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FREE

WE MEANS COMMUNITY

EDITION 56 JULY 9TH 2026



MMG's Nathan Parsons, Matt Finney and Danny "Ice" Kube bravely took the plunge to help raise money and awareness for this very important cause

Winter solstice west coast style

The Zeehan Neighbourhood Centre would like to sincerely thank everyone who supported this year's Big Freeze fundraiser at the Zeehan Golf Club. Thanks to the generosity of our community, an amazing \$2,642 was raised to support the

fight against Motor Neurone Disease. A special thank you goes to our MC, Rhys Maine, for keeping the crowd entertained throughout the day, and to Sharon, whose enthusiasm and willingness to take on the Big Freeze slide helped make

the event such a memorable and fun occasion. We also extend our thanks to our volunteers, sponsors, participants and everyone who attended or donated. Your support and community spirit made the day a wonderful success. The Zeehan

Neighbourhood Centre is proud to host such a caring and generous community event, and we thank everyone who helped make this event possible.

See more West Coast Winter Solstice happenings on pages 22-23

Anne Urquhart MP & Labor: delivering better support for working families.

From 1 July 2026, parents

will get a full 26 weeks of paid parental leave.

- ✓ **More time:** 26 weeks of Paid Parental Leave from 1 July
- ✓ **More money:** we're paying 12% super on PPL for the first time ever
- ✓ **More flexibility:** we've increased the time parents can take off together, from 2 to 4 weeks





WESTERN ECHO

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

WE MEANS COMMUNITY

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

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

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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

From the Editor

I hope you are enjoying the Western Echo newspaper as much as I enjoy bringing it to you each month. There is a lot planned for future editions including many more video stories, more sports and more community events coverage. Some of you already know that I am building a model railway village to be called 'Echoville' here in Wynyard, and this will have its own newspaper page (the Echoville courier perhaps) in the Western Echo. This will be written from the point of view of the small people that inhabit Echoville itself. Plans also include a slot car racetrack, remote control diggers and much more. Watch this space. *Alan/Ed*

Labor is delivering real change for Australians From July 1



- Giving every worker a tax cut.
- Extending paid parental leave to six months.
- Making our Medicare Urgent Care Clinics a permanent part of Medicare.
- Banning supermarket price gouging.
- Giving first home buyers a fair go with new laws.
- Increasing the National Minimum Wage.
- Payday Super changes come into effect.

Authorised by Senator Josh Dolega, ALP, 1-3 Rooke St, Devonport 7310 TAS

Delivering real change from July 1st

I know people feel like the economy isn't working for them. And that's been building for decades.

That's why from 1 July 2026 the Albanese Labor Government is delivering real change and cost-of-living relief.

From 1 July every worker is getting another tax cut, one of Labor's five tax cuts that will save the average worker up to \$2800 a year. We're also extending Paid Parental Leave to a full six months, giving families more time with their little one and more support.

We have backed minimum wage and award wage increases, which will boost the pay of 3 million workers and for the very first time lift the minimum full-time wage to over \$1000 per week.

For the first time workers will have their superannuation contributions paid at the same time as their wages – meaning employers won't get away with not paying super and you'll start earning returns on your super investment sooner.

For small businesses we've permanently extended the \$20,000 instant asset write-off delivering better cash flow and more certainty.

Now that Medicare Urgent Care Clinics are a permanent part of Australia's health system, more people are seeing

a doctor for free, including at clinics in Devonport and Burnie. Our new requirement that pathology and diagnostic imaging test results are uploaded to My Health Record means your health information will always be shared with you, and your health care team.

For the men and women who have served our country, and their families, a new Veteran and Family Wellbeing Agency will deliver better access to the support you need, where and when you need it.

We're giving families a fair go at the checkout by holding the big supermarkets to account and banning supermarket price gouging. For the first time, Coles and Woolworths can face up to \$10 million in fines for excessive pricing.

And we're tackling the big challenges that have been put off for too long. We've passed new laws to give first home buyers a fair go. Because if you work hard and save, you should be able to buy a home of your own.

These are the real changes that matter to Australians. And it's the real change I'll keep fighting for to deliver a fairer go here in Braddon.

Anne Urquhart

Circular Head Community Road Safety Partnerships Committee Message

A few road safety reminder tips:

- It is illegal to drive with your arm out of the vehicle.
- Don't forget to indicate at Roundabouts
- Ensure your load is secured
- Check your headlights and taillights are working
- Check tyres, brakes, wipers are working
- Turn on your lights to increase visibility
- Allow extra travel time and drive to the conditions



When we are driving we need to ensure that we are keeping everyone safe

Western Echo 'Wendy'

Hi everybody, what a crazy few weeks this has been! Dad has been taking me for long drives in the big truck, backwards and forward from my old house in Zeehan to my new one in Wynyard.

I love sitting in the truck, it is really high and I can bark at all sorts of other dogs and they can't even see me.

Dad even fitted automatic windows in the truck so he can wind my window down when we go through a town, (I am a bit spoiled).

On another note, I would like to say a big thank you to all the people who are sending kind words and saying hello when sending messages to my Dad.

It is really nice when he reads them out to me (especially when the cats are listening hahaha) and I feel really loved by so many of you. Dad said we need to organise a few playdates, so if anyone has a dog that might like to meet me and have a run around I would love that, just contact Dad and he will make it happen.



Woof to you all... Wendy

Connectivity on West Coast given a boost

High-capacity infrastructure through fibre upgrades will enable improved phone and internet connectivity for West Coast businesses and residents.

The technology is now in place for the West Coast communities of Zeehan and Tullah, following the successful delivery of two Regional Connectivity Program (RCP) fibre projects led by 42-24 in partnership with TasNetworks.

Funded predominantly through the Australian Government's Regional Connectivity Program, with co-contributions from Hydro Tasmania and 42-24, the projects have delivered new optical fibre backhaul extensions linking Tullah and Zeehan to Tasmania's existing fibre network. The new connections will significantly improve digital reliability, resilience and capacity for local businesses, service providers and residents.

An 11km overhead fibre extension now connects Tullah, while a 29km extension from Rosebery has strengthened connectivity to Zeehan. The fibre works were delivered by TasNetworks field staff on existing network assets, and the projects also included new telecommunications infrastructure and upgrades to active equipment to support high-capacity services. The management of the projects

as well as implementation of these telecommunications network augmentations were conducted by TasNetworks' internal telecommunications team.

42-24 Leader Robert Daley said the projects demonstrated the value of collaboration between government, industry and regional partners.

"These fibre upgrades help address the digital divide in remote communities while creating infrastructure that is open to all service providers seeking to improve services for their customers," Mr Daley said.

"They also strengthen West Coast connectivity into the future."

The projects were delivered in close collaboration with the Australian Government, the Tasmanian Government, West Coast Council and Hydro Tasmania. Innovative approaches, including the use of drone technology, were employed by TasNetworks line workers to great effect to improve safety and efficiency during construction in challenging terrain and weather conditions.

Beyond infrastructure delivery, the projects enhanced local workforce capability and reinforced TasNetworks' and 42-24's shared commitment to investing in Tasmania's regional communities.

New goal for old gaol



A small but significant piece of Wynyard's history could soon face demolition unless a new home can be found for the former gaol.

Currently located behind the old museum building beside Bruce's Café at 145 Old Bass Highway, the gaol is believed to date from the late 1800s. The timber lock-up, which consists of two cells has been situated at its current site since the 1980s after being moved from its original location on the corner of Church and Goldie streets in Wynyard.

The gaol remains a rare physical reminder of the region's early law-and-order history. Inside the structure, visitors can still see handwritten inscriptions on the walls, thought to have been left by people who were once held there.

The building's future has come under question as approved renovations at Bruce's Café will require the removal of both the museum structure and the former gaol building.

Interest from Waratah-Wynyard Council about the possibility of relocating the

gaol has been limited, with council officers advising that only a small part of the building could be retained and displayed somewhere like the Wonders of Wynyard.

"The Wynyard Historical Society has also been consulted and while they are supportive of efforts to preserve the gaol within the municipal area, they are not in a position to relocate or store the structure," owner Rod Walker said.

"While we are disappointed that Council also isn't in a position to take the gaol, we think given the building's historical significance we are hoping that the wider community may be interested in retaining the building.

"We are simply hoping to look at every opportunity before this important piece of local heritage is lost forever."

The owners are willing to meet on site with interested parties to discuss what would be required to preserve and relocate the structure.

If you are interested in the gaol please phone 0438802077.

Bendigo Bank Burnie branch is temporarily closing for refurbishment

Our Bendigo Bank Burnie branch will be temporarily closed for refurbishment from 12pm Friday 17 July 2026.

On Friday 31 July 2026 at 9:30am, its business as usual and we look forward to welcoming you to our new look branch. You're going to love it!

During the renovation period your nearest branch services will be Bendigo Bank Devonport.

For more information on options to access cash or banking services available to you, please visit Ways to bank | Bendigo Bank.

If you have any questions please call us on 03 6434 4230.

Thank you for understanding.



Ruth Forrest

MLC

Committed to the Community



Independent member for Murchison

As your local Member, please contact me if I can be of assistance



64308400 or murchison@parliament.tas.gov.au 32 Goldie Street, Wynyard www.ruthforrest.com.au

Have your say: Proposed speed limit changes



Waratah-Wynyard Council is seeking feedback from impacted stakeholders and community members on proposed speed limit changes for several local roads.

Council has resolved to notify impacted stakeholders of its intent to request a review of the speed limits listed below. If no objectionable feedback is received, Council will request that the Transport Commissioner review the speed limits.

This is your opportunity to indicate whether you support or object to the proposed changes, and to provide any comments you would like Council to consider.

The proposed changes are:

Mount Hicks Road — 100km/h to 80km/h

Village Lane — 100km/h to 80km/h

Little Village Lane — 100km/h to 80km/h

Tollymore Road — 100km/h to 80km/h

Table Cape Road — 100km/h to 80km/h

Inglis Street — 60km/h to 50km/h, from Church Street to the Bass Highway

Council is seeking feedback on whether stakeholders and community members support or object to the proposed speed limit changes.

Reports were presented to the June Council meeting with detailed background information about why each speed limit change has been proposed, including technical assessments and sup-

porting data.

For further information to help inform your response, please read the relevant Council reports here: Council Meetings, Agendas & Minutes.

Feedback received through this process will be collated and provided back to Council for consideration before any further action is taken. Council will not provide individual responses to feedback submitted through this consultation.

How to provide feedback

Please scan the QR code below, complete the form and select the road or area your feedback relates to.

Feedback closes 5pm, Friday 24 July 2026.

Feedback received will be collated for Council's consideration, with a report expected to be presented to the August Council meeting.



Vision 2050 in Action: Council releases proposed annual plan and budget

Circular Head Council is proposing significant investment in community recreation, health, economic development and waste reform through its proposed 2026/27 Annual Plan and Budget, released ahead of a Special Council Meeting on 2 July.

Mayor Gerard Blizzard said the proposed Annual Plan outlines Council's priorities for the coming year and reflects a strong focus on financial sustainability, fairness, community wellbeing and delivering on the long-term aspirations of Circular Head Vision 2050. "Over the past 12 months, Councillors and staff have been working together to improve Council's financial position, to review how services are delivered and ensure our investment decisions align with the priorities identified by the community through Vision 2050," Mayor Blizzard said.

The proposed Annual Plan reflects Council's commitment to doing things differently, focusing on what is within its control, investing in community priorities and building a stronger future for Circular Head. "The proposed Annual Plan sets out practical actions for the next 12 months while continuing to build a strong foundation for the future."

General Manager Paul Gardner said the proposed Budget continues Council's focus on reducing its operating deficit through efficiencies, organisational improvements and longterm planning. "Council has been undertaking a significant organisational transformation process aimed at improving efficiency, customer experience and value for the community," Mr Gardner said.

"The proposed Budget demonstrates our commitment to responsible financial management while continuing to invest in the projects, services and advocacy that matter most to Circular Head."

Key initiatives proposed in the 2026/27

Annual Plan and Budget include:

- Progressing the new Smithton Health Hub through a public-private partnership
- Establishing a \$2.1 million Community Recreation Fund to support improvements at West Esplanade, Smithton and new playground facilities at Kings Park, Stanley
- Funding a new Economic Development Officer position to progress the Economic Development Strategy
- Redeveloping Council's website
- Leading the development of a new Circular Head Waste Strategy
- Redesigning and upgrading the White Hills Transfer Station
- Supporting the development of the Child and Family Learning Centre
- Continuing advocacy for transport, housing, waste and regional infrastructure outcomes.

To support these investments and Council's long-term financial sustainability goals, the proposed Budget includes a 7.75 per cent increase in general rate revenue and introduces a proposed new Rating Strategy based on the principles of fairness and equity. The strategy recognises that different land uses place different demands on Council infrastructure and seeks to better align contributions with those impacts. The proposed Annual Plan and Budget are designed to support the six themes of Circular Head Vision 2050 – Environment, Community, Economy, Place, Leadership and Governance – translating long-term community aspirations into practical actions and investments for the year ahead.

The agenda and supporting reports are now available on Council's website. Community members are encouraged to review the documents, understand the proposed initiatives and follow the discussion at the Special Council Meeting on 2 July 2026, either in person or via livestream

Whaleback Ridge Renewable Energy Project

Community drop-in session

West Coast Renewable Energy is planning a new wind farm between Granville Harbour and Zeehan.

We are holding a community drop-in session to share information and hear from the community.

Zeehan Study Hub
6 Frederick Street, Zeehan

Tuesday, 4 August 2026

12:00pm - 2:00pm
5:30pm - 7:30pm

Drop in to meet the project team, learn more about the project, ask questions and share your thoughts - no need to register.

If you can't make it, you can contact our team:

Visit: www.westcoastrenew.com.au

Email: liz.youd@westcoastrenew.com.au

Call: 0438 716 248



Christmas in July in Zeehan

The Zeehan Community Christmas Party Working Group hosted a Christmas in July Ugly Sweater Silent Disco fundraiser at the Zeehan Golf Club on Saturday, 4 July.

Although the crowd was small, the night was filled with laughter, festive spirit, and plenty of dancing as everyone embraced their ugly Christmas sweaters and enjoyed the silent disco.

A big thank-you goes to Katrina and Starsha from the Zeehan Golf Club for running the bar and supporting the event by allowing us to use the venue.

A total of \$160 was raised through entry fees, with additional funds coming from the lucky number boards, which are still available for purchase.

Thank you to our team of dedicated volunteers and to our community for their ongoing support.

The working group is now planning a children's Glow Party for the end of August.

To stay updated on upcoming fundraisers and news for this year's Zeehan Community Christmas Party, follow

their Facebook page: 2026 Zeehan Community Christmas Party.

Food vendors interested in participating in this year's Community Christmas Party on 5 December are invited to email zccparty@gmail.com to register their interest.



National plan to end violence against women and children

Federal Member for Braddon, Anne Urquhart MP, today welcomed the Minister for Social Services, the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, and the Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commissioner, Micaela Cronin, to Devonport for an important regional roundtable shaping the next phase of national action to end violence against women and children.

The roundtable, held at Meercroft Park Pavilion, brought together frontline services, sector leaders and community organisations to inform the development of the Second Action Plan under the National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022–2032.

Anne Urquhart MP said it was critical that regional voices and frontline expertise were at the centre of the next stage of reform.

“Those working on the ground every day supporting victim-survivors understand where the system is working and where it is failing.

“Today’s roundtable was about listening to those experiences and identifying practical solutions that will make a real difference in keeping people safe.

“Ending violence against women and children requires sustained effort, but it must be informed by local knowledge.

“I thank Minister Plibersek and every-

one who contributed their time and expertise to this important discussion.”

The discussion focused on strengthening responses to domestic, family and sexual violence, recognising the distinct gaps and barriers faced by victim-survivors in each area.

Participants contributed insights on where the greatest impact could be made over the next five years, and how successful approaches in Tasmania could be strengthened and scaled.

Kathryn Fordyce, CEO, Laurel House said:

“Holding this roundtable in Devonport recognises the importance of regional and remote voices in shaping national responses to violence against women and children.

“It was encouraging to see recognition of sexual violence as a distinct issue and of the critical role specialist frontline services play in supporting victim-survivors.

“Access to support, recovery and healing should not depend on postcode.”

The roundtable formed part of a broader national consultation process taking place throughout June and July, with further opportunities for organisations and community members to contribute through online submissions.

New operator rebuilding tip shop



Tim from Gradco with the garden supplies at the Tip Shop - with Spring around the corner these may come in very handy



A new chapter is underway at the Wynyard Waste Transfer Station, with Dulverton Waste Management now operating the facility on a temporary basis.

Dulverton Waste Management commenced as interim operator from 1 June while Waratah-Wynyard Council works through longer-term arrangements for the site. The transition follows the conclusion of City Mission's management term at the station.

As part of the change, work is underway to rebuild and refresh the popular Tip Shop, creating a renewed space for quality pre-loved items to be recovered, reused and given a second life rather

than going to landfill.

The Tip Shop has long been a valued part of the transfer station experience, offering residents the opportunity to find useful and unique items while supporting waste reduction across the community.

Council and Dulverton Waste Management encourage residents to call in, see the changes taking shape and support the refreshed Tip Shop. Visitors are also reminded to continue sorting materials where possible to help maximise recycling and reuse opportunities at the station.

COLNEY & CO

127 Main Street, Zeehan TAS 7469



- Expansive land size of 902sqm²
- Opposite the heritage centre in Zeehan
- Landlord incentives available
- Huge Street Frontage Exposure
- Property can be split into smaller tenancies

Call Colney (02) 9561 0900

What your landfill levy makes possible

Every dollar of the landfill levy stays in Tasmania and is reinvested in better waste and recycling services.



The **Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Board** oversees how levy funds are reinvested across the state, supporting projects and services such as:



Community repair and reuse programs that keep items in circulation



Tip shops and projects giving pre-loved goods a second life



Upgraded infrastructure so more materials can be recycled



Turning more **food and garden waste** into useful products



Research and planning to find smarter ways to reduce waste



Scan to learn more about the levy and levy funded projects

From 1 July 2026, the landfill levy reaches its final planned rate of 36 fee units per tonne. By using recycling, organics and reuse options, everyone can help reduce the amount of waste that goes to landfill.



Permission to trespass in Tassie's Northwest



As part of 'Permission to Trespass' Moonlight Stories presents 'Inner Light' by artist: alex_moss_atmoss, a sound and light show not to be missed. There are three sessions a night from 6.30pm at Table Cape lighthouse but bookings must be made (use the QR code here). Rug up (it is cold out there), BYO blanket and chair and don't forget to grab a hot chocolate from these two below.



Viv and Donna Kirkland from 'Spilt Milk and Beans' (pictured above), were busy making delicious hot chocolates at the lighthouse and it certainly helped keep the cold out. I had a chat to them to find out how long they have been serving drinks to the Northwest. Fourteen years was the answer so I asked them how many coffees that might be over all that time. It took a while to work it all out but they estimate they have made over 600,000 coffees. That is an awful lot of coffee beans and no doubt a lot of spilt milk too. Nice job!



Scan the QR code above for more

Wynyard's Glow & Gather transformed Goldie Street into a vibrant hub of connection, celebration and play as the street came alive with live entertainment, immersive experiences and delicious food from local restaurants and food vendors—all set against the cosy glow of fire pots and streetlights.



"I asked for help."

I couldn't ask for better support in putting my career back together.
Bec, Carer

Bec is an early intervention teacher. When her husband got lymphoma, she put her career on hold to care for him.

Care2Serve connected her with Carer Gateway's Pre-Employment Training and Support Service, which has helped her restart her business.

If you care for someone, Care2Serve can help.

Support is free, inclusive and confidential.

Call 1800 422 737 (press 1) or visit carergateway.gov.au





Could you help shape the future of the West Coast?

Council works best when it reflects the diversity, experience and ideas of the community it serves.

This October, West Coast residents will elect a new Council, including councillors, a mayor and a deputy mayor, to represent our community for the next four years.

Have you ever thought about contributing to the future of the West Coast? Serving on Council is an opportunity to help shape local decisions, represent your community and play a part in planning for the years ahead. People from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences are encouraged to consider standing for election.

If you are considering nominating, now is the time to learn more about the process and how you can best represent your community.

The Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) has prepared a Candidate Handbook outlining the nomination process, including eligibility and campaigning.

The Handbook can be downloaded from www.lgat.tas.gov.au or hard copies are available from the Council office.

Local government elections are conducted by postal ballot through the Tasmanian Electoral Commission. Everyone enrolled on the State electoral roll is automatically enrolled, and voting is compulsory.

If you've recently moved, make sure your enrolment details are up to date with the Australian Electoral Commission before 6pm on Thursday 10 September to ensure you can vote.

People who own or occupy land in the West Coast municipal area, or who are the nominated representatives of a corporate body which owns or occupies land in the West Coast municipal area, may also be eligible to enrol, but must lodge an application with the General Manager before 6pm on Thursday 10 September.

For more details, and to obtain the appropriate application form, visit tec.tas.gov.au or call 1800 801 701.



Keeping your contact details up to date

Making sure your contact details are up to date with Council plays an important role in staying informed. Council uses your contact details to help you stay in touch about things that matter to you – like rates notices, dog registrations, permits, accounts or services. If your details are out of date, you might miss important information without even realising it.

That can sometimes lead to unwanted surprises. Payments can be missed, deadlines can pass, and extra fees may apply – even if the notice was sent to an old address or email. Keeping

your details current helps make sure information reaches you when you need it.

Keeping your details up to date is a simple step that helps ensure you stay informed, avoid unwanted surprises, and remain connected to what's happening in your local area.

How to update your contact details:

www.westcoast.tas.gov.au **Forms & Applications** in the header and select *Update Contact Details* form.

Call Council or visit the Council Office in Queenstown.

Bin there, cleaned that

Street bin surrounds across Queenstown are getting a much-needed refresh.

After years of service, many of the timber and steel surrounds had started to show their age. We're pleased to have completed upgrades to two bin surrounds in Orr Street, Queenstown, with residents already sharing positive feedback about the improvements.

The refurbishment program will continue along Orr Street, where Council crews will renew the remaining timber and steel surrounds. Once those works are complete, attention will turn to the steel bin surrounds in Queenstown's side streets.

The improvements are about more than appearance. Refreshed bin surrounds help keep our town centres looking tidy, welcoming and looked after for residents and visitors alike.



Following the completion of works in Queenstown, the Council team will roll out similar upgrades across our other communities. As part of the project, each town will receive its own distinct bin surround colour, creating a unique local identity while maintaining a consistent standard across the municipality.

Community conversation review

Earlier this year, Council held Community Conversations in several communities across the West Coast. We're now reviewing these sessions to understand what worked well, what could be improved, and what would encourage more people to take part.

Whether you attended a Community Conversation or not, we'd like to hear from you.

Complete a short survey to have your say:

Online: complete the survey online at Council's website.

In person: pick up and complete a printed survey at the Council office, West Coast Visitor Information Centre, or a Council agency in Rosebery, Strahan and Zeehan.

If you need help to take part, Council staff can assist you in completing the survey in the office or over the phone, during normal business hours.

Surveys are anonymous and close on 19 July.

Go paperless for your rates notice

Property owners in the West Coast Council area can register to receive their rates notices electronically – a faster, more reliable and environmentally friendly alternative to paper copies. Registering is easy! Scan the QR code on your rates notice or go to the Rates page on our website.

We know some people prefer a paper copy, so we'll keep posting it to anyone who hasn't signed up for email.



Scan the QR code:
Community
Conversations
Review Survey

Berries, leafy greens & melons

If you grow berries, leafy greens or melons, there's something new sprouting that you should know about.

The Tasmanian Government is adopting the Food Standards Australia New Zealand Primary Production and Processing (PPP) Standards. This means new food safety requirements for berries, leafy greens, and melons will be introduced.

The Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania held public consultation on the draft regulations in 2025 and a Consultation Summary Report and revised regulations are now available, with the second phase of public consultation open until 30 July 2026.

Stakeholders have highlighted potential unintended consequences of the proposed draft regulations, particularly in relation to impacts on regional community culture and food security, especially in remote areas.

West Coasters, particularly those growing berries, leafy greens and melons that supply roadside stalls, markets and/or retail outlets, are encouraged to read through the proposed changes and provide feedback. To learn more, go to <https://nre.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania>

Submissions close 5pm, 30 July 2026.

Don't bin your bottles

Did you know gas bottles should never go in bins? Even when "empty", gas bottles can explode, leak or ignite if placed in a wheelie bin or in a bin at a Waste Transfer Station.

Recently, when a full bin from the Granville Harbour Waste Transfer Station arrived at the Zeehan landfill, staff discovered three gas bottles had been disposed of in the bin.

This put the safety of other transfer station users, the truck driver transporting the bin, and landfill staff at risk.

To dispose of gas bottles safely, households and businesses should:

- Take BBQ bottles to swap and go services (e.g., Swap'n'Go, KwikGas).
- Take BBQ bottles to swap and go sePlace gas bottles safely at your local Waste Transfer Station – not in the bins.

The Zeehan and Queenstown waste transfer stations have designated gas bottle drop off areas. Residents using the Strahan, Rosebery, Trial Harbour or Tullah waste transfer stations should place bottles to the side of the bins (not in the bins) for staff to collect.



West Coast winners

The initiative to say thanks for paying your rates on time returns.

Ratepayers who pay their rates in full by the due date will be automatically entered into the major prize draw. Council has taken on board feedback, and additionally ratepayers who choose to pay by instalments and meet each instalment due date will also be eligible for a second draw, giving more households the chance to take part.

Ratepayers who pay their rates in full will go into the draw to win one of five vouchers: \$3000, \$2000, \$1000 and two x \$500.

Ratepayers who pay by each of the four instalment dates will be entered into a separate draw for: \$2000, \$1000 and two x \$500.

Winners are drawn at appropriate Council meetings, and all vouchers must be spent with West Coast businesses or trades, nominated by the winning ratepayers. Entry is automatic, but anyone who does not wish to participate can advise Council.

Properties owned by businesses, government departments, and West Coast Council councillors and staff are not eligible, but their family members are welcome to enter.

REMINDERS

10 JULY

Recycling collection Zeehan, Rosebery & Tullah

7 AUGUST

Recycling collection Queenstown, Gormanston/Linda & Strahan

7 AUGUST

Community Conversation Review survey closes

28 AUGUST

Rates pay in full/first instalment due date

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tue 28 July

Tue 25 August

Tue 22 Sept

2026

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

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

Your Councillors



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New interpretive signage is now in place at Howard's Park, Zeehan, detailing the legacy of Ronald James Howard, for whom the park is named.

Sign designed by Soggy Brolly.

Black Spot funding to improve road safety

The Albanese Government has committed \$3.5 million to address safety at 15 locations under the Tasmanian 2026-27 Black Spot Program funding round.

The Black Spot Program funds safety measures such as traffic lights, safety barriers, roundabouts and pedestrian crossings at locations where several serious crashes have occurred or are at risk of occurring.

The projects were recommended by the Tasmanian Black Spot Consultative Panel. This panel is comprised of local stakeholders who are best placed to ensure nominations of the highest priority and importance to the local community are recommended for approval.

The Black Spot Program provides \$150 million annually towards improving road safety at sites across the country.

It is a key part of the Australian Government's commitment under the National Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030 to reducing fatalities and serious injuries on our roads.

Anyone can nominate a Black Spot for consideration, including individuals, community groups and local councils.

To view the projects funded under the 2026-27 Black Spot Program, make a nomination, or for further information on the program, visit <https://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/about/local-initiatives/black-spot-program>.

Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories, Kristy McBain MP said:

"This latest round of Black Spot projects in Tasmania will see road safety treatments undertaken at 15 sites.

"The Black Spot Program delivers low-cost improvements that have demonstrated

effectiveness in reducing the risk of serious crashes and fatalities on our roads.

"With our increased funding commitment to this long-running program, I encourage individuals, organisations and local governments to nominate sites in their local communities for consideration in the next funding round."

Chair of the Tasmanian Black Spot Consultative Panel, Anne Urquhart MP said:

"As Chair of the Tasmanian Black Spot Consultative Panel, I am proud to announce these much-needed safety improvements across our state.

"These projects have been recommended by those who know our local roads best – members of the public, local councils and road user groups.

"These important works will make our roads safer for all road users."



Calling all past Redpa Primary students!

As we celebrate 100 years of Redpa Primary School, we'd love to hear from everyone who has been part of our school's history.

We've created a short survey and would really appreciate you taking a few minutes to complete it.

Whether you attended recently or many decades ago, we'd love to hear from you!

Please complete the survey below and, if you know other past students, we'd appreciate it if you could like, share and tag them so we can reach as many people as possible.

Comments have been left on for this post so you can tag past students and help spread the word. They will be monitored by our page administrators.

Thank you for helping us celebrate 100 years of Redpa Primary School. We can't wait to hear your stories! Simply scan the QR code below.



"The latch is designed to keep your lid closed until it is released automatically when the truck flips the bin to empty it"

Do you have trouble with wind...

...and your recyclables blowing away?

Pick up a FREE* recycling bin latch from your local Council office today!

*Numbers are limited and users are required to register their details at the time of collection.



Wyndarra news update

Blast from the past.

Wyndarra was recently gifted a collection of scrapbooks containing historical photographs and newspaper articles. These flashbacks have highlighted how far we have come as an Organisation, both in the expansion of service delivery and growth of its facilities.

Services at Wyndarra.

Wyndarra is a provider of the Commonwealth Home Support Program.

The service is available for clients who are 65 years or older, 50 years or older for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

If you are experiencing difficulty with everyday tasks but are still capable of living safely at home, you may qualify for this service.

To access a CHSP service, you are required to be registered and have had an assessment through My Age Care to ensure you are able to access a subsidised service.

If you have any questions or need help to navigate the system, drop into Wyndarra and staff will be able to

answer your queries or alternatively phone My Aged Care on 1800 200 422.

Update from the Wyndarra Support Services Participants and Staff.

Last week our group got started on making mosaic trays, and everyone had a great time getting creative!

We collected a mix of broken tiles, plates, and cups. Some were already broken into smaller pieces, while others were broken up during the activity to create the perfect shapes.

With safety glasses and gloves on, participants had fun breaking the plates and tiles into the pieces they wanted. This ended up being a favourite part of the activity.

Once everyone had picked a design, they got busy choosing colours and arranging their mosaic pieces. It was great to see everyone helping each other out by sharing colours, finding the right pieces, and giving ideas and encouragement.

There was lots of laughter, creativity, and teamwork throughout the session, and we're looking forward to seeing the finished trays over the next couple of weeks.



Men's Shed turns the tables for Bluestone

The Zeehan Men's Shed is a brilliant community asset with some incredibly talented members.

Recently Bluestone Mines Tasmania Joint Venture asked the Men's Shed to make a coffee table for the front entrance of our newly renavigated administration building.

We wanted to celebrate the history of Renison and asked them to include the old Renison bell symbol into the design.

They brought our vision to life in stunning blackheart sassafras, harvested by

Hydrowood from under nearby Lake Pieman. The original Renison logo was hand drawn and burnt into the wood and resin was poured to represent the veins of the ore body.

The result is a beautiful tribute to this spectacular part of the world and the craftsmanship of our locals.

Thank you to Tasmanian Men's Shed Association Zeehan President Steve Youd and everyone involved. We look forward to working together in the future.



Well done, Tassie!

Together, we've recycled more than 135 million containers

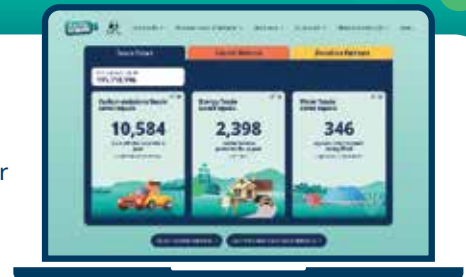
Your container returns are doing great things for the environment.

By supporting the circular economy, which aims to make new drink containers out of old drink containers, the carbon emissions saved so far are equivalent to taking **more than 10,500 cars off the road** for a year.



See your change add up

Thanks to the Impact Calculator on our website, you can track the environmental benefits of every container you return.



Discover more at recyclerewards.com.au/impact-calculator/

2026–2027 TO 2028–2029

Three Year Wood Production Plan

INVITATION FOR FEEDBACK

Sustainable Timber Tasmania has released the annual update to its Three Year Wood Production Plan 2026–2027 to 2028–2029 to the Tasmanian community for feedback.

The Three Year Plan identifies forest coupes in Tasmania's public production forests that are available across a three-year period from which a schedule of harvesting, roading and regeneration operations will be developed.

The release of the Three Year Plan provides an opportunity for stakeholders to identify which forest coupes and future operations may be of interest.

Inviting community feedback on the Plan is part of Sustainable Timber Tasmania's commitment to engaging with local stakeholders. Your feedback will be considered during detailed operational planning and decision making processes.

How to provide feedback

-  Visit sttas.com.au
-  Read the Three Year Wood Production Plan
-  View the Access Map to identify which forest coupes may be of interest to you
-  Contact us with your feedback at stakeholder@sttas.com.au or (03) 6169 2800



Please visit sttas.com.au for more information about the Three Year Wood Production Plan



Community Newsletter

July 2026



Image: Jody McDermott and Rodney Coghlan

Inspiring the next generation of miners

MMG Rosebery welcomed students from Geneva Christian College in Latrobe as part of its commitment to supporting Tasmanian education and STEM engagement.

The visit included a range of site presentations, along with a virtual reality experience of the mine's underground workings.



Sponsorship portal goes digital

MMG Rosebery is pleased to offer two sponsorship rounds each year, providing regular opportunities for community groups and organisations to apply for support.

Applications are now completed online through our digital application process, making it easier than ever to apply.

Round 1 opens each year on 1 January and closes 15 April, while Round 2 opens on 1 May and closes 15 September.



Service recognition

We recently celebrated service milestones within our mining team.

Congratulations to Connan Regal (45 years), Jody McDermott (30 years), Trent Maine (15 years), Rodney Coghlan (15 years), Nathan Masters (15 years) and Adam Stonehouse (15 years) for their dedicated service to Rosebery.

New Facebook page

MMG Rosebery Mine is now live on Facebook.

Scan the QR code below to follow our page.



Digital tool targets safer diabetes care in North West Hospitals

By Nigel Tapp and Freya Griffin

A new research project led by Tasmanian Nurse Practitioner Dr Giuliana Murfet (pictured at right), aims to improve hospital care for patients living with diabetes, a condition affecting one in four people admitted to health services across the state.

The Diabetes Guidance through Inpatient Triage (DIGIT-D) project is trialling a digital tool designed to identify high-risk patients early in their hospital stay, helping prevent serious but often avoidable adverse events.

“Diabetes significantly increases the risk of harm during hospital admission if blood sugar levels aren’t carefully managed,” Dr Murfet said.

High blood sugar can weaken the immune system and raise the risk of infections, heart disease and kidney problems, while low blood sugar can lead to confusion, falls, seizures and cardiac events. Up to one in three patients may experience unsafe blood sugar levels in hospital, often due to medication changes or fasting for procedures.

The DIGIT-D tool, co-designed with people living with diabetes and health-care professionals, collects key clinical information at admission and alerts specialist teams to people with diabetes who are needing urgent review during their hospital stay.

“This allows us to prioritise who needs to be seen first and intervene earlier,” Dr Murfet said.

The project, supported by \$27,497 in community funding by Clifford Craig Health Foundation, also aims to improve the patient experience by identifying ways to better support people with diabetes during their stay and empower them in their care.

Dr Murfet, who has worked in diabetes care over three decades, believes the initiative could lead to safer hospital stays across regional Tasmania.

“This is about delivering the right care at the right time,” she said.

About the Clifford Craig Foundation

For over 30 years, the Clifford Craig Foundation has stood at the heart of Northern Tasmania, dedicated to helping our community live healthier, longer lives. As the region’s leading health charity, we transform community support into life-changing outcomes.

With community support, we’re creating measurable health improvements throughout North and North West Tasmania.

With the support of our community, we invest in projects that make a real difference close to home:

- Medical Research – funding local, patient-centred research focused on pre-

vention, better treatments, and improved care.

- Hospital Equipment & Resources – helping to purchase equipment and create spaces that improve comfort, care, and recovery.

- Education for Health Professionals – providing scholarships, training, and opportunities to strengthen the skills of our local health workforce.

- Health Promotion & Advocacy – raising awareness about disease prevention and inspiring healthier communities.



Gold in them there hills!
With gold being discovered in the Linda Valley in 1883, many prospectors descended on the area. Getting to the valley was via a hard and torturous track after venturing up the Queen or King river track that traveled through to where Queenstown is now. After a hard slog all the way up what is known today as the gap, Bill McDonough, a prospector found colour in a creek, and followed the gold upstream. He found more than gold though. He found the outcrop known as the Iron Blow, where he pegged a 30 hectare claim. This is where the mount Lyell field began. The Mount Lyell copper mine was floated in 1892 and developed into the one of the largest mines on the West Coast. Thanks Bill!

STUDY CENTRE CIRCULAR HEAD

Study Centre Move!
From 1 July 2026
Located at 134 – 140 Nelson St.
Smithton (near library)
For further information:
0499 173 118

Whisk & Spoons
CULINARY EXPERIENCES

FREE WOOD-FIRED BARBECUE!

YOUTH OF WYNYARD

Youth of Wynyard, feel free, pop down to the skate park Friday nights from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. for chilled music, skateboard contests, wood-fired grill barbecue meats, cook your own, have fun, chill, relax, and positive vibes.

CHILLED MUSIC | SKATEBOARD CONTESTS | WOOD-FIRED GRILL | BARBECUE MEATS | COOK YOUR OWN

Have Fun, Chill, Relax, and Positive Vibes.

ANY MORE INFORMATION OR IF YOU NEED ANY SUPPORT, FEEL FREE TO CALL ME ON
0481 500 063

Hope to see you down there on Fridays!

NEW BUSINESS!

Grey + Grace
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT • BOOKKEEPING • PAYROLL

Organised with precision.
Delivered with grace.

FOCUS ON YOUR BUSINESS, WE'LL HANDLE the rest.

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT SO YOU CAN focus on what matters most.

Grey + Grace provides reliable, professional and confidential support to help your business run smoothly and efficiently.

SERVICES TAILORED TO YOUR BUSINESS

- EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT SUPPORT**
Organised, efficient support to help you stay focused and in control.
- BOOKKEEPING SERVICES**
Accurate, reliable bookkeeping to keep your finances on track.
- PAYROLL SERVICES**
Compliant, timely and stress-free payroll management.
- GENERAL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**
From data entry to document management – we've got the details covered.
- ONGOING BUSINESS SUPPORT**
Flexible, ongoing support to help your business grow with confidence.

IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR AUSTRALIAN EMPLOYERS
From 1 July 2026
New superannuation changes are coming. Is your business ready?

- PAYDAY SUPER IS COMING**
Superannuation contributions must be paid within 7 calendar days of each payday.
- SBSCH IS CLOSING**
The ATO's Small Business Superannuation Clearing House (SBSCH) will close permanently from 1 July 2026.
- ARE YOU PREPARED?**
Now is the time to review your payroll processes and ensure you have an alternative solution in place before the deadline.

Let's get your business organised and prepared.
RELIABLE. CONFIDENTIAL. PROFESSIONAL.

0439 244 104
tina-lee@greygrace.com
Servicing Tasmania & Australia-wide Remotely

SUPPORTING YOU • SAVING YOU TIME • GIVING YOU PEACE OF MIND

Council adopts 2026-27 Annual Plan and Budget

Burnie City Council has adopted its 2026-27 Annual Plan and Budget Estimates, setting the direction for the financial year ahead with a strong focus on renewing infrastructure, supporting the community and delivering key initiatives across the municipality.

The budget includes a general rate increase of 3.95 per cent and outlines continued investment in tourism, events and Burnie Arts. Funding has also been allocated to support planning and delivery of Burnie's Bicentenary celebrations in 2027.

New initiatives have also been introduced, including lifetime dog registrations and the return of early bird parking at the Multi Storey Car Park.

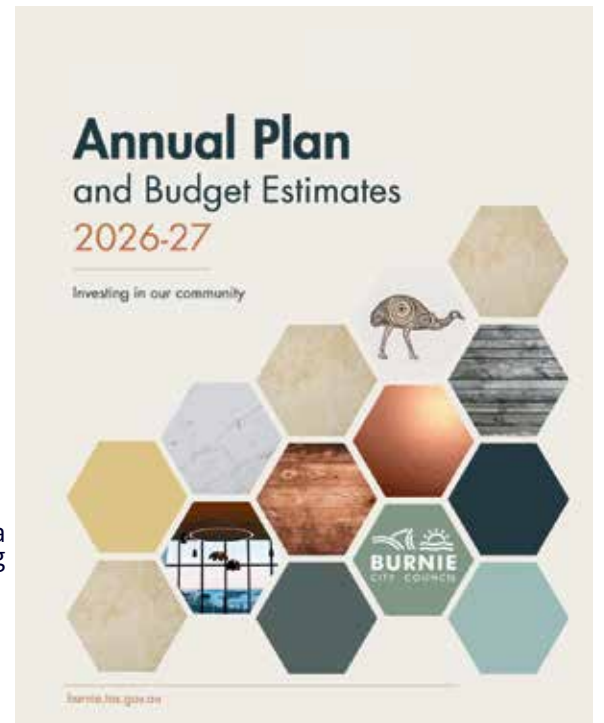
A \$29.4 million Capital Works Program will see significant investment in renewing existing assets and reducing maintenance backlogs, with major projects including:

- \$4 M - To undertake work to reconfigure Upper Natone Road at Horseshoe Bend

- \$5.2 M - CBD and Waterfront Improvements
- \$3 M - Road Resealing and Resheeting
- \$1.8 M - Burnie Aquatic Centre to undertake a number of renewal projects, but also commence the conversion from gas to electricity at the site in line with Federal Government funding
- \$2.3 M - Sports Lighting Improvements at McKenna Park Hockey Complex, Montello Recreation Grounds and West Park
- \$600 K - To commence the West park Precinct Masterplan
- \$320 K - Accessibility Improvements
- Funding for new heavy plant and equipment (roadside slashing)

The adopted Annual Plan and Budget reflects Council's ongoing commitment to investing in the services, facilities and infrastructure that support a growing and vibrant community, while maintaining a responsible approach to long-term financial sustainability.

Residents can view the full 2026-27 Annual Plan and Budget Estimates at: www.burnie.tas.gov.au/APBE2026-27



July 2026 - June 2027
Kerbside Collection Calendar

July							August							September						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
							31													

October							November							December						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4				2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
26	27	28	29	30	31		30													

January							February							March						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31					29	30	31				

April							May							June						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
							31													

Collection Cycle - alternate fortnightly

Week 1

Green lid FOGO bin

Week 2

Red lid Landfill bin and Yellow lid Recycling bin together

You can check the collection map anytime on the North West Recovery website: nwrrr.com.au

Not sure what goes in what bin?

RECYCLE mate is here to help.

Missed Collection?

If your bin was out by 6:00 am, contact Veolia on (03) 6427 4646.

Broken Bin?

Contact Veolia on (03) 6427 4646 or email hello@nwrrr.com.au if your bin lid, wheels, hinges, or axle are damaged by collection.

Food businesses reminded to renew registrations

Burnie City Council is reminding local food businesses that annual food business registrations are now due for renewal.

Renewal notices are emailed from 1 July, with registrations due by 31 July. Businesses renewing after this date may incur an additional fee.

The online registration form can also be used to register a new food business, notify Council of a low-risk food business that does not require registration, or apply for a mobile or temporary food permit for market stalls, one-off events or statewide registration.

Applicants may need to provide supporting documentation, including a food safety training certificate, food safety plan or quality assurance documentation, and plans and specifications for new or altered premises, where applicable.

To register, renew or find out more, visit burnie.tas.gov.au and complete the online Food Business Registration and Renewal form.

Interested in Becoming a Councillor?

Have you ever considered representing your community as an elected member?

Ahead of the upcoming local government elections, Burnie City Council is hosting a free Candidate Information Session for anyone interested in learning more about the role of local government and what is involved in becoming a councillor.

Hosted by General Manager Shane Crawford, the session will provide an overview of how local government operates, how councils make decisions, and important information for those considering nominating for election.

Date: Tuesday, 21 July 2026
Time: 6 pm to 7 pm
Location: Burnie City Council Chambers | 80 Wilson Street, Burnie

Whether you are seriously considering standing for election or are simply interested in learning more about local government, everyone is welcome to attend.

No RSVP is required - simply come along on the night.

P14

July 2026

Thousands of native plants taking root at Romaine Reserve



Thousands of locally native plants are being established at Romaine Reserve as part of Burnie City Council's Urban Rivers and Catchments Program.

Residents may have noticed tree guards appear throughout the Romaine and Shorewell Creek catchments, marking the beginning of another important stage in restoring these waterways and improving habitat for local wildlife.

In mid June, four groups of Hellyer College Outdoor Education students contributed to the effort by planting 500 native plants, helping deliver the 3,000 locally native species planned for this section of Romaine Reserve.

The revegetation program is also being supported by local contractors Artisan Greencare, Titania's Garden Services, Healthy Country Services and Four Seasons Forestry Services.

Burnie City Council thanks the students, teachers and contractors involved in the project, which will help create healthier ecosystems and greener spaces for the community to enjoy for years to come.

This project is funded by the Australian Government's Natural Heritage Trust under the Urban Rivers and Catchments Program, with the support of Burnie City Council.

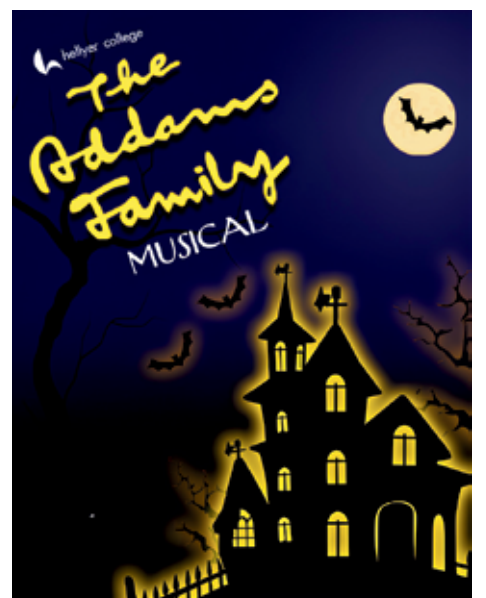


Dr. Karl Live

Join the legendary Dr Karl Kruszelnicki for a wild ride through surviving a blizzard in Antarctica (barefoot), test-driving four wheel drives across the Simpson Desert, the reality of beer goggles, and how he helped bring the word 'selfie' into the English language.

**Saturday, 15 August
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM**

Burnie Arts Town Hall



The Addams Family Musical

by Hellyer College

Based on the beloved characters created by Charles Addams, this musical comedy brings the spooky and kooky Addams clan to life with catchy songs, witty dialogue, and unforgettable moments.

07, 08, 14, 15 August | Times vary

Burnie Arts Theatre

For information on this and more - burniearts.net



The Treasure Hunt Starts Here!

Shoppers are invited to discover pre-loved fashion and support sustainable shopping at Second Glance, a second-hand clothing market.

Delivered by City Mission North & North West Tasmania with support from Burnie City Council, the market will take place on Saturday 25 July, from 12 pm to 4 pm, in the Civic Plaza at Burnie Arts.

Whether you're searching for a bargain, looking to give pre-loved clothing a second life or simply keen to enjoy the atmosphere of the newly renovated Civic Plaza, Second Glance offers something for everyone.

Shop sustainably. Support your community. Discover your next great find.



Community invited to provide feedback on View Road crossing

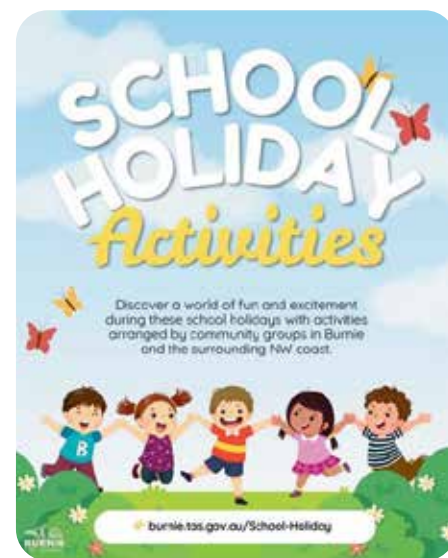
Burnie City Council is seeking community feedback on two proposed locations for a new raised pedestrian crossing on View Road, between West Park Grove and Grandview Avenue.

The crossing is proposed to improve pedestrian safety and accessibility, and Council is inviting residents, businesses, pedestrians, cyclists and motorists to review the options before a preferred location is selected.

Feedback will help inform the final decision and is open until Monday 22 July 2026.

To view the proposed locations and have your say, visit:

burnie.tas.gov.au/ViewRoadCrossing.



For school holiday activities on offer across Burnie and the North West Coast, visit: burnie.tas.gov.au/School-Holiday



Save the date

Burnie City Market - Marine Plaza
First and third Saturday of each month | 10 AM - 2 PM

School Holidays (Term 2)
Saturday 11 July to Sunday 26 July

Kids Corner (0-7 yr olds)
Burnie Arts
Every Thursday | 10 AM - 4 PM

Second Glance Market
Civic Plaza - Burnie Arts
Saturday, 25 July | 12 PM - 4 PM

Burnie City Council July Meeting
Council Chambers, 80 Wilson St.
Tuesday, 28 July | 7 PM

Connected Beinings
Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) Community Data Workshop | Montello Primary
Tuesday, 28 July | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

For more info - burnie.tas.gov.au

New Boardwalk Enhances Inglis River Access

Waratah-Wynyard, Tasmania

A new pedestrian bridge and boardwalk have opened along the Inglis River Walking Track, improving access between Golf Links Road, the river edge and surrounding pathways. The upgraded route provides a safer, more resilient connection while helping protect the area's sensitive paperbark environment.

It also improves access to the nearby kayak launch, fishing spot and car park. The project is another step towards a more connected network of walking trails for locals and visitors to enjoy. Read the full project story and view more photos at: <https://www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/projects>



Sign up to our
Community eNewsletter

Stay up to date with Council news, inc. projects, events, consultations and more.
www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/enews



Council adopts 2026/27 Annual Plan and Budget

Waratah-Wynyard, Tasmania

Waratah-Wynyard Council has adopted its 2026/27 Annual Plan and Budget Estimates, confirming the services, infrastructure works and community priorities to be delivered across the municipality during the year ahead. The budget includes a 4.9 per cent increase to the general rate, which Council says is below the Hobart Consumer Price Index of 5.1 per cent recorded in March.

The minimum general rate will be \$450. The Waste Management Charge will rise from \$190 to \$215, or about 48 cents per week, while kerbside waste collection charges will increase by between 4.72 and 5.26 per cent depending on the service. Stormwater service charges will also increase by about 4.9 per cent.

Free entry to the Wynyard and Waratah Waste Transfer Stations will continue for residents. Council said the budget aimed to balance affordability for ratepayers with the need to maintain essential services, care for community assets and progress important local projects.

Key priorities for the year include upgrades to the Inglis River Walking Track and planning for a new childcare facility in Wynyard; improvements to Langley Park facilities, Somerset Recreation Ground changerooms and the ANZAC Park All Abilities Playground; and planning for the relocation of the Waratah Transfer Station and upgrades to Waratah Caravan Park amenities. Works and planning will also continue at Boat Harbour and Sisters Beach, including completion of the Boat Harbour Master Plan, stormwater design work and erosion mitigation planning at Sisters Beach. In rural areas, Council will focus on the Takone Road bridge replacement, Stage 1 of Gates Road sealing, road reseals and gravel re-sheeting. Ratepayers experiencing difficulty paying rates or charges are encouraged to contact Council early to discuss options available under its Financial Hardship Policy. Rates may be paid in full or by instalments, with no early-payment discount offered this year. Read the full story and view the 2026/27 Annual Plan and Budget Estimates at www.warwyn.tas.gov.au.

Celebrating Dr Mary Duniam's Service

Waratah-Wynyard Council is celebrating Mayor Dr Mary Duniam's remarkable contribution to the community as she announces she will not seek re-election at the upcoming local government elections. First elected in 2005, Dr Duniam has served for more than two decades, including as Deputy Mayor from 2014 and as the municipality's first female Mayor since 2022. Her leadership, advocacy, mentorship and commitment to community engagement have left a lasting legacy. Council thanks her for her dedicated service and wishes her well. Read the full story:

<https://www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/news/celebrating-mayor-dr-mary-duniams-years-of-service/>



Have Your Say on Speed Limits

Waratah-Wynyard Council is seeking feedback on proposed speed limit changes for several local roads. The proposed changes include reducing speed limits from 100km/h to 80km/h on Mount Hicks Road, Village Lane, Little Village Lane, Tollymore Road and Table Cape Road and from 60km/h to 50km/h on part of Inglis Street. Feedback closes at 5pm on Friday 24 July 2026. <https://www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/have-your-say/proposed-speed-limit-changes/>

New Waste Calendar Out Now!

Download a copy of our updated 2026/27 waste calendar, available at: <https://www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/waste-recycling/>



Wynyard & surrounds

unforgettable experiences

Family adventures can be gentle or bold

Think family friendly trails, bike rides, fishing mornings, fossil hunting and farmland. Vibrant Spring events the whole family will love. There's more to do than you can imagine in Wynyard and surrounds.



Fossil Bluff



Coastal Pathway



Boat Harbour



Waratah Falls



Visit Wonders of Wynyard to plan your family eco-adventure. 

When caring changes everything

As an early intervention teacher, small business owner, wildlife carer and mother of three, Rebecca Mackay's days were spent caring for people, animals and family.

But when her husband Lee was diagnosed with stage 4 Hodgkin's lymphoma in 2024, life changed almost overnight.

Suddenly, Rebecca found herself taking on the role of full-time carer while trying to keep family life moving.

"For a while there, it looked like absolute chaos," she said.

"I was only able to focus on just making sure people were fed and happy and intact and that the bare minimum of things were getting done."

For the family, already living a busy life in a remote area with children and animals to care for, the diagnosis brought a new set of challenges.

"We live in a really rural, really remote place, I have three children and we have quite a busy little farm full of lots of animals," Rebecca said.

"It's very busy here, even on the best of days."

As treatment began, days quickly filled with specialist appointments, hospital visits and uncertainty.

"When things were at their worst it was really challenging with lots of hospital appointments, lots of time spent travelling, things were chaotic," Rebecca said.

For Lee, Rebecca became his constant

source of support through months of treatment, hospital visits and uncertainty.

"She drove me to the hospital every appointment," he said.

"She'd sit there for eight hours with me during chemo on our little coffee date, drinking our coffee and having our muffin while I got chemicals poured into my veins."

"She was a lifeline, it was like having an angel on my shoulder."

Now, as Lee continues his recovery, life has begun to settle and Rebecca is starting to think beyond simply getting through each day.

With the help of the Carer Gateway's pre-employment program, she has begun rebuilding the career she put on hold and is looking toward the future once again.

"It's a really big weight off knowing I've got somebody working with me on putting it back together properly," Rebecca said, praising the help she has received through the program.

For Lee, seeing Rebecca return to the work she loves has been one of the brighter moments after a difficult chapter.

"The biggest shame about getting sick was taking her away from her work," he said.

"It's really nice seeing her getting back into it now and doing something she wants to do for herself for a change."



Is the next Australian of the Year in YOUR community?

Australians are encouraged to nominate people in their communities who are making a real difference, with nominations for the 2027 Australian of the Year Awards closing on 31 July 2026.

Across the country, extraordinary Australians are contributing to their communities in ways both big and small. Some are well known, while many are quietly changing lives every day.

The National Australia Day Council is calling on Australians to shine a light on these stories by submitting a nomination.

The Awards rely entirely on public nominations, and it only takes one nomination for someone to be considered. Nominating is simple: explain who the person is, what they have done and why their contribution matters. "Every year these Awards begin with someone taking the time to recognise another person's contribution. A nomination can shine a light on extraordinary Australians whose work is improving lives, strengthening communities and helping shape the nation," said Todd Ashurst, Interim CEO, National Australia Day Council.

One nomination can:

- Raise the profile of important work
 - Recognise the contribution of an individual
 - Open the door to further recognition
- Importantly, nominators do not need to know the person they put forward personally.

Many nominees are people Australians have seen, heard about, or been inspired by through their work, leadership or service. Nominators can also choose to remain anonymous.

AWARD CATEGORIES

The Australian of the Year Awards recognise outstanding Australians across four categories:

- Australian of the Year
- Senior Australian of the Year (65 years and over)
- Young Australian of the Year (16-30 years)

Australia's Local Hero

Each state and territory selection panel chooses four recipients, one in each award category. Those 32 recipients then represent their state or territory at the national awards announcement in Canberra on 25 January 2027.

HOW TO NOMINATE & DEADLINE

Nominations can be submitted online at australianoftheyear.org.au.

Nominations close at midnight AEST on Friday, 31 July 2026.



ANNOUNCEMENT

ANNOUNCEMENT

Blackley Pipelines & Irrigation are proud to announce we have been appointed exclusive distributors for the PumpEng range of underground mine dewatering pumps.

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- respiratory problems e.g., asthma, breathing difficulties
- stings, bites, and rashes
- acute muscle and joint pain
- abrasions and lacerations
- urinary tract infections
- gastrointestinal illnesses



16 Mooreville Road
Park Grove



CIRCULAR HEAD Community News

SAVE THE DATE

July Council Meeting
Thursday 16 July

Community Grants
Open 17 July, Close 31 August

Circular Head Science Gig
Monday 17 August

August Council Meeting
Thursday 27 August

CHArts Festival
Friday 4 September to Sunday 4
October

Stanley Bicentenary Celebrations
30 October to 2 November

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CALENDAR

Inflatable Fun - Thursday 16 July
Basketball - Sunday 19 July
Burnie Movie Trip - Monday 20 July
Cupcake Decorating Challenge &
Gaming Tournament - Tuesday 21
July
Come & Try Water Polo - Thursday
23 July

Visit our website for all the details
including ages, times and how to
register. Have questions? Contact
Kylie Monson: (03) 6452 4803 or
kmonson@circularhead.tas.gov.au



Sign up to our eNews



Stay up to date with what
Council is doing, including
projects, services, decisions
and ways to have your say.

What's in this year's Council Budget?

Investment in recreation, health, economic development and waste services.

The Annual Plan and Budget 2026/27 focuses on practical actions that support the long-term goals of Circular Head Vision 2050.

“Over the past 12 months, Councillors and staff have been working together to improve Council’s financial position, to review how services are delivered and ensure our investment decisions align with the priorities identified by the community through Vision 2050,” Mayor Blizzard said.

General Manager Paul Gardner said the proposed Budget continues Council’s focus on reducing its operating deficit through efficiencies, organisational improvements and long-term planning.

“Council has been undertaking a significant organisational transformation process aimed at improving efficiency, customer experience and value for the community,” Mr Gardner said.

“The proposed Budget demonstrates our commitment to responsible

financial management while continuing to invest in the projects, services and advocacy that matter most to Circular Head.”

The proposed Budget includes a 7.75% increase in general rate revenue and a new Rating Strategy designed to improve fairness and better reflect different land uses.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

- Establishing a **\$2.1 million Community Recreation Fund** to support improvements at West Esplanade, Smithton and new playground facilities at Kings Park, Stanley
- Progressing the new **Smithton Health Hub** through a public-private partnership
- Funding a new **Economic Development Officer** position to progress the Economic Development Strategy
- Redeveloping Council’s **website**
- Leading the development of a new **Circular Head Waste Strategy**
- Redesigning and upgrading the **White Hills Transfer Station**
- Supporting the development of the **Child and Family Learning Centre**
- Replacement of the **Wilson’s Creek bridge** at Montumana
- Netball/tennis centre **court resurfacing**
- Destination **Management Plan**
- Goldie Street, Britton’s Road **safety assessment**
- Development of a **lighting strategy** to assist with International Dark Skies accreditation
- Fully embedding Council’s Continuous Improvement Strategy (ways of working) and **Organisational Transformation Program**
- Continuing **advocacy** for transport, housing, waste and regional infrastructure outcomes.

Smithton Visitor Information Centre



- Gift Shop with local products
- Childrens University & Australian Adventure Passport
- Cheese, Milk & Honey Tastings
- Brochures, Maps & Information
- Theatrette Showcasing Local Films
- Robotic Dairy Tours
- Circular Head Heritage Centre
- The Pavilions Cafe

Friendly, local advice on all there is to see and do to help you get the most out of your time in the region.

Open 7 days
12 Nelson Street, Smithton
(03) 6413 5333
info@stanleyandtarkine.com.au





New Playground for Kings Park

A new playground for Kings Park in Stanley is one of the projects included in Circular Head Council’s adopted Annual Plan and Budget 2026/27.

The Budget includes a \$2.1 million Community Recreation Fund to support improvements to recreation spaces across the municipality, including West Esplanade in Smithton and a new playground at Kings Park.

Planning for the playground will include working with students from Stanley Primary School to help shape the design. Rather than deciding what the playground should include, Council wants to hear directly from local young people about the play equipment and features they would like to see.

The project supports the long-term goals of Circular Head Vision 2050 by creating welcoming public spaces where children, families and visitors can connect, play and enjoy the outdoors.

Hey kids!

Come in and find the pair of penguins hidden inside the Smithton Visitor Information Centre to receive a FREE TREAT!

- Hunt for the pair of penguins (Hint 1 x sitting and 1 x swimming)
- Show the staff member where you found them
- Claim your free treat

Bring your detective eyes and have fun exploring!

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Sixteen Promises, Sixteen Failures: Why I can't take this budget on faith

The Treasurer told Parliament this is "the season for balancing the books." It's a nice line. But Tasmanians have heard it before - sixteen times, in fact.

Over the last sixteen years, the Tasmanian Government (of both colours) has projected a budget surplus on sixteen separate occasions, across the forward estimates of the state budget. Not one of those surpluses has materialised. Not one. Every single time, a deficit was delivered instead.

That's the track record this year's budget needs to be judged against.

This year's repair plan rests almost entirely on one idea: cutting costs, mostly through cutting jobs. Treasury's own Fiscal Sustainability Report, released just three months before the budget, was blunt - no single class of intervention will be enough. Real repair needs a mix of expenditure cuts, revenue measures and changes to infrastructure spending, all working together. This budget uses only one of those three levers.

It also claims savings of more than \$400 million by year four that exist nowhere as an actual plan. There's no agency-by-agency breakdown, no timeline, no detail on what services will change. They are simply the number needed to make the bottom line look right. What we see is a target reverse-engineered to fit, not a plan built from operational reality.

Meanwhile, real costs are missing from the books entirely. There's no funding set aside for the cost of staff redundancies which will be required. There's a \$74.7 million shortfall in the fund covering

areas self-insured by the government, with no plan to fund it other than expecting the agencies to find this as well as all other savings imposed on them. And wages are funded at 2.5 per cent while actual agreed pay rises are running at 3 per cent or more - a gap that, in reality, equates to several hundred jobs that will quietly disappear just to make the numbers add up.

Many of the announcements that appear in the government's social media and glossy pamphlets are re-announcements of already committed funds or Australian government funding commitments. Community organisations providing services throughout our region are facing real pressure as the people they serve face increasing cost of living pressures. The arts sector, already stretched thin for years, gets a real-terms funding cut dressed up as steady support. The arts are critical to community well-being.

The Budget will pass as the State has to keep functioning, and essential services must be funded. But support is not the same as confidence.

Treasury has been honest with the Government about what real fiscal repair takes. The Government hasn't passed that honesty on to Tasmanians or acted as required to address the challenge. Sixteen broken surplus promises is not a record that earns the benefit of the doubt. Tasmanians deserve a budget that tells the truth about what repair costs, and who pays for it.

Hon Ruth Forrest MLC
Independent Member for Murchison

Grace of Baptism at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Queenstown

A significant event and a grace-filled moment for the people of Queenstown on 26th June 2026 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, where four of our candidates received the Sacrament of Baptism. The event started with the Holy Mass at 8.50 am in the presence of St. Joseph's Catholic School students, parents, teachers and well-wishers; followed by the event of grace for these Neophytes: Noah Rodney Harrison, Rilee Kate Smith, Lucas William Austbo and Scarlett Pearl Harrison.

Fr. Arokia, the main celebrant of the Holy Mass and the Rite of Baptism welcomed everyone with a great joy. The homily message reiterated on the importance of divine life and Grace. In baptism God gives us grace which leads us to a special identification of becoming priest, prophet and king. He said, "Baptism is a symbol of Identification; a symbol of Resurrection and it is also a symbol of becoming members of the church." St Cyprian, the bishop of Carthage observed: "God's mercy and grace should not be refused to anyone born".

Christians believe baptism is a means of grace for the one being baptized. It is also that baptism is "a means of grace for believers as they observe the baptism of others."

Grace is God's free and unmerited favour given to a person to help him/her attain eternal life. Grace is God's divine life in our souls, his movement in our lives. Baptism is the first sacrament we receive. All of the sacraments are outward signs instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church to give us grace. They are not mere symbols but are efficacious, meaning they have an effect on the soul. The soul touched by grace is a soul changed by grace. Baptism introduces grace into our souls.

Finally, participation of the parents, God parents were amazing pointing to the need for grace and the divine life. The event ended up with great cheers and wishing of Congratulations for the newly baptised. Tammi Crosswell, the Deputy Principal distributed the certificates to the reborn children of God.

Future bright for Dismal Swamp



A bold new future is being explored for the iconic Dismal Swamp, with plans underway to transform the site into a vibrant tourism and hospitality destination in Tasmania's Far North West, enticing more visitors to explore the region, stay longer, and experience all it has to offer.

This redevelopment forms part of the broader Tarkine Experience Hub, alongside planning for the proposed Wave Breaker Cave Experience, positioning the region as a must-visit destination for nature-based tourism.

The Albanese Labor Government has committed \$12.5 million to fully fund the project, with the Tasmanian Government providing in-kind project management support and working closely with regional and industry stakeholders through a dedicated Steering Committee.

The redevelopment is now well underway, with Tasmanian company Skyscape engaged in November 2025 to oversee remediation works, site upgrades, and the development of a new concept for Dismal Swamp.

In partnership with Skyscape, the Tasmanian Government is progressing key works to rehabilitate the former tourist site. This includes removing outdated infrastructure, restoring safe access, securing the site, and upgrading essential services such as car parking, water and sewerage.

These works will lay the foundation for significant future investment and support the site's transition into a modern, experience-based tourism and hospitality destination.

As part of the next phase, a new operator will be sought through a formal market process, with early discussions already underway with potential operators and investors.

In addition, a feasibility study is being commissioned for the proposed Wave Breaker Cave Experience (The Wild Edge Project), which will assess the potential to safely access a cave system beneath the cliffs near Cape Grim.

Anne Urquhart MP, Federal Member for Braddon said:

"Reactivating this site will attract more visitors, encourage longer stays, and support local businesses right across the North West. We want people to come to the Far North West, explore its natural beauty, and stay to experience everything our region has to offer.

From construction through to ongoing tourism operations, this project will create real jobs and genuine opportunities for local people.

This is exactly the kind of investment our regions need building on our natural strengths and securing a strong future for our communities".



Tales from Emmerton Park - meet the residents

My Story – Shirley Stokes



I was born in Wynyard, although our family lived at Lileah. Mum had friends in Wynyard, so when she was due to have me, she travelled down to the Spit and Grunt at Wiltshire and caught the train to stay with them until I was born.

My dad was a farm labourer and worked on Mum's family farm after Grandad passed away. We have many wonderful memories of growing up there. Our family remained on the farm until Nanna passed away.

I was the eldest in our family, but it wasn't long before Bev, Colleen, Helene, Frank and Ian arrived and made our family complete. We all worked alongside our parents from the age of six or seven. The boys helped Dad with the farming

duties, milking 33 cows by hand and keeping the farm running, while us girls helped with the household chores washing, cleaning, cooking and, of course, the dreaded dishes. The older children looked after the younger ones. Children grew up quickly in those days. We rarely fought because we knew we would either get "the switch" or be given all the dishes to do. I'm still not sure which was worse!

We walked to school in those days, rain, hail or shine, covering two miles each way to Lileah Area School. Not many families had the luxury of owning a car. Schooling only went to the end of Grade 6, around the age of twelve. If you wanted to continue to high school, you had to sit a special exam, which none of us did.

We were expected to take responsibility from a young age, and by the time we left school we were ready for work. There were plenty of jobs available back then. My first job was at Williams Milk Bar at the top end of Emmett Street, where The Reject Shop is now. Around that time, our family moved to Forest.

I met my future husband, Derwent better known as "Toogs" when I was thirteen years old. He was a few years older than me, and I liked him from the start. It wasn't until a few years later, that the

sparks really started to fly. I was about sixteen when we began courting, although dates were usually outings with a group of friends.

We were dated for seven years before we married and started a family of our own. We soon welcomed Sharon and Cynthia, and eight years later Kylie arrived. Our family was complete. I continued to work on and off until Derwent's mother came to live with us due to poor health.

Derwent had a wonderful sense of humour and was well known throughout the district for pulling up in the car and calling out "Whoo, whoo!" as though he were driving a team of horses. He was also an incredibly hard worker who would help anyone in need. After work or on weekends, he would drop everything to lend a hand. Even when he developed debilitating rheumatoid arthritis, he still helped wherever he could.

We never really went on holidays because we were content living in Circular Head. We had everything we needed, a beautiful family, stunning scenery, oceans, rivers, mountains, waterfalls, a wonderful church and a supportive community. Occasionally, Toogs had medical appointments in Launceston, and we would sometimes stay an extra day or two for a rest before returning home to

the place we loved.

The Forest Gospel Church played a very important role in our lives after moving to Forest. Toogs was a leader of the Boys Rally, and I helped out whenever I could. There were many anniversaries, weddings and special occasions held at the church. I seemed to spend my time cooking, cooking, cooking and cooking some more to help cater for these events. If someone in the community was unwell, we would take meals to help them through.

Sadly, Derwent passed away in July 2001. We all miss him dearly, and his passing was a great loss to our family. I had cared for him for twenty years during his illness. After he was gone, I took over the vegetable garden and continued keeping the family going, just as we always had.

Looking back, I feel grateful for the life we shared. It was built on hard work, family, faith and community values that have stayed with me throughout my life.



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Tales from a Zeehan graveyard

NORTH EAST DUNDAS LOCOMOTIVE EXPLODES. TWO MEN KILLED.

Perhaps the most well known fatal accident in the history of Zeehan occurred at around 7:15a.m. on Tuesday, May 16 1899, when the boiler of the Sharp Stewart locomotive used on the North East Dundas line exploded and Engine Driver Dave Bidulph and Fireman Thomas Marra were killed.

Marra was killed outright, but the unfortunate Bidulph was thrown about [25 metres] and hit the ground still alive although grievously injured. He was taken to the Hospital, where he died about an hour and a half later.

Marra was a single man, but Bidulph left a wife and nine children.

The train was the scheduled morning service on the North East Dundas line and had been to the Zeehan railway station and was returning slowly to pick up more passengers at the North East Dundas siding, when the explosion occurred. The Zeehan stationmaster, Mr T.S. Parry, had a providential escape as he had hitched a ride on the engine, and only jumped off a few metres from where it exploded.

Thomas Bagley was also lucky as he would have been the driver but he had been told to take a special train to Strahan instead, and he was replaced by Dave Bidulph, who was to have had the day off.

Fortunately, none of the passengers in the carriages were injured as the main force of the explosion blasted laterally and to the front, but had the explosion taken place a few seconds later when it was level with the waiting room, the nine people in there would probably have been killed.

The explosion occurred with such force that the boiler, which weighed about [6,300kg], was lifted from its carriage, and travelled a distance of about [180 metres] at a height of about [35 metres] when it struck the earth making a hole about [1 metre] deep before bouncing another [3 metres], after which it rebounded upwards again, and travelled for another [15 metres] before coming to rest. Other large pieces of metal, twisted into every conceivable shape, were strewn about within a radius of [55 to 90 metres] from the explosion,



while lighter pieces were blasted hundreds of metres.

Thomas Marra's body was taken to Hobart, where a relative resided, for burial. Dave Bidulph's body left the Zeehan Hospital for the Cemetery at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, 18 May 1899. His unmarked grave can still be found today.

On Wednesday, 17 May a Coronial Enquiry commenced regarding the death of Thomas Marra. Strangely Dave Bidulph was never mentioned

as part of this Enquiry.

Separate to the Coronial Enquiry was another undertaken by the Railway Department for the State Government.

The Coronial Enquiry heard from ten witnesses, including Thomas Bagley, who said he had driven the engine for the past two and a half years, and had driven it the day before. He was satisfied that it was in good working order.

Alexander Cummings said he had performed routine maintenance on the engine overnight, and lit the firebox about 4:00am that morning. There had been a minor issue with a valve the day prior and Bagley had sorted it out.

Henry Menitz, locomotive foreman, stated the engine had recently had repairs done, but none to the boiler. On the morning prior to the explosion Dave Bidulph had brought his attention to a leaking safety valve, and he had told him to report it when he came home that night. There was nothing unusual in valves leaking, and at the time witness considered them completely safe. Since the explosion the safety valve of the wrecked engine had been tested on another boiler and it had worked correctly.

Mr R. Deeble, Locomotive Superintendent for the Tasmanian Government Railways, deposed that he had inspected the wreckage and he

could find no defects which would have caused the explosion. His personal opinion was that some explosive had been put in with the coal, either accidentally or not. Mr Deeble, who was also on the TGR Enquiry panel, stated he was not prepared to say what was contained in that report.

One of the passengers, Arthur Allison deposed that as he was talking to Bidulph he had seen a lot of steam escaping and while he was no expert, the engine seemed to him to be hard-ly safe. Bidulph appeared to be quite excited.

After hearing all of the evidence the jury found that Marra had been killed by a boiler explosion but there was insufficient evidence to establish the cause. They added a rider that they considered Mr Menitz was to blame in allowing the engine to be worked after he had found something wrong with the valve.

The TGR Enquiry investigated five possibilities: 1) overheating of the firebox, etc., caused by lack of water. 2) the boiler's integrity had been lessened by corrosion. 3) a defect in design. 4) excessive steam pressure was not blown off because of the faulty valve. 5) an explosive substance had found its way into the ashpan, firebox or boiler. It concluded that option 5 was the most probable, with the likelihood that a detonator had become mixed up with the coal.

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

Circular Head's 'Unsung Heroines' Awards

Soroptimist International of Circular Head is calling on the community to nominate local women for the Unsung Heroines Awards, with nominations closing on Thursday 30 July.

The awards recognise women of any age or background who consistently support others, strengthen their families or community, and contribute with little thanks or public recognition.

Nominations may also recognise women who have overcome difficult circumstances, rebuilt their lives, and inspired others through resilience and example.

This year will mark the thirteenth presentation evening for the awards, which honour women from the district for outstanding contributions to their families or the wider community. Last year, seven women were nominated by members of the public and received awards from Soroptimist International of Circular Head.

Displays of previous award recipients have been placed in venues around town to encourage the public to reflect on the

Circular Head women whose quiet service, courage, and generosity deserve recognition.

Nominations close Thursday 30 July. Members of the public are encouraged to nominate a woman whose contribution may otherwise go unnoticed.

The Awards are the result of a partnership between Soroptimist International of Circular Head and the Circular Head Council

Nominations forms are available from



Recipients of the Unsung Heroines Award in 2025 were: Back row: Doreen Crosswell, Marion Blake, Mikayla House, Lynette Jenkins Front row: Claire Porteus, Penny King Steph Johnson.

Spuds'n'More, the Library, on the Council website, or by email from lynne.bramich@gmail.com. Sally Stanley at the library can assist anyone who would like help or advice in preparing a nomination.

STUDY CENTRE

CIRCULAR HEAD

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Contact the Hub in your area for support and training

Learn and Study Local

Walking Words literacy trail created in Smithton

by Ebony Robson-Wells



New engaging sidewalk paintings have been added in Smithton between Gibson Street and the boat ramp on E Esplanade as part of the Walking Words Literacy Trail project created by Circular Head Council and 26Ten.

Six sections of the interactive art project have been added in collaboration with the community, including two dog themed pieces outside of the Gibson Street dog park, and colourful fish outside of the Tasmanian Seafood fish factory.

This project is part of a wider scale initiative by 26Ten to increase confidence and skills in literacy and numeracy within the wider Circular Head area.

The trail begins outside of the Gibson Street dog park, with colourful, jumbo sized paw prints. The prints are numbered from start to finish and offer passersby an opportunity to practise their numeracy skills, while also being physically active, jumping from paw to paw.

The pawprints lead directly to the next activity: “Find the Bones”, where the art invites participants to locate the 33 painted bones scattered along the path, which allows people to practise their counting.

The next activity in the series is a group of images painted onto the ground of things commonly found along the Duck River, such as ducks and flowers, which the participant is challenged to locate along their walk. The activity aims to aid forming connections between words and objects and leads directly into the next section of the trail: the bike track.

Attendees of Smithton High School or the public alike will find a new game painted along the bike track connecting Gibson and Davis Street, called “Spud Says”! The game's name combines the childhood game of “Simon Says” with the McCain Factory located directly next to the bike track. The game is run by potato characters who lead the player through a series of activities, such as “jump”, “dance”, and “spin”, while they venture down the path. The activity displays the painted renditions of activities

alongside the written words. This offers people a chance to practise reading while having fun and being physical!

The next series of paintings in the trail is located outside of the Tasmanian Seafood factory along E Esplanade, composed of painted fish that cycle through the entire rainbow, from red to purple. The fish are labelled with their colour, offering people a chance to increase their colour word association.

The next set of paintings on the Walking Words Literacy Trail are located along the path to the boat ramp.

Members of the public were welcome to come along and paint insects such as ladybugs and butterflies that lead up to a giant caterpillar, Collins who was created from recycled bowling balls. Collins serves as a fantastic temporary finish line to the trail and serves as a symbol of what a community can achieve by working together.

Future sections of the trail include a section devoted to working with Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation to share our local Marmanar language, and a section to share Auslan with the community.

Walking Words Literacy Trail certainly brings the people of Circular Head together, the making of the trail also encourages a lot of community involvement! Members of the community, including a group of preschool children and people simply walking by, were given the opportunity to help paint the many sections of the installation, including “Spud Says”, and give live feedback during the process.

The Trail has certainly gone above and beyond in its creation and has left members of the community excited to see what comes next.

“the Trail isn’t just about improving reading and writing skills; it’s about creating a space where everyone—regardless of age, background, or literacy level—can come together to learn in a fun, engaging, and supportive environment.”

– Kate Grey, 26Ten Community Coordinator

SOLSTICE CRUISE & PLUNGE

There was so much happening on the West Coast for the Winter Solstice, including a twilight cruise on World Heritage Cruise’s ‘Red Boat’. This was an evening of glam and glitter with the

theme being black and gold. The cruise goes did not disappoint! Music by Craig and Shan had the dancefloor packed most of the night and the bar staff kept the cocktails flowing. Don’t miss 2027.



There are few things that prepare you for plunging into the icy, dark waters of Macquarie Harbour on a crisp winters day. The moment your feet hit the water, your breath catches, your heart races, and every instinct tells you to turn back. But surrounded by an incredible crowd of supporters and fellow participants at the 2026 Strahan Solstice Festival, that initial shock quickly gives way to laughter, determination and an overwhelming sense of achievement.

The cold lasts only a few moments, but the reason for taking the plunge lasts much longer. Raising funds for Speak Up! Stay ChatTY is about encouraging conversations, supporting mental health, and reminding people that no one has to face life challenges alone. If a few seconds in freezing water can help raise awareness, start conversations and support such an important cause, then every shiver is well worth it. It was an unforgettable experience that truly demonstrated the warmth and generosity of the West Coast community, even on the coldest day of the year.



WINTER SOLSTICE IN THE WEST

Rosebery's spooky Solstice market

Rosebery once again pooled its community resources to pull off an amazing event for the community as part of the Light Up the West program, supported financially by Destination West Coast.

The Winter Solstice Working Group, comprising The Rosebery Development Association, Rosebery Lions Club, Rosebery Neighbourhood House, The Top Pub, Shields Events and Entertainment, Rosebery Photography Group, Rosebery Toorak Football Club and interested community members, worked

with community volunteers to create a free community event comprising markets, food stalls, children's entertainment and fire pits. The event culminated in the Shields Events and Entertainment 80s themed Karaoke Night at the Top Pub.

We thank our sponsors Mumma Jo's, Tophs Handyman Services, MMG Rosebery, IGA Rosebery, West Coast Council and Destination West Coast, and recognise the amazing volunteers who step up to support these events for the community.



Community rallies for big freeze success



The strange mystery of the 'Alvina'

In 1951 there appeared in the estuary of the Duck River in Smithton, a ship of unusual design and appearance for those waters in those times. This was the two-masted steam yacht Alvina.

(Despite its resemblance to a Goon Show coining, steam yacht was a standard term in its time for a vessel used for pleasure or commerce which was powered by steam with the help of sails.)

A bit earlier, Alvina had run aground on Tatlow's Beach in Stanley.

Despite initial fears that she might break up, after about six weeks the ship was successfully refloated. Shortly afterwards, she travelled round the corner and went aground again, this time at Pelican Point, in the approaches to Smithton.

A later report in the C. H. Chronicle stated that she was harbouring rather than aground but she was certainly immobilised. She was clearly visible from the playground in my first year at school.

The ship's captain's name was Gulliver, but at that time his travelling was rather limited.

During her time at Pelican Point, an unsuccessful attempt was made to sell Alvina by auction in Smithton.

What next? Three years later the ship was bought by the Launceston branch of the Navy

League of Australia with its engine removed and rebranded as 'Tamar' it was used by the local Sea Scouts.

I shall be very grateful for any information readers can supply concerning what happened in the intervening three years. Even if she ran aground at every available opportunity, it couldn't have taken three years to sail from Smithton to Launceston.

For that matter, what was she doing on the North-West Coast in 1951? And why was there an attempt to sell her in Smithton?

Earlier history

The Australian history of Alvina began in 1903, when she was purchased by the Port Phillip Pilot Service, having been launched in the U.K. in 1887.

She was later used by the Navy as an inspection ship. Sometime in the late 1920s or 1930s she was used as a ferry to Phillip Island.

Probably her most dramatic moment occurred when she was involved in the firing of probably Australia's first hostile shot in the First World War.

The German ship Pfalz was berthed in Melbourne when war was declared, and her captain, Wilhelm Kuhlken (there seems to be some doubt about the spelling) made a run for it, attempt-

ing to get clear of Australian waters before being apprehended.

Alvina was near the entrance to Port Phillip Bay and relayed a signal from Melbourne to a shore battery to fire a warning shot at Pfalz. The German ship returned to Melbourne and her crew were interned.

This would have been a very sad exile, and one might ask what was the point of the exercise: Pfalz could have caused us no conceivable damage, especially once she left Australia.

The trapped internees in WW1 would be the subject of a worthwhile study. The same goes for people similarly trapped

rich and powerful men in Europe (and was intimate with not a few). One of her lovers (for want of a better word; why not master", as a counterpart of mistress) gave her a steam yacht called White Ladye [sic.]. It occurred to me (and to the scribe of Phillip Island) that somehow Alvina may have been confused with this ship. But White Ladye had three masts, Alvina had but two.

Now to some questions.

The Maritime Museum of Tasmania has online a photo of Alvina/Tamar accompanied by a letter from Anne Williams, who claimed that this yacht, one of a kind, belonged to my great grand-

the attempted donation, but this is pointless speculation.

Thus I have to conclude that Anne Williams was mistaken.

The New York Times of the 30th of May, 1901 had an item headed Yacht Alvina to tour the world and announcing that the new steam yacht Alvina, the property of Charles Fletcher of Providence, departed ... today for ... Boston, where she is to be fitted out for a tour of the world.

Could this be our; Alvina, interrupting her world tour in Melbourne and being sold there? Or perhaps stopping in Britain and being sold from there to the Pilot Service.

Perhaps. But a quick online look into some historical archives of New England (U.S.) reveals evidence which throws doubt on this possibility.

This Alvina was built for Charles Fletcher in 1901 but was sold eighteen months later because it was too large for Narragansett Bay (near Providence, Rhode Island). As well as providing a rather striking example of forward planning, this information raises the question: how did Fletcher's planned world tour fit this timetable?

And the clincher perhaps: whereas our Alvina is said to have been built near Southampton, Fletcher's Alvina was

built in Wilmington Delaware.

Also, reports suggest that our Alvina was purchased from a British owner with the remarkable name of Marmaduke Fox, not likely to be confused with Fletcher, or anything else.

One last piece for the puzzle, from the NY Times again, appeared in 1917. Under the heading Alvina reported sold, it was announced that ... yacht sails for England, possibly for the British Patrol Service.

Whatever the connections, if any, between these various Alvinas, whence came the vogue for bestowing that name on steam yachts in the late 19th Century? (There is a small yacht called Alvina in the records of the Maritime Museum and there's also a Greek shipping company with that name.) There's no obvious significance in the name Alvina, it being the feminine form of Alvin, and its root in old English-German-Norse means something like friend of elves.

And what was the ultimate fate of Tamar née Alvina?

She was eventually sold for scrap

BARRY GARDNER

for Circular Head Heritage Centre



and interned at the start of WW2. These latter included the Vienna Boys' Choir, but I digress.

Towards the end of Alvina's time as a Phillip Island ferry, the writer Zane Grey expressed an interest in leasing her to explore the Great Barrier Reef, but it's not known if anything came of this.

After the Phillip Island period there are again gaps in our knowledge of the ship's history, and again readers are invited to let us know if they are aware of further details.

Although I've been unable to confirm this from social records, it is widely claimed that Alvina operated for a time as a floating casino in Port Phillip Bay.

Then there was that cruise to North-West Tasmania.

3 Legends, questions, speculation

It has been reported in a few sources that Alvina was once owned by the future British king, Edward VII and/or the British actress Lillie Langtry (various spellings of her name occur in print). But these are inconsistent and I have not found any compelling evidence for them. The writer of an article in some sort of newsletter emanating from Phillip Island dismisses the Henry-Langtry-Alvina connection as entirely mythical.

Langtry was an intimate of many of the

father, Thomas Frederick Cole of Minnesota. It was donated to the war effort in Europe and delivered to Liverpool. It never made it to the final destination in Russia but instead showed up in Australia.

She presumably refers to WW2. The ship would be highly unlikely to have been donated before the United States entered the War in 1941.

I suppose it's just possible that Alvina was sold to Cole at the end of her service to Phillip Island, though I haven't found any reference to such a sale in Australia. Granting this, though, the ship might have returned to Australia in time for her ill-starred excursion to N.W. Tasmania, but I've seen no references to such a second coming.

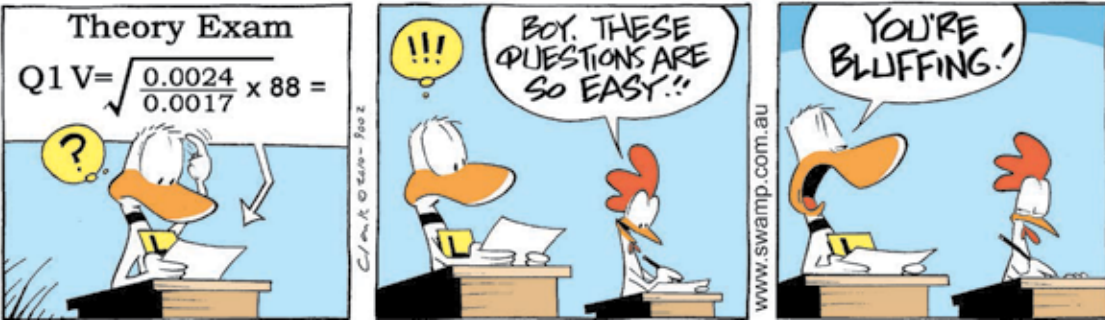
I have found some information about Thomas Frederick Cole, a mining magnate who lived for a time in Duluth, Minnesota, and had a son in law named Williams (Anne Williams's grandfather?).

But the only ship for which I could find any connection to this Cole was a large freighter called Thomas F. Cole which plied the Great Lakes.

And this Cole died in 1939, before either the U.S. or the U.S.S.R. entered WW2, so someone else (son in law Williams perhaps?) would have had to make

WESTERN ECHO PUZZLE PAGE

SWAMP



BEYOND THE BLACK STUMP



CLANCY



INSANITY STREAK



AGAINST THE GRAIN



JUMBLE No. 701

L	T	U
R	M	D
O	A	O

TODAY'S TARGET
 15 Words **Good**
 19 Words **Very Good**
 23 Words **Excellent**
 28 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.

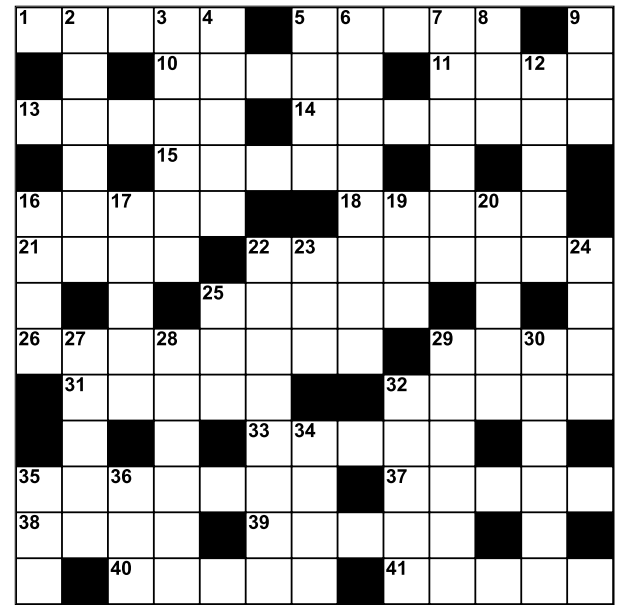
SUDOKU No. 022

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

CROSSWORD No. 10870

ACROSS

- Tribal symbol
- Decoration
- Female fox
- Wander
- Long detailed stories
- Commenced
- Exclude
- Lid
- Comforts
- Dry
- Causes sudden alarm
- Winged
- Birds with large fish-catching bills
- Actual
- Narrow ways
- Rim
- Conceals
- Using few words
- African river
- Metal
- Wanderer
- Condescend
- Is ahead



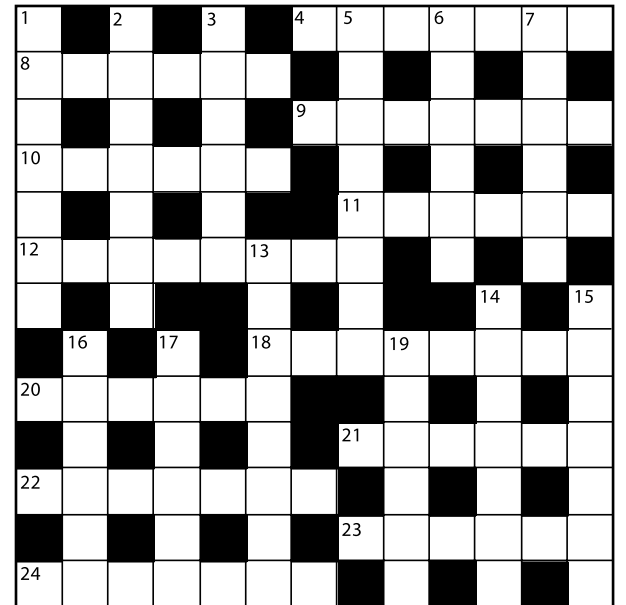
DOWN

- Public speaker
- Dodged
- Scrooge
- Table-shaped hill
- Beseches
- Apprehend
- Fate
- Colour
- Stanza
- Fish
- Stringed instrument
- Land measure
- Church office holder
- Cutting violently at random
- Make brown
- Part of a shoe
- Top card
- English composer
- Chant
- Dwell
- Consented
- Corruptly mercenary
- Sacred image
- Falsehood
- Pay on delivery

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD No. 16521

ACROSS

- What ships carry so the vehicle works (7)
- Sum to pay for a horse? (6)
- Called for medical reforms (7)
- Frame of mind that may raise a laugh (6)
- You and I have to take on wicked pest (6)
- Mean it to be never (2,2,4)
- Again tending to be trustworthy (8)
- Tell how bishop lost his head? (6)
- Presumably it won't get the cup if it's flying (6)
- The key to the missing locks? (7)
- Stack for smoker (6)
- Attractive sketch, perhaps (7)



DOWN

- Sack hotheaded father? Capital! (7)
- Allowance of food for MPs? (7)
- Slight sunlit movement (6)
- The whole lot grow, so there's nothing wrong (4,4)
- Girl conductors? (6)
- It's open for seeing the sights (6)
- Paying back runner, it could be (2,6)
- Part of play by old boy is indecent (7)
- Lay wire in a tired way (7)
- Mend a broken marriage? (6)
- Handcart causes quarrel in pub? (6)
- Early flier took one vehicle to America (6)

PREVIOUS ANSWERS

Crossword No. 10869

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

Sudoku No. 021

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

Cryptic No. 16520

Across: 1 Attache-case; 9 Air; 10 Brimstone; 11 Beset; 13 Twister; 14 Relics; 16 Truant; 18 Soprano; 19 Solar; 20 Originate; 21 Cue; 22 Letterpress

Down: 2 Tar; 3 Ambit; 4 Hoists; 5 Cashier; 6 Shortfall; 7 Barber's shop; 8 Secretaries; 12 Sale-price; 15 Chariot; 17 Mohair; 19 Sheer; 21 Cos.

Jumble 700

arty atrip parity part party patty pita pitta PITUITARY pituri pity purity putt putty rapt ratty rutty tapir tart tarty taut titi trait trap tray trip tuart yurt

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE WEST

Christmas in JULY!

'Tis the season to be jolly!

Good friends, great company, festive fun!

20 20TH OF JULY

12PM

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GOOD COMPANY
LAUGHS
FESTIVE FUN

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WARM DRINKS
HO HO HO

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10AM TO 2PM

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REGISTER YOUR ADDRESS WITH THE **ZEEHAN NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE**

Be part of the fun!

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ONE DAY ONLY! SUPPORT LOCAL CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY!

GOOD STUFF NEW HOME!

GOOD FINDS!

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MISS Zeehan

A NIGHT OF LAUGHS, GLAMOUR & LOCAL LEGENDS!

SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST

HEEMSKIRK HOTEL

Zeehan

7.30PM

\$10 ENTRY

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MC ALIESHA MASKELL

JUDGES BRENDA, DEBBIE & JOANNE

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SATURDAY, 3 OCTOBER - SUNDAY, 18 OCTOBER

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THE SHIELDS EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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BOOK SHOP

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Date: 13th - 31st July, 2026
Time: Mon to Fri 10am-3.30pm
Sat: 10am-12.30pm

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*All proceeds support pre-kinder books, Youth programs & Community projects.

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The Fairy Godmothers Inc. is also an approved Centrelink Volunteer Host Organisation, providing eligible participants with an opportunity to undertake approved volunteer work while supporting a worthwhile community cause.

Become a Fairy Godmother... or Fairy Godfather!

Our volunteers are the heart of everything we do. Without them, we simply couldn't continue helping children and families who need our support. Help us continue bringing hope, support, and a little magic to children and families across Tasmania. If you've been looking for a rewarding way to give back to your community, now is the perfect time to get involved.

Volunteer today and help create brighter futures for Tasmanian children.

Contact us today:
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Follow The Fairy Godmothers Inc. on Facebook for more information and upcoming events.

Together, we can make a difference—one child, one family, one act of kindness at a time.

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- Singing technique** - Learn Somatic Voicework principles, breath support, expand vocal range and flexibility using scales.
- Voicework** - Explore some varied techniques including vocal toning, melodic mantras and improvisation.
- Songs** - We will learn 1-2 songs per term and work towards a 'sharing' with friends/family in the last wk

Term 3 dates: 5th August - 23rd Sept

Expressions of interest please email Hollie by Wed 22nd July
hollie.a.morris@gmail.com

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THEME
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Create an artwork that shows how life has changed over the past 100 years - or imagine what Redpa, or your part of Circular Head, might look like in the future.

SOME IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED
Your artwork could explore changes in:

- Farming, technology, houses, vehicles, clothing, school
- It could be a specific building, person or family story

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Maximum A3 in size
- Mixed media encouraged, including painting, drawing, collage, photography or digital art
- Textiles and other creative materials
- All artwork must reflect the centenary theme
- Individual entries only

JUDGING CATEGORIES

- K/ Prep
- Grades 1-2
- Grades 3-4
- Grades 5-6
- Grades 7-9
- Grades 9-12
- Open community entries

IMPORTANT DATES
Entries due: 11 September 2026
Exhibition: All artworks will be displayed at the Redpa Primary School Centenary Fair 19 September 2026

PLEASE NOTE
All artworks must be original
AI-generated artworks will not be accepted

THE FAIRY GODMOTHERS FUNDRAISING MARKET

Sunday 23rd August 9:00am - 1:00pm
Burnie High School Gym - Cooeo

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Wynyard Yacht Club

A few months ago, some members of the Wynyard Yacht Club went to the Hobart YouthSail. We watched people race, met an Olympian sailor, and did lots of being coached and improving our sailing. We really enjoyed it, and it was a very good experience.

On the first day, we had an opening ceremony and got some bags and caps. We did some sailing and a little bit of friendly racing. We saw lots of new things and learnt how to be better at sailing. We saw some really cool boats sailing, including a Wasp and lots of Cadets.

A Wasp is a one-person sailboat that when it starts sailing fast, seems to fly above the water. It does this by having foils, but that also means that it capsizes A LOT. A Cadet is a two-person sailboat that has the same sort of hull shape as a Mirror or Sabot. We also saw some other 2-person high-speed boats shooting over the water.

My friends and I sailed one of the club's Pacers, a pointy boat with 2 sails. The other kids in our group sailed a mixture of Sabots and Optimists. An Optimist is generally the sailboat that kids learn to sail on, but it is also raced officially. A Sabot has a flat front and is usually a one-person boat. We really enjoyed getting to meet new people and have fun on the water.

I went with Jack and George, and we came first in some of the races, which was really nice. We sailed together a lot. Also, we went on a RHIB and watched people race professionally. RHIB stands

for Rigid-Hulled Inflatable Boat. We use them as our powerboats at most clubs. Because they are soft if you hit something you won't do much damage, therefore very easy to use around lots of sailboats.

On the first day, someone fell off our boat, but we quickly turned around and picked them up. On the second day, we were a little bit tired, but we still got through it and enjoyed it.

We met an Olympian sailor and talked to her about the boats that she sailed and continues to sail. She learnt to sail on a Sabot, the same type of boat that George and I co-own!

One thing that I found interesting is that she was not going to go in the Paris Olympic Games, but she was asked if she wanted to! She said that she was going to go to the next Olympics. On the third day, I was sick with a fever and so I had to go home early. I heard from my friend George that there was a water-plane landing, and a big closing ceremony.

Chris Symonds, our wonderful Commodore, came down to watch us sail, but unfortunately did not get to see some of us, as we were sick and not there.

We all really enjoyed the Hobart YouthSail event. It was a great experience overall. I would definitely go next time, and I recommend that other young sailors go, as it is a wonderful experience to improve your sailing skills.

Michael Hughes. Age 10



Michael is in the blue hat third from right. Totally focused on the coach instructions



The Beginning of the Age of the End of Abundance

2 E-Waste. *Don't throw it away, sell it!*

Annie Venables



Recently I was given two old printers. They were supposed to work, but they didn't.

Sigh. What do I do with them? Mutter, mutter... built-in obsolescence... mutter, mutter... I mustn't put them in landfill... but where do they go?

Electronic waste, or e-waste, is now the fastest-growing waste stream in the world. Australians generate more than half a million tonnes every year as computers, televisions, printers, mobile phones and countless other electronic gadgets reach the end of their useful lives. Too often they end up in landfill, despite containing valuable metals and components that can be reused or recycled. Electronics also contain hazardous materials that can contaminate soil and waterways if they are not disposed of responsibly.

Then I remembered that Queenstown local, Daniel Reiher, (pictured above), runs a business selling e-waste, so I went to see him.

I stepped inside his big old bus—another wonderful example of something being repurposed. It was stacked to the rafters with DVDs, CDs, computer components, printers, gaming controllers, board games, and countless other odds and ends. My first thought was, What a lot of rubbish!

Daniel saw something entirely different.

"Everything will eventually sell," he told me with a grin.

It turns out that one person's rubbish really is another person's treasure.

Daniel admits he has always loved pulling things apart. As a child it drove his mother mad. Today, it has become both a business and a way of keeping useful materials out of landfill.

For more than twenty-five years he has been giving discarded items a second life. At one stage he was selling around \$10,000 worth of recycled goods each month. Today, through West Coast Re-Use, he dismantles old electronics, tests the components and sells them online. There is still a thriving market for parts from computers built decades ago. Some are bought by hobbyists restoring vintage machines, while others are needed to keep ageing computer systems running. Even CDs and DVDs are enjoying something of a revival.

Daniel says people are often amazed by what others are looking for. Facebook Marketplace and eBay make it easier than ever to give unwanted items a second life rather than sending them to the tip.

His advice to the community is wonderfully simple:

"Before you throw something away, try selling it."

His son Jerry has now joined the business, specialising in dismantling old vehicles and selling reusable car parts.

There was a time when people on the West Coast repaired things because they had to. They understood that value wasn't measured by how new something was, but by how much life was still left in it. Perhaps those old habits have something to teach us again.

For items that can't be reused, you can drop off small e-waste i.e. mobile phones, chargers at the Council offices. Larger e-waste can be taken to the waste transfer stations—check with the Council for details.

If you have a story that reflects Another Kind of Abundance, I'd love to hear from you. You can write to me at vikings@bigpond.com.

The future is now!



The Cradle Coast Care Wynyard and District Cricket Club is proud to announce our coaching appointments for the 2026/27 season.

Riley Stafford: Senior Head Coach
Kalea Leary: Women's Coach

As a club, we believe in backing good people, investing in our own, and creating opportunities for the next generation of leaders. Riley (20) and Kalea (21) embody exactly that.

Despite their young ages, both have already demonstrated outstanding leadership, a passion for developing players and a deep commitment to the Wynyard and District Cricket Club. They have earned the confidence of our committee, our playing group and our wider cricket community.

Riley will continue to oversee our entire senior cricket program, building on a remarkable foundation. During his time leading the club last season, Wynyard has celebrated two premierships a runners-up finish, whilst our women's program made it to a Grand Final appearance. We continue to establish a culture of high performance and connection across the club.

For her second year, Kalea takes the reins of a women's program that has become one of the benchmark teams in

Tasmanian female cricket. After winning three consecutive premierships before finishing runners-up last season, our women are determined to return to the top and continue setting the standard for female cricket in the region.

The Wynyard and Districts Cricket Club has grown into Northern Tasmania's second-largest cricket club and competes at the highest standard of cricket played in the region. That growth has been built on developing people of the far north west, creating opportunity and striving for excellence both on and off the field.

Both Riley and Kalea will be surrounded by an outstanding support network of assistant coaches, experienced players, volunteers and committee members, ensuring they have every opportunity to succeed.

Our program continues to build an exciting and emerging squad, which will be strengthened by several key recruits. We look forward to sharing a number of massive player and coaching announcements over the coming weeks as we continue preparing for what promises to be an outstanding season.

Congratulations, Riley and Kalea. The future of the Wynyard and District Cricket Club is in very capable hands. Here's to an exciting 2026/27 season.

Snapshot of Wynyard

WYNYARD is a picturesque rural town on the fertile North West Coast of Tasmania, Australia. It has a population of 6,296.

Jesse and I traveled 17km west of the industrial regional city of Burnie on June 27th for the friendly 5km Wynyard Foreshore ParkRun.

We had a brief refresher on some of the town's historic buildings and homes and its scenic Inglis River estuary.

In the last few years I have featured local natural attractions such as Table Cape, the adjacent volcanic plateau planted with tulips each spring, Fossil Bluff, beautiful Sisters and Boat Harbour Beaches, the Rocky Cape National Park, and the rolling green hinterland.

Today, it's just a glimpse of the town and its history.

A party from the Van Diemen's Land Company established at Circular Head [Stanley] in 1826 explored the Inglis River in a whaleboat that winter. They were looking for another port through which their produce could be exported. John King established a farm on Table Cape prior to 1843.

Three former convicts, Joseph, Matthias and John Alexander, established "Alexandria" on the Table Cape side of the Inglis River in the 1850s. Farmland was established on the fertile soils of Table Cape and they built some small ships for produce and timber trading.

A town on the east side of the Inglis was slower to develop than Alexandria, but once the river was bridged in 1861, Wynyard became the district's centre of commerce. It had much better wharfing.

Wynyard was named after Major-General Edward Buckley Wynyard (1788-1864), a British Officer in NSW who visited Table Cape in 1850-51.

Wynyard had more shipping than Burnie in the 1890s but Burnie flourished in the 20th century.



Local students get hands-on ADF experience



Senior secondary students from across northern Tasmania were given a behind-the-scenes look at life in the Australian Defence Force (ADF), as part of the recent Troops and Tides Defence work experience program in Launceston.

The two-day program brought together Year 10 to 12 students from Launceston, Devonport, Burnie and surrounding areas, offering hands-on exposure to career pathways across the Royal Australian Navy and Australian Army.

Personnel from the 12th/40th Battalion, the Royal Tasmania Regiment, at Paterson Barracks displayed Army vehicles, equipment and operational gear. Students were able to handle ration packs, try on protective equipment including vests and helmets, and participate in simulator activities.

Students also met soldiers from the Royal Australian Artillery, who demonstrated the role of drones and emerging technologies in modern Defence operations.

The Navy component of the program focused on maritime operations at the Australian Maritime College, where students explored Navy careers through a series of hands-on activities. These

included a boat-building engineering challenge, a survival-at-sea exercise in a controlled pool environment, and the opportunity to captain a Navy patrol boat.

Defence's Director of Youth Policy and Programs David Atkins said the initiative was designed to provide regional students with opportunities to engage with Defence, which may not be otherwise available.

"Programs like Troops and Tides gives young people an invaluable chance to spend time with Australian Defence Force members at their place of business and learn about the jobs they do and the culture we have – something many students wouldn't normally experience first-hand," Mr Atkins said.

"It's incredibly important that students in places like Tasmania have the same opportunities as those on the mainland.

"This program helps bridge that gap, showing young people in regional and remote communities that a potential career in Defence is both accessible and achievable."

To learn more about Defence Work Experience Programs, head to www.defenceyouth.gov.au/

Stanley Bicentenary Weekend Activities:
When: Saturday 31st October to Monday 2nd November 2026
Where: Stanley Recreation Ground (Saturday) 10am-4pm
A free family day including a procession open to the public to participate with activities and displays throughout the day.
Highfield House (Sunday) 10am-3pm
Free admission to the public with guest speakers throughout the day.
Stanley Museum Open all weekend with new book publications for sale.
Monday - cemetery walk and official proceedings at Museum
"Julie Burgess" in port over the weekend offering 2 hour trips from the port (weather dependent) sponsored by TasPorts
Enquiries: E: stanleydiscoverymuseum@gmail.com
Follow Facebook: Stanley Discovery Museum

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