurah (WA) and City of Casey (VIC), thanks LG Professionals Tasmania for its ongoing commitment to developing the next generation of local government leaders, and JLT Australia for sponsoring the event.



Gutteridge Guardian Team. Left to Right: Sallie Moore-Wood, Emma Allen, Amy Symes, Sarah Alderson, Kaarina De Ryder and Lucy Taylor together with Waratah-Wynyard Council CEO Vanessa Adams and Mayor Dr. Mary Duniam

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE WEST


WESTERN REGIONAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

NETWORK EVENT

INDUSTRY PROJECT UPDATES & NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES



Wednesday 22 October 2025
 5:00pm - 7:00pm
 Study Hub West Coast
 Light Supper & Refreshments Provided
 RSVP by COB Friday 17th October

Contact Us 0438 716 248
 More Information liz.youd@rdatasmania.org.au

a safari safari into the pioneering era of the West Coast

BIGGER THAN BISCHOFF

Fame, Fortune and Failure in the Wild West

coming to the

Central Hotel

Main St, Zeehan

in

NOVEMBER

Are you interested in the early history of the West Coast? Did you ever wonder about the origin of the legend of Timbs' gold reef? What about that dog that attached itself to TB Moore's expedition in 1877 for a while? Where did it come from? Alex Ingleton was the man at the centre of the Mount Heemskirk tin boom, but who was he, and what happened to him? And what was the story of Black Bella, Messiah and Judge Lynch really about? The answer to these and other burning questions is coming soon... stay tuned.

The next West Coast Christian Gathering will be on Saturday 30th August 2025

As reported in last month's Western Echo, these gatherings are open to everyone who is interested. There is a change of venue from last advertised. Please note that we are meeting in **QUEENSTOWN** at the 'New Beginnings Community Centre' (former Senior Cits building) in Driffield St Queenstown.

The Contact person is Shirley Scolyer 044 891 0474 10am to 2pm. Please bring food to share for lunch Hope you can come along.

MURDER MYSTERY

You're Invited: 1920s Gangster Murder Mystery Night

Step back into the Roaring Twenties for an evening of mystery and mayhem.

Location: The Gaiety Theatre, Zeehan
 Date: Saturday, 20th September
 Time: 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
 Tickets: \$20 (includes light Snack)
 Licensed bar available on the night

Come dressed in your best 1920s attire - think feathers, fedoras, pearls, pinstripes and plenty of attitude. The more you get into character, the better!

To reserve your spot, please contact the Zeehan Neighbourhood Centre:

Phone: (03) 6471 6108



New Singing Group Starting HERE!



Harbour Sounds

Having discovered how many people there are in Strahan who sing, I'd love to start up a choir here in town!

No music reading ability or prior experience necessary. I'm planning to make this fun.

Performance opportunities once we are ready!

Rehearsals @ 7.30pm (day TBA depending on people's availability)



PHONE: 0458 717 681
 EMAIL: sarah@out-of-avalon.com
<https://www.out-of-avalon.com/harbour-sounds-choir>

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE NORTHWEST

YOU'RE INVITED TO
Please Join Us for our
2025 ANNUAL DINNER

We welcome you to a night where we celebrate the year with great food & trophy presentations for players of all grades and hard working committee members behind the scenes.

Saturday the 16th of August
6:00pm for a 6:30pm Start
at Tall Timbers



Irishtown Football Club



Soroptimist International of Circular Head Inc

Annual Fundraiser

Trivia Night

& Silent Auction!

SEPTEMBER | 20
7:00 PM
SMITHTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
Supper Provided, Bar Available

\$15 person

BOOK YOUR TABLE
0421 017 943 | SICIRCULARHEAD@SISEAP.ORG



Circular Head Landcare Group AGM: Wed 3rd Sept 6:00 pm
Rural Health Building, Emmett St, Smithton - All welcome

ScotchtownFC

Expressions of interest open for our coaching positions for 2026!

If you are interested in coaching for U12s, U16s, Reserves or Seniors, please contact Josh Smith on 0400428450, send us a Facebook message, or email us at:

scotchtownfootballclub@outlook.com



SMITHTON LOVE YOUR HEART ? LOVE YOUR COMMUNITY ?
MENZIES INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH ARE LOOKING FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN AND AROUND SMITHTON TO JOIN A CITIZEN SCIENCE STUDY TESTING A SIMPLE CHECKLIST THAT RATES HOW WALKABLE (AND WHEELABLE), WELCOMING AND HEALTHY YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD IS.
OPEN TO PEOPLE 18+ LIVING IN URBAN, REGIONAL AND SUBURBAN TASMANIA.
GET INVOLVED ! HAVE YOUR SAY. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
THE FIRST 100 PARTICIPANTS GET A \$20 VOUCHER. THANK YOU.
FIND OUT MORE AND HELP US BUILD BETTER NEIGHBOURHOODS FOR EVERYONE
WWW.LOVEYOURHEART.COM.AU

GALA

Dinner & Auction

SATURDAY OCTOBER 11, 2025
Circular Head Community & Recreation Centre
from 5.30 pm

Gourmet Degustation by
Josh "Pezza" Perry



Live Entertainment by
Zac Weeks Music



Exciting auction with amazing items up for grabs
Tickets \$135 each or Tables of 10 for \$1350



TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE QR CODE OR LINK IS IN THE BIO



In aid of Wyndarra's Specialised Disability Units
RSVP 1st October, 2025

ArtsCape in Wynyard



Over the last few months local artist Tammy Martin has been hosting regular Drawing workshops at ArtsCape, and the progress of participants has been wonderful to watch.

Tammy's Tolkien inspired exhibition 'An Adventure Through Middle Earth' will be showing over the month of August, and opening Friday August 8th at 6pm.

If you would like to enquire about Tammy's workshops, contact artscapewynyard@gmail.com

Mountain Heights School Creative Energy in Year 7 & 8 Art

Last term, our students explored the beauty of landscapes with Mrs. Fletcher, experimenting with painting techniques, and, when finished, some tried their hand at a bit of miniature painting and sculpting! This term, students have already shown off their technique with pastels, creating art based on references from Vincent van Gogh.

It's been inspiring to see our 7/8s take creative risks, support each other in mastering new skills, and dive into the artistic process with enthusiasm and courage.

Art is not just about the final piece—it's about growth, collaboration, and having a go. And our students are absolutely shining!



New weeds found in the West

A recent trip to Queenstown saw our PWS Biosecurity team join forces with invasive plant experts from Tasmanian Herbarium, Biosecurity Tasmania, local Parks and Wildlife Services rangers and staff from Cradle Coast NRM and Mt. Lyell Mine.

One of their main objectives was to undertake weed mapping and surveying to help better understand the current extent of their spread. Among their finds, they uncovered five new and emerging weeds to the west coast.

One of these species, Lawson's Cypress (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*), was also confirmed as being established in Tasmania for the first time.

PWS biosecurity coordinator Phil Mehlert emphasised the need to work collaboratively to monitor these new and emerging weeds, to act quickly to manage them, and increase the public's awareness to help reduce their impact on Tasmania's West Coast.

Read more: <https://parks.tas.gov.au/.../field-trip-weeds-out-west...>



Circular Head Gymnastics

Level 3 Team Spirit Competition Recap

On the 3rd of August, Circular Head proudly sent 8 Level 3 gymnasts and 5 Level 4 gymnasts to the Team Spirit Competition in Devonport. This was our largest team to attend a state competition since the club's reopening—a fantastic milestone for us.

In addition to our gymnasts, we were also represented by two coaches and four judges, which was a great show of team commitment and support.

The competition was a great success. All of our Level 3 gymnasts performed solid routines and they were also awarded the Best Poster, which added to the team's excitement and spirit on the day.

Our Level 4 gymnasts also delivered strong performances, with some excellent scores across all apparatuses.

We're incredibly proud of how the athletes represented Circular Head and are really looking forward to the remaining competitions.

Well done to everyone involved!



'Togetherness' exhibition at Soggy Brolly with Yvania Bartholomeusz



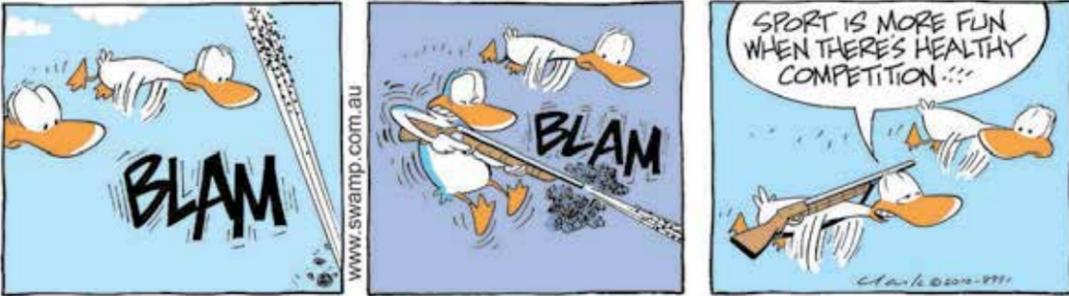
Yvania Bartholomeusz
Togetherness

Yvania Bartholomeusz is an alchemist of metal and meaning. Drawing on the rugged beauty of the West Coast and her own inner terrain, she creates jewellery that is both adornment and story, using symbolism, shapes, texture, gemstones and mixed media throughout her work. "Togetherness" is a story of community, where each unique individual element – hammered, twisted, bent, melted, sparkling, elegant, frayed-edge, refined or dangling – expresses, contributes, shapes and belongs to the whole.

Soggy Brolly, Queenstown - The exhibition continues until 29 August

WESTERN ECHO PUZZLE PAGE

SWAMP



BEYOND THE BLACK STUMP



CLANCY



INSANITY STREAK



AGAINST THE GRAIN



JUMBLE No. 690

A	C	A
L	B	I
E	G	R

TODAY'S TARGET

14 Words **Good**
18 Words **Very Good**
22 Words **Excellent**
27 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.

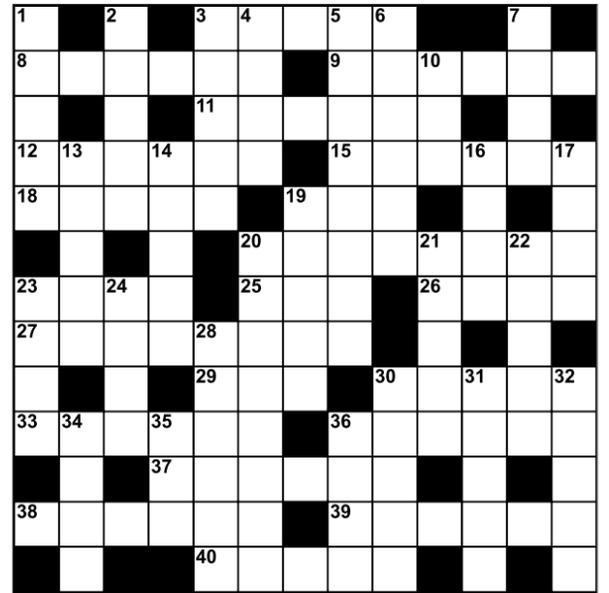
SUDOKU No. 011

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

CROSSWORD No. 10859

ACROSS

- 3 Employed
- 8 Bird of prey
- 9 Fault
- 11 Literary ridicule
- 12 Got up
- 15 Digit
- 18 Trees
- 19 Cover
- 20 Spaces set back
- 23 Direction
- 25 First woman
- 26 Church recess
- 27 Grapples with
- 29 Snake-like fish
- 30 Allotted
- 33 Season
- 36 Wretchedness
- 37 Proverbs
- 38 Container for strawberries
- 39 Naval hero
- 40 Happen again



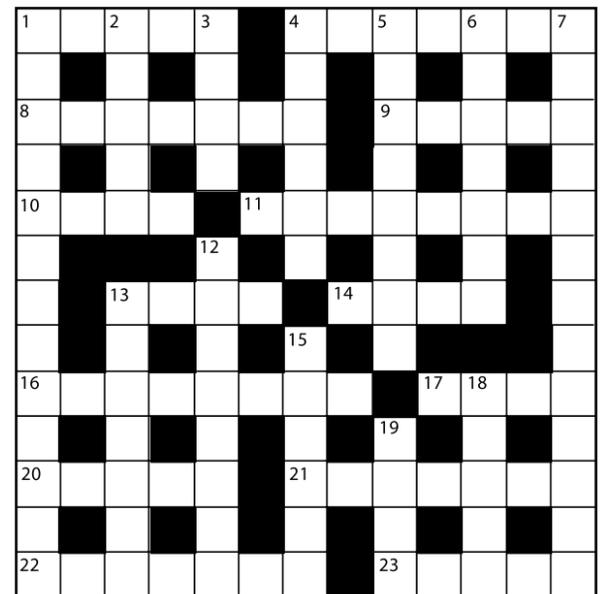
DOWN

- 1 Fragment
- 2 Smith's block
- 3 Firefighting equipment
- 4 Country
- 5 Large buildings
- 6 Mock
- 7 Pimplly condition
- 10 Marsh
- 13 Tracking system
- 14 Black marks
- 16 Catch the breath
- 17 Trick
- 19 Even
- 20 Banish
- 21 Rescues
- 22 Chemical compound
- 23 Female sheep
- 24 Observer
- 28 Offer
- 30 Scrooge
- 31 Concise
- 32 Passing away
- 34 Stopper
- 35 Man's name
- 36 Bill of fare

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD No. 16510

ACROSS

- 1 Herb is what the boy may be called (5)
- 4 I posted wrong amount put in the bank (7)
- 8 Formidable types pitch into the sailors (7)
- 9 Swallowed the last of the beer in unpleasantly wet surroundings (5)
- 10 & 19Dn. This indicates it's time to retire from final appointment (4,4)



- 11 See 13 Down
- 13 Buy and sell timber (4)
- 14 See 3 Down
- 16 Emphasised what many French words are (8)
- 17 Addition to the stock from a local farm (4)
- 20 Amorous character more disturbed by love (5)
- 21 Could be a pointer to what a diet contains (7)

- 22 Made an erasure authorised in the document (7)
- 23 A right to possession of a championship (5)

- 4 Refuse to stay where the ground is infertile (6)
- 5 Service that results in rectification of footfaults (8)
- 6 Hermetically packing marine fish (7)
- 7 Feeling insulted at what the thief is charged with! (6,7)
- 12 From a carton I produce protective clothing (8)

- 13 & 11Ac. Figuratively speaking, it's a part that has some point to it (7,8)
- 15 The man did impressions and made a pile (6)
- 18 On the watch for a danger signal (5)
- 19 See 10 Across

DOWN

- 1 Bearing the marks of having been engaged! (6-7)
- 2 Classifies the species (5)
- 3 & 14Ac. Bound to make Alf grope! (8)

PREVIOUS ANSWERS

Crossword No. 10858

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

Sudoku No. 010

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

Cryptic No. 16509

Across: 3 Off chance; 8 Dial; 9 Full board; 10 Clever; 11 Sound; 14 Those; 15 Dead; 16 Robes; 18 Omen; 20 Close; 21 Sense; 24 Sprint; 25 Get-at-able; 26 Moor; 27 Alternate.
Down: 1 Education; 2 Make notes; 4 Four; 5 Cello; 6 Abound; 7 Cure; 9 Fewer; 11 Sabre; 12 Depositor; 13 Adventure; 17 Scope; 19 Negate; 22 Spain; 23 Deal; 24 Slot.

Jumble 689

agape agar algae angel anger angle angler erlang gala galah gale galea galena gape gaper gear glare glean glen gnarl grape graph grapple hang hangar hanger laager lagan lagena lager large pagan page pang PHALANGER raga rage raglan rang range regal regal

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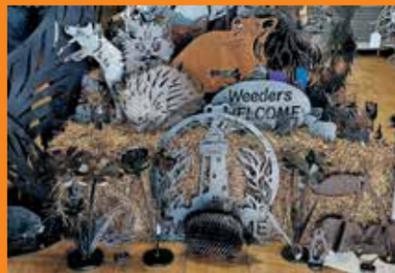
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WE PLAY QUEENSTOWN CROWS VS RIDGLEY SAINTS

Photos by Alan Jennison

The Reserves game between Queenstown and Ridgley was for top spot, perhaps one of the most important last round matchups in recent history. With several experienced players back in the reserves team, they were able to fight off a determined Ridgley side and claim the victory, earning the week off next weekend!

In the seniors, there was a little less to play for with both teams knowing they were likely to come up against each other again next weekend. With some key players missing the boys fought hard against a string Ridgley outfit who were too classy on the day. With key additions next week, the seniors will look to turn the result around and book a spot against South Burnie for a chance to be the first team to make the Grand Final.



WE PLAY QUEENSTOWN CROWS VS RIDGLEY SAINTS

Photos by Alan Jennison



WE PLAY KARTING IN CIRCULAR HEAD

Photos by Alan Jennison

The Circular Head Kart Club is officially back in action

On the 13th Of July the club successfully held their first race meeting in over two years, with people travelling from all over the state to enjoy a weekend of racing at the very unique track.

The Circular Head Kart Club Revival meeting attracted almost 50 competitor's spread out over 9 categories.

In typical Smithton fashion, there were four seasons in one day, truly testing the drivers skills in very wet conditions.

The Circular Head Kart Club would like to thank all the volunteers, businesses, officials and club members for their help in making this event such an overwhelming success.

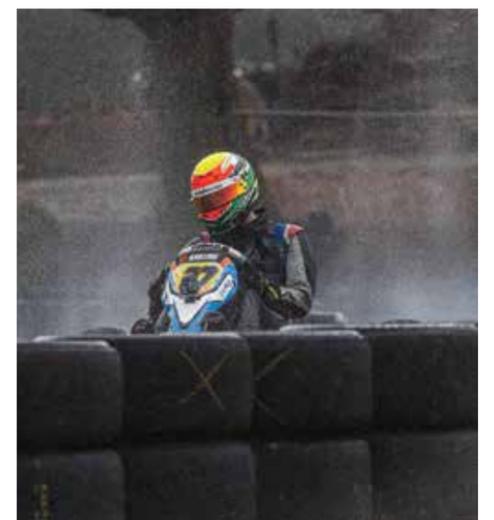
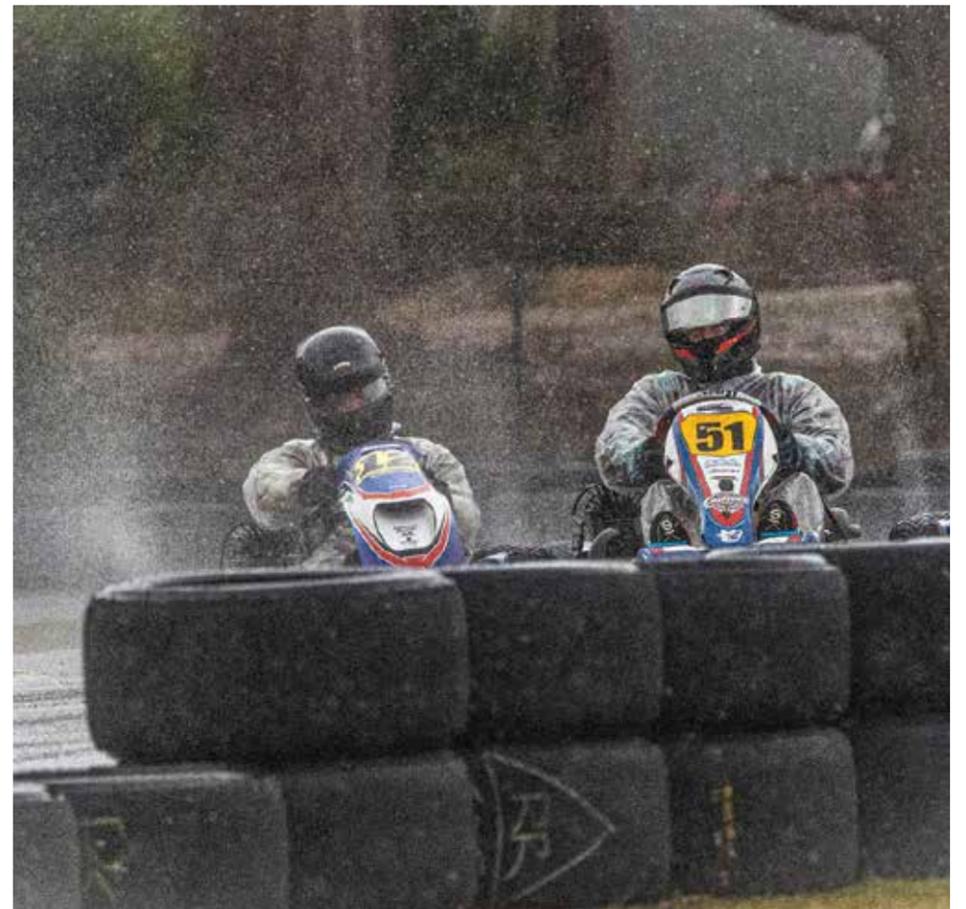
The committee are currently seeking support from individuals that may be interested in volunteering at the club, sponsoring the club, or if you are interested in coming to give karting a go.

If you would like to join the Circular Head Kart Club team contact President Jake McDougall at chkcpresident@gmail.com



WE PLAY KARTING IN CIRCULAR HEAD

Photos by Alan Jennison



WE PLAY CHFA GRAND FINALS

Photos by Alan Jennison

The week before the Grand Final, was the Preliminary final and the CHFA Dinner and Trophy Presentation. Which was held at Tall Timbers with around 130 people in attendance. We started the Evening off with the under 12's Best and Fairest with Nate McAlister from Irishtown with 25 votes. Runner up Albie Best Forest/Stanley 14 votes. Nate McAlister also took out Leading Goal Kicker 18 Goals and MVP.

In the under 16's Redleg Carter Bransden took out Best and Fairest with 26 votes and MVP with Canary Judd Ryan leading goal kicker with 41 Goals. Canary Isaac Bishop Best and Fairest Runner up with 14 Votes.

In the Reserves competition Veteran Redleg Kalon House took a clean sweep 21 Best and Fairest Votes, MVP and Leading Goal kicker 19 goals, the joke of the night was his son Jhett in the Under 16's finished with 20 Goals for the season. Canary Joel Keep Runner up Best and Fairest runner up with 12 votes.

Before the seniors count, we announced the CHFA team of the year for 2025 and a good-looking team it is.

In the Senior Best and Fairest it was a very close count with 5 votes separating the top 8. With Demon teammates Lucas Ford winning with 12 Votes and Ky Hayward runner up on 11 votes. Teammate Samuel Poke won the leading goal kicker with 32 Goals and Canary Kurt Everett took home the senior MVP.

To wind up the night we announced the newest CHFA Life member inductee who has 2 decades of service under his belt at the Forest/Stanley Football Club and has acted as club Delegate to the CHFA for over a Decade. Congratulations Martin Hardy on your dedication and commitment to Football in Circular Head this achievement is very well deserved.

The CHFA has had a busy couple of weeks as we finished off season with Competitive matches across all grades in the Grand Final on Saturday August 2nd the Crowd gathered in Early and the Under 12's kicked off the day. Whilst Irishtown failed to Score, they play competitive football until the Final Siren against the Undefeated Demons who took a 53-point win and Albie Best took out the Best on Ground.

Redpa and Irishtown battled well in the under 16's with a Slow start for the Canaries not Scoring until the second term, both teams fought hard but in with Redpa coming out clear winners by 28 points with Redleg Carter Bransden kicking 3 Goals as well as Best on Ground.

The reserves match was a nail biter and remained close all day as Redpa and Forest/Stanley were both hungry enough to want the win. The Demons were 4 points in front at the final siren with demon Lachlan Richardson winning the Best on Ground. *More on back page.*



WE PLAY CHFA GRAND FINALS

Photos by Alan Jennison



Western Echo photos and more

Photos in the Western Echo, and many more that didn't make it into print are available on our new website. Simply scan the QR code below.



WE PLAY CHFA GRAND FINALS

Photos by Alan Jennison

The build up to the senior game was groundbreaking with the crowd fully immersed. Forest/Stanley and Redpa took the field, and the crowd wasn't let down. Forest/Stanley had a 17-point lead at quarter time. Irishtown fought back to take a 2-point lead at the main break. The Demons came out after the main break and powered forward leaving the Canaries with a scoreless third term and 31 points behind. The Canaries Surged in the final term, but the demons held on

with Lincoln Jackson kicking the final goal of the game and sealing a 23-point win, with Demon Guy Kearnes taking Best on Ground.

A Massive thank you to our Sponsor This Season, McCains, Saputo, Fonterra, Anita Dow, S & T Agriculture your contributions are greatly appreciated as we continue to provide football to the community. Thank you to players, Umpires and Supporters for a fantastic season and we will see you all in 2026.



Would it be footy without a 'streaker'?



Upcoming Events

- 16th August** Irishtown Annual Dinner at Tall Timbers
- 16th August** Forest/Stanley Dinner at the Club Rooms
- 23rd August** Scotchtown Trophy Presentation from 4pm at the Club Rooms
- 23rd August** CHFUA Annual Dinner at Pavilion Café from 630pm.



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