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THE VALLEY AND EAST COAST VOICE INC.

Established 1968

49.19 February 23, 2017

Deadline for 49.20 is 5pm March 6, 2017



**The Endeavour in Binalong Bay,
photo taken by Wayne Fulford.**

Hub4Health Walking Group report on p8



**Break O'Day Mayor Mick Tucker,
Len Miles and Dr Cyril Latt.**

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or

**Trish on 6376 1134
by Friday February 24, 2017**



2017 Australia Day Award winners

Australia Day Citizen of the Year: Leonard Miles

Australia Day Young Citizen of the Year: Larena Bailey

Mayor's Choice Award for outstanding contribution to the community: Carol and Michael Lefevre, and Robert Parsons.

Break O'Day Municipality Excellence Award: Trish O'Duffy and Dr Cyril Latt.

Articles on pages 7 and 25



4th March at the Fingal Football ground

**This year's Festival promises to be
bigger and better than ever!!**

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The Valley and East Coast Voice Inc. Guidelines

Opinions in any letters published are not necessarily those of the Editor and committee, or volunteer staff.
Our pages remain open to fair and honest criticism so that on all questions both sides may be presented, but any submissions containing personal attacks / libel / slander will not be accepted.
Kindly do not attack the editor, the paper or the authors of previous articles.
All articles for submission must bear the author's name, town of residence, address and phone number. The address and phone number will not be published but are for verification purposes only.
Letter writers will be given the chance to respond over a suitable period of time. Subjects may be closed at the editor's discretion. Please make sure of your facts. Do not write submissions just to let off steam. Articles most commonly published are those relating to current community issues.
Keep articles short, simple and to the point.
Letters are restricted to 300 words or fewer.
The editor reserves the right to edit any submission for grammar, spelling or reduction in size where necessary.
All letters/emails must include your full name, address and phone number.
The Valley and East Coast Voice Inc. reserves the right at all times, without notice, to update, change or amend our guidelines.
All information is correct at time of printing.
Whilst we value and welcome community input, the Valley and East Coast Voice Inc. does not provide specific feedback regarding any decision made not to publish a submission.

Community Notices

ROSSARDEN Fire training and BBQ dates are: March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4 and December 2.
Fire Brigade training is 10am prior to each BBQ.
Mike Prewer, Rossarden. 6385 2184

Rossarden Progress Association meeting dates for 2017: 3pm at Marlene's on April 17, June 12, August 14 AGM.
Mary Knowles, Secretary, Gipps Creek. 6385 2002

GET meeting dates for 2017

March 13, April 17, June 12, August 14 AGM,
October 9, November 24 and December 4.
Usually 7pm at the Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House,
but the next meeting on
Monday March 13 is a meal at
Bean There Café, Fingal 6:30 for 7pm.
Please RSVP if you would like to join us. All welcome
Mary Knowles 6385 2002
gippscreek@skymesh.com.au



Hello folks, my name is David Brewster.
I am the president of the **St Patricks Head and Esk Valley Historical Society Inc.**
I am writing to encourage you to come and join us, we meet once every two months, we are a voluntary group of people and we are excited about hanging on to our history of buildings, roads, mines, timber industry and photos of the same.
We have some paraphernalia from the past, particularly St Marys, in our files and we are always looking to extend the collection. Please don't throw old photos or memorabilia away, we could share a valuable resource and if you wish to keep your photos perhaps we could copy if you will allow.
Some of our collection is on display at the St Marys Railway Station, we also collect interesting stories of the local past for the future readers. Although most of our material is of St Marys we also have information on Avoca, Fingal and the coast.
I also wish to state we will be cooperating with other groups in the area to encourage visitors to each town, Mathinna and Mangana included.
We think it's very important for our youngsters to have a grounding in the valley history, and as such I am inviting anyone who is even slightly interested to join us so we can continue to collect history for you, the valley people.
If you are interested please contact me on:
6372 2796 / 0409 248 265 or email
davidbrewster@bordnet.com.au
Thank you.
David Brewster, Chain of Lagoons

Community Notices



Public Meeting The Stables Handmade Market, Tasmania

A sub-committee of
Greater Esk Tourism
(GET)

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Thursday March 16, 2017 at 4:45pm
Community Meeting Room
23a Main Street, St Marys
Opposite the St Marys Op Shop

Positions declared vacant:
President
Vice President
Minute Secretary
Correspondence Secretary
Market Coordinator
Social Media and Publicity Officer

Stall holders and exhibiting artists will be given
priority when considering nominations for positions

The AGM will be followed by a general planning
meeting for the new Market model to be re-launched
in October 2017

Refreshments will be available.

Janet Drummond, Secretary, St Marys

The Rossarden Progress Association and Rossarden Fire Brigade

are holding a

Working Bee on Saturday March 18 at 10am

at the fire shed to paint the interior of the new room
and do a general tidy up.

Please come along and help us with this
new facility at Rossarden

Mary Knowles, Secretary, Gipps Creek. 6385 2002

The next **AVOCA Market** is
Saturday March 11, 2017
in the Hall.

Contact Shirley at the Post Office on
6384 2129 / 6384 2259

Submitted by Mary Knowles, Gipps Creek

For Sale

I may be old and feeble, but I'm still selling **moo poo**.
Norm 6372 2380

Large round bales hay, not rain effected. \$55.
Alan 0407 944 158

Wanted

Shed or garage wanted for long term rental or lease in
St Marys; has to be clean, dry, secure and have ongoing
access. Genuine local enquiry. **Please ph 0439 615 213**

Everyone Welcome



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER PHILIPPINES

Am I being unfair to you?



FRIDAY 3RD MARCH 2017

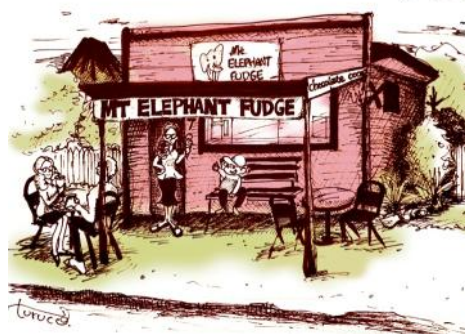
Time 3pm

Place St Marys Catholic Church

Speaker Father Bala

Garage sale March 4 at 9 Grant Street St Marys. 8.30
start, no early birds, make an offer as everything must go.

A Sporting History of Avoca District exhibition,
funded by Arts Tasmania, is open
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at the
Avoca Museum and Information Centre, 9am - 3pm.
Come in and enjoy the stories both old and new.



MT ELEPHANT FUDGE

Coffee, Chai's, Teas

Cakes, Slices, Biscuits

Fresh Fruit Smoothies

Iced Drinks, Milkshakes, Spiders

Toasted Sandwiches, Quiche

CHOCOLATES GALORE

Hope to see you soon!!!

Pyengana Recreation Ground celebrates new facilities February 7, 2017

On January 28, the Pyengana community celebrated the construction of a shower and toilet block with a classic, country morning tea and special guest, Minister Guy Barnett. The Pyengana community, led by Michael LeFevre, lobbied hard for the new toilet block, which features a disabled compliant toilet and two showers. The construction of the amenities block was made possible by a grant from the Department of Premier and Cabinet of \$38,500 which was added to funds raised by the Pyengana Hall Committee of \$25,000; a huge effort for a small community.

Mayor Mick Tucker said Michael LeFevre (a recipient of the Mayor's Choice award for outstanding contribution to the community on Australia Day this year) and the people of Pyengana should be proud of their achievements and ongoing dedication to their community.

"The level of commitment and initiative that Michael and his team have proven with this project are to be commended," Mayor Tucker said. "Last year Pyengana hosted its first rostered football game in about 60 years, purely because of the hard work of these same community members. It was a huge event for the community and now, with these new facilities, the Pyengana Recreation Ground and its community can continue to host future events with pride." Michael LeFevre said the recreation ground is also a popular camping area and now those that utilise the area are able to have a shower.

"We hold a lot of events here where people like to be able to have a shower, from the Horse Enduro, woodchops, footy and more, but we also get a lot of campers at the ground," Mr LeFevre said.

"This sort of project doesn't just benefit the whole community; it brings the whole community together."

For further information please contact Break O' Day Council Communications Coordinator, Jayne Richardson on 6376 7900 or 0400 454 089.



Guy Barnett, Joyce Cash, Lance Lohrey, Vaughan Oldham, Catherine Brown, Jo Tate, Hannah LeFevre, Carol LeFevre, Michael LeFevre and Tony Cash.

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Hilly's IGA St Marys and St Helens

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Falmouth Community Centre sends a heartfelt thank you

Falmouth reaped the benefits of the generosity of the community on January 14, when it was officially presented with nearly \$4,500 worth of new medical equipment following a successful fundraiser to purchase two defibrillators.

The community's enthusiasm for the cause was astounding and people were extraordinarily generous, including a sizeable donation from Friends of Four Mile Creek [FOFMC] towards the defibrillator purchased for the Falmouth Fire Brigade [FFB] vehicle.

Each and every donation made this possible.

The handover ceremony saw St John Ambulance Chief Executive Officer Tasmania, Roxy Cowie, make the official presentation with members of the FCC, FFB, FOFMC, Tasmania Fire Service, Tasmania Police and Tasmania Ambulance Service in attendance, along with many members of the local community.

Brian Mitchell MP, Federal Member for Lyons and Liberal State Minister Guy Barnett also attended the ceremony. They unanimously applauded the efforts of our community.

One defibrillator is permanently housed in the FFB vehicle and one is mounted in an alarmed box on the external wall of the FCC building, near the entrance to the Community Centre in Morrison St.

FOFMC have also recently purchased a defibrillator for Four Mile Creek which is wonderful news.

The FCC thanks each and every individual who donated so generously to assist in providing this vital equipment for our community, and hope that others will embrace the idea of getting defibrillators for their area.

Louise Keady, Secretary, Falmouth



St Helens/St Marys **Community Bank**[®] Project

Buy shares today to help open our bank for tomorrow.

A bank owned by the mums and dads, traders, business people and the residents of the Break O'Day Municipality and backed by Bendigo Bank. A Bank that shares its profits to support local community projects and organisations.

With as little as \$200 you can get behind our community's future and own shares in our community company.

Prospectus available from 25 January 2017 at:

- Break O'Day Council Office, St Helens
- Bendigo Bank agency, 41 Cecilia Street, St Helens
- Gone Rustic, 37 Main Street, St Marys

For further information:

Andrew MacGregor 0419 894 072

Roger Harlow 0417 684 463

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The Say, by Cagerattler

I was on my usual car forum site this morning and found a new topic about a 1963 Falcon station wagon that the bloke found on a farm. He bought it and the amount of replies in just a few days revealed to me how much we treasure fond memories of yesteryear - cars included.

This is probably why some of the most popular destinations for tourists and visitors are museums, history rooms and such. It's also probably why school class reunions are usually well attended; we love to recall the class clown, oddly dressed teachers, how often Joe got the cuts, who ended up marrying who and who is no longer around etc.

The other day another local and I began talking at Faulkner's Garage about some of the wonderful characters who were part of this community, many for a great stretch of time and others who played important roles for not as long, but still remembered very fondly.

When I got home that afternoon I began looking for my copy of a book by Dr Jim Marwood in the early 1970s called The Valley People. Mum and Dad gave it to me as a birthday present all those years ago; I know it's somewhere in a box with other publications but didn't have time to physically lay my hands on it. I will soon though ...

Since those days we've had local history books from Jim Haas, Darlene Wright and Dr Tim McManus just to name a few, and all have done a great job in different ways.

I wonder if some individual, or a small group, with suitable time could interview, research and compile a second Valley People type book about some terrific characters, and those who have served our community, while those people can still reflect on their lives.

I understand Dr Marwood is still alive and living in Hobart, and he would need to be a part of it in some way. I wonder if this would be remotely possible in the next few years?

In the meantime, make sure you avail yourselves of our local historical outlets, because some of the happenings and people might just surprise you more than you'd know.

What do you think?

Rod McGiveron, St Marys



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Mayor Mick Tucker, on behalf of Break O'Day Council, would like to announce and congratulate this year's Australia Day Award winners.

"We have a thriving and caring community on the East Coast, full of people who are dedicated to making a difference in our region, so it is always a tough job choosing a winner," Mayor Tucker said.

"This year we had some truly outstanding candidates to choose from and it is a pleasure and an honour to be able to recognise them and their work in our community on this, our National day."

Australia Day Citizen of the Year: Leonard Miles

Leonard (Len) Miles is a stalwart of the St Marys Community and a committee member of several organisations in the town including the Lions Club, the Hospital Auxiliary, St Marys Pacing Club and a volunteer driver for the community car. He regularly visits patients in hospital and Palliative Care, and once even moved a fellow resident to Swansea with his own car, which he also lends out on occasion to help with the organisation of community functions.

Mr Miles has shown so much compassion, dedication and empathy for the Break O'Day community that Mayor Tucker said he felt honoured to be able to repay just a tiny bit of that kindness by awarding him the Australia Day Citizen of the Year Award.

"Len is, to put it simply, a legend in his own lunch box whose dedication to our entire Community makes him stand out for this award." Mayor Tucker said.

Australia Day Young Citizen of the Year: Larena Bailey

Miss Larena Bailey has exhibited maturity beyond her years through her volunteer work at the St Helens Neighbourhood House (NHH).

Initially, Miss Bailey started working at NHH to complete her placement hours for a Social Work Degree she was undertaking, but she stayed on and continued to support her community.

"Larena has worked with so many different people from many walks of life in our diverse community and has always shown empathy, patience and is always friendly and welcoming. She has proven herself to be mature beyond her years and a deeply caring member of our community; it will be a pleasure to see what this amazing young lady will go on to next." Mayor Tucker said.

Mayor's Choice Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Community: Carol and Michael Lefevre and Robert Parsons.

From the football club to the restoration of the local church, Michael and Carol Lefevre have spent decades dedicating their spare time to the needs of their community at Pyengana - so much so that Mr Lefevre is affectionately referred to as the Mayor of Pyengana.

"Michael and Carol Lefevre are the backbone of the Pyengana township and have shown true commitment to their community without ever once asking for anything in return. They never shy away from a challenge and are often the first on the job to help the community, or the first to put their hands in their pockets," Mayor Tucker said.

Mr Robert (Red) Parsons is a tireless worker who has been involved in many areas of the volunteer sector in Break O'Day. Based in Mathinna, his dedication to the needs of the Mathinna community is inspiring.

"Red is known as the Mayor of Mathinna and always puts his community first. If something needs doing in his town, he is the first to stand up and try and make it happen." Mayor Tucker said.

Break O'Day Municipality Excellence Award: Trish O'Duffy and Dr Cyril Latt

Both Ms O'Duffy and Dr Latt have made significant contributions to the Break O'Day Community in their roles as the manager of Neighbourhood House and the resident GP at St Marys respectively.

Ms O'Duffy has been instrumental in implementing more than 25 new programs in the Break O'Day Community in a range of sectors from health, mental health, social enterprise and youth mentoring.

"Trish always has an open door and a ready ear for anyone, and there is no doubt she is a pillar of the Break O'Day community." Mayor Tucker said.

Dr Latt first came to St Marys as a locum but fell in love with the Break O'Day Community, returning to be the full time doctor in the area.

He is known to the community for going above and beyond the call of duty to ensure the health and wellbeing needs of his community are not just met, but often exceeded.

"Dr Latt has proven to be a committed, loyal and exceptionally caring member of the St Marys Community, and it is my absolute honour to be able to recognise not just his work but his consideration for the community with this award." Mr Tucker said.



Hub4Health Walking Group

Parkside to St Helens Bay via Hinterland

(see photo below)

Swimcart Beach to Cosy Corner North

Leader - Brian Elliott. It was a beautiful sunny day. Eight people met at Swimcart Beach and proceeded north along the beach and back of the headland to Cosy Corner South, then on to Cosy Corner North. From there we took goat tracks heading towards Seaton Cove. Along the way we found some quaint little beaches and red rocks being prominent. Some of us were interested in a tall wooden ship parked in the bay. We stopped at a little beach at Seaton Cove, had a break and admired the view.

Because I didn't have time to plan this walk we got side-tracked once on our return. All in all it was good, and we arrived back safe and sound at about midday.

Contributor: Brian Elliott

New members are most welcome.

Please call Hub4Health on 6376 2971, or Bryan Edhouse on 0414 987 435.

Come join up soon!

Wayne Fulford, St Helens



Spectacular rock formation near Cosy Corner North, photo taken by Wayne Fulford



Dry scrubland Parkside Hinterland, photo taken by Wayne Fulford



OUT OF THE WOODWORK

The Guild is open daily except Friday and Sunday (depending on volunteers) and other times by appointment
[Facebook.com/pages/Break-oday-Woodcraft-Guild-Mens](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Break-oday-Woodcraft-Guild-Mens)
-Shed

Well, the great white hunter has returned with his haute cuisine snags, that would please any discriminating palate, at the St Marys Town Hall Market. Just look for the pith hat and red braces!

Members have asked me to express gratitude to the Break O'Day Council and Chris Hughes, Community Development Officer, who met with Reon and me onsite at the St Marys Hall to consider an appropriate location to fundraise, in an area that did not infringe on the sensitivity of the Cenotaph. Break O'Day Council has given us permission to set up on the grassed footpath area.



Members have also asked me to thank Graham Hayes who grew from seed a commemorative "lone pine" that was donated for our memorial garden, not to forget Michael, editor of the Fingal Focus, who gifted to the club woodworking magazines.

Finally all members send our heartfelt good wishes to Grant's mum Mrs Faulkner on a speedy recovery.

The Guild's Open Day Fair will be held on April 8, 2017. If you are interested in a stall the cost is \$5 a table. Please ring Wendy or Reon on 6372 2094 to book a space. Stay tuned for further information.

Guilds Home Hint: Alleviate discomfort when plucking eyebrows by smoothing on baby teething gel over the area to numb the pain.

Wendy Brennan, Secretary, St Marys 6372 2094

Tasmanian Government accuses councils of failing their communities on water supply

by Harriet Aird

For decades the water in some Tasmanian towns has been unsafe to drink, and a fed-up State Government has had enough.

Treasurer Peter Gutwein will today (20/02/2017) outline how he plans to make Tasmanian councils sacrifice more of their TasWater dividends in order to fund urgent infrastructure upgrades.

Last year TasWater, which is owned by the councils, revealed a 10-year plan to upgrade infrastructure across the state. Included in the plan was a promise to remove boil water alerts in all Tasmanian towns within two years. Months later, Mr Gutwein, who is also Local Government Minister, said that time frame was not acceptable.

He compiled his own report outlining TasWater's inadequacies, showing four Tasmanian towns were still on "do not consume" alerts, with a further 21 on boil water alerts. The report showed TasWater's rate of sewer overflows to the environment was seven times the national average. In addition, last financial year only 44% of wastewater volume was fully compliant with environmental requirements.

TasWater has frozen dividend payments to owner councils in order to progress the upgrades, but Treasurer Peter Gutwein said councils should sacrifice more to speed up the process.

"Local government has failed the Tasmanian community in respect of their stewardship of these assets," he said.

"This has gone on long enough. We can't afford local government to continue to take dividends and returns out of TasWater without investing what they should in the infrastructure. Local government own the assets, local government has a responsibility to invest appropriately, and at the moment we're not seeing that."

The announcement riled the State Opposition. Labor MP Josh Willie said Mr Gutwein was trying to dodge responsibility.

"He is blaming the councils again for water and sewerage infrastructure upgrades," he said. "He needs to show some leadership. This is not going to be resolved at a local government level."

A representative for the councils, Northern Midlands Mayor David Downie, said federal funds should be sought to fund the upgrades.

"I think we all should be working together to have that plan carried out," he said.

Mr Downie said further dividend cuts would inevitably be felt by ratepayers.

"If you take dividends away from councils, there will be an upward pressure on rates," he said. "It is once again an increase in the cost of living."

Jan Davis from the Launceston Chamber of Commerce said the state of Tasmania's water supply was third-world and a whole-of-government approach was needed.

"Tasmania will struggle to maintain its reputation as a clean, green environment if something is not urgently done to address our state's ageing water and sewage treatment infrastructure," she said.

http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-02-20/tasmanian-water-safe-to-drink-warnings-taswater-action-needed/8285086?WT.ac=statenews_tas

TasWater's Owners Respond to Treasurer Gutwein February 20, 2017

The Chief Representative of the Council Owners of TasWater, Mayor David Downie, says Mr Gutwein is blaming Councils when he should be helping.

Mr Downie said that for two years Mayor Tony Foster, then Chief Owners Representative, and the Chairman of TasWater Miles Hampton, had sought to persuade the State Government to help it address the infrastructure shortcomings. In doing so Mayor Foster and Mr Hampton openly shared with the State Government the poor state of the infrastructure.

The Owners told the State Government of the need to work together on a long term funding plan to fix the state's water and sewerage infrastructure.

"As Owners, we asked the State Government to commit to \$10m pa for ten years and that they help us in our efforts to secure \$30m pa for ten years from the Federal Government."

"The State Government declined to assist us, saying that it had no money and it also failed to make us the State Government's number one priority for funding from the Federal Government in the lead up to the most recent Federal Election."

"Put simply, the State Government ignored our pleas for help and now they say we are not moving fast enough ... some might say this seems more than a little disingenuous."

Subsequently, in August last year TasWater announced a ten-year, \$1.5bn fully funded plan to address the infrastructure shortcomings. The plan did not rely on any assistance from State or Federal Government. The plan imposed significant pain on Councils by reducing distributions to them by more than \$150m over ten years, while TasWater itself committed to secure further operational savings of \$15m pa.

"If TasWater were to stop paying distributions to Councils today as Mr Gutwein is proposing, the timeframe to address the infrastructure shortcomings will reduce from 10 years to 8.5 years. But to achieve this reduction in timeframe the community will bear a significant cost."

The Tasmanian Audit Office has reported that in 2015-16 Councils generated a combined net underlying surplus of \$11m.

If we take away \$30m the Councils received from TasWater, in 2015/16 the net deficit would have been \$19m.

In this circumstance the Councils would have either had to substantially reduce services or increase rates, or a combination thereof.

The Treasurer is seeking to impose significant pain on the broader community ... simply to bring forward the completion of the capital program by 1.5 years. The indignation that Mr Gutwein seems to be bringing to this issue suggests there is in reality another agenda. Perhaps it is to force Council amalgamations and make TasWater pay for the relocation of the Macquarie Point treatment plant, through in effect the redirection of council distributions.

For further comment please contact:

**David Downie Mayor
Northern Midlands Council
Chief Owners Representative TasWater
0418 132 041**



10 years ago part three

The next 2 days - Tuesday December 12 and Wednesday December 13, 2006 - seemed to pass in a foggy recollection; a multitude of fire fighters from all parts of the State emerging on the area to give their assistance in trying to control this fire, an influx of machinery, both local and statewide, wherever it could be sourced from. Food supply chain set up, drinking water brought in, fire-fighting foam, replacement goggles, gloves, masks etc., the list goes on and on; fire service mechanics on site to attend to break downs and essential servicing as maintenance on these fire-fighting appliances and components is a critical part of these fires, because both machines and personnel are being pushed to the limit. More often than not, our lives depend on the reliability of that unit.

With the realisation that this fire cannot be extinguished by normal methods i.e. drowning it in water, the construction of control lines now becomes the priority. With the rapid spread of fire in all directions, where to start is the big question. As the fire is fast approaching St Marys from a northerly direction, that area is the logical starting point. I must acknowledge here that the firies in the Gardiners Creek Rd / German Town area are doing a fantastic job at slowing the fire's rate of spread.

With the machinery now on site, the arduous task of completing the control lines before the fire front reaches the area becomes the priority. While all this is taking place, the firies are battling any areas of the front that they can access, as well as dealing with spot fires and the multitude of hot embers falling from the sky like snow. The plan is to establish control lines and then backburn from there to halt the progress of the fire.

With a fire of this magnitude, we would normally put in two control lines; one being the primary line to work from and the second one being the fall back or backup line in case of losing the fire at the main line. With the rate of the fire travel and the vast amount of control line required, along with the terrain we were working in, it was not possible to establish the second line. This placed added pressure on the firies to do their utmost not to lose the fire at the control line. I must say here that in the main the fire was held at these points, however I will also admit that we did lose it in some areas; this came about mainly because we were faced with a wall of flames reaching the control lines before we could backburn, or the fire getting in front of the machines. As well as this we were faced with the problem of crowning fires, which is when the fire is burning in the forest canopy or tree tops.

What happens here is that the fire starts on the ground then races up the tree trunks or what we refer to as ladder fuels (this is the thick undergrowth from ground to tree top). When the fire reaches the tree tops, because of the heat of the day along with the heat generated by the fire, the oils in the leaves ignite and burn furiously, the wind then carries the fire through the canopy. This crowning fire is travelling at a far greater speed than the ground fire, dropping burning embers to the ground and starting spot fires as it goes. A crowning fire is almost impossible to control, once it is up and running you basically have to wait until it reaches an area where the canopy thins out enough to stop the flames reaching the next tree.

I would like to add here that we, since the fire, have come under a fair bit of criticism for not putting in wide enough control lines. I personally consider that criticism unjust; for example, the fire jumped the Upper Scamander River and road combined, so how wide would we have had to make these lines? Hindsight is always good, and we as firies always look back at all aspects of the incident at our debrief to see if at the next incident we may be able to do some things differently to achieve a different outcome.

I would like to acknowledge here the massive tasks undertaken and work done by the support crew; the meals to be prepared and delivered to the on-ground firies, an accurate record of how many people are on the ground, where they are placed and how to reach them, as well as the machinery operators (we have a system in place called the T card system where you manually record the names, appliance you are on and location, time started etc. which works well providing you remember to update when necessary); this is only one example of the support help.

I must also acknowledge Telstra for providing us with 5-6 mobile phones to be used for the duration of the fire with no costs at all including calls. Unfortunately when it came time to hand all but one phone back in (one was left with us for use during the following mop up period), someone saw fit to steal one of the phones from the table where they were sitting. That phone was decommissioned, so the person did not gain from their act.

Another task being undertaken was Triage, this is where the houses and surrounds are checked and placed in one of three categories:

- ◆ Defendable by the occupier without fire fighter assistance
- ◆ Defendable with fire fighter assistance
- ◆ Un-defendable

Triage caused a bit of anxiety with a few people, and I must add that in some instances I could agree with those people. However I must say that lessons were learnt here and will be followed in future. In explanation, the local firies feel that it is their place to be out fighting the fire, so Triage was done by outside brigade members. It soon became apparent that this system doesn't work as it should do, because without the local knowledge of the area - escape routes etc. - it is very difficult to carry out a good Triage. Henceforth Triage will be conducted with local brigade content.

Public information sessions were being conducted and SES personnel were door knocking, handing out prepared information on what to do etc.

These type of fires call for a massive amount of outside assistance, which also presents some problems to those visiting brigades, especially those from outside of what I will call local areas. Without intimate knowledge of an area, it is a risk to commit to anything but formed roads with clear access and egress. Another lesson learnt here is to have a local brigade member consigned to each sector.

With these fires known as campaign fires, we have an IMT (Incident Management Team) set up. Actually this is the case in any major disaster, fire, flood, etc .

A brief description of this is:

- ◆ Incident Controller (IC) who has the control of the whole incident, with a group of people working alongside of that person relaying the required information back.
- ◆ Divisional Commander (Div Com) taking charge of a division. The size of the incident directly dictates how many divisions are set up. The Div Com. reports to the IC.
- ◆ Sector Leader. Again, the size of the incident along with terrain or other mitigating circumstances dictates how many sectors we have. The Sector Leader reports to the Div Com.
- ◆ Fire-fighting appliances, with a crew leader or officer in charge of each unit.

A Sector is made up of 5-7 appliances, reporting only to the Sector Leader. The sector Leader talks to the Div Com. who has 5-7 sectors under his / her command. The Div Com talks to the appropriate person in the control room, either passing on progress information or requesting permission to make alterations to the fire fighting plans, (IAP) incident action plan. This may all seem complicated, but I can assure you that it all works well and has the added effect of not clogging up the airways.

An IMT can be scaled up, down, sideways as the incident may require, without affecting the execution of the incident.

Now back to the fires, with all firies being stretched to the limit in all areas, the Lower German Town area presenting a few problems for some of our helpers, the local boys had to show them how we drive in country areas. I hasten to add that at no time do we ask anyone to undertake work that they are not comfortable with. With evening fast approaching, it is time to light up some more backburns, especially in the St Patrick's Head area, as there is a real danger of the fire getting around us and coming back into St Marys. This threat covers the entire northern boundary of the township, as well as now starting to show real threats to Cornwall.

It is now time to hand over to the night shift, grab a little sleep and prepare for tomorrow, Thursday December 14, 2006.

Four Mile Creek-Davis Gully burn, Cornwall close to being wiped out.

Thursday morning and the reports coming in from the coast tell us that the fire is still playing around in the foothills, no immediate threat. However the forecast is not good, so we need to get backup crews there.

With Cornwall coming under threat, control lines are of the utmost importance.

St Marys has fires still burning all around and we need to construct control lines from the northern end of the Elephant, across the top end of Irishtown Rd and pick up the Telecom line through to Four mile Creek. With the temperature increasing and the relative humidity (RH) dropping, it has now become a race against time.

The reports coming from the coast tell us the fire is now moving at a steady rate, and at this point in time we are still hopeful of getting through.

Then all hell breaks loose.

With the temp now in the high 20s, the RH 15% and increasing winds, the outlook is grim. The descending dry air now drops the RH to 8% and this makes fighting fire with water almost impossible, as the dry air sucks the water up and it virtually evaporates before reaching the seat of the fire.

Before going on, may I just say that at one stage the RH was virtually unreadable, possibly down around 1%, in today's ratings conditions were at the higher end of Catastrophic. This descending dry air is a quirk of nature where the dry air from the upper atmosphere drops down. It can happen anywhere, at any time, and is totally unpredictable.

The message from the coast now was that the fire was taking a run and they did not think that we would get through with the dozer, they were right for as we broke through to Irishtown Rd, we were met with the fire already on the top of the hills, cutting off our access through.

We could only hope and pray for the safety of all the residents and fire crews down there, we knew that they were now facing what Scamander had faced only a few days before. Once again, because of the risk of re-igniting bad memories I am not going to go into individual losses, I will just generalise.

Continued next edition.

Gerald Aulich (AFSM)

St Marys Sports Centre

Gray Road St Marys

Bar open *Thursday* 6 - 8pm *Friday* 6pm until close
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Interim secretary *Glenn McDonald* 6372 2429
President *Jacqui Bianchi* 0439 978 156
Vice President *Tamatha Grose* 0427 332 085
e:stmaryssportsctr@internode.on.net
<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysportscentreinc/>

Golf news Things are looking up! Last week saw our group of loyal ladies enjoying an improved course. Friday, Saturday and Sunday saw 18 players play a 9 hole round. Visiting players enjoyed the refreshing, cold, cheaper refreshments at the club house. Great news!! The Centre has purchased not one but two ride-on mowers. Well done Macca for your part in the deal. Thank you Roger for freighting the mowers home. Steve, heaps of praise to you for all the whipper-snipping on the fence lines. We at the Centre, and the community, should be proud to drive by and take in the view.

Bowls results St Marys defeated Scamander on February 11.

Bicheno defeated St Marys February 18.

On Saturday February 25 St Marys travel to Swansea and need a win to hold the leading position on the ladder.

Good luck to all players.

Reminder: To those people travelling to Lake Leake after the game at Swansea, another five spectators will join you in the afternoon.

Jan and Walter will have our accommodation and a fine dinner prepared.

"I passed the time on the long flight reading a history of Australian politics in the 20th century, wherein I encountered the startling fact that in 1967 the prime minister, Harold Holt, was strolling along a beach in Victoria when he plunged into the surf and vanished. No trace of the poor man was ever seen again. This seemed doubly astounding to me - first that Australia could just *lose* a prime minister (I mean, come on) and second that news of this had never reached me."

'Down Under' by Bill Bryson

Surveying Town Planning Aerial Photography & 3D Modelling

- Property boundary checks and remarks
- House set-outs
- Land development and management
- Strata developments
- Engineering and feature surveys for design
- Construction set-out
- Development investigations and assessments
- Town planning services
- Aerial photography for real estate and other
- Agriculture services such as drainage and dams
- Quantity surveys for stockpiles and quarries
- Machine Control setup, establishment and onsite management
- Mapping and monitoring of sites
- Project feasibility studies
- Aerial and terrestrial 3D modelling
- Near Infra Red (NIR) and Normalised Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) imagery for vegetation and crop health
- Thermal imagery capture



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Where do you find us?

5 Portland Court, St Helens, 7216

Phone: 6376 2971

Email: admin@hub4health.org.au

Web: www.hub4health.org.au

Our Aim:

To deliver health and wellbeing programs to rural and remote communities within the Break O'Day Municipality.

Funding Challenges

Changes to the funding model mean Hub4Health is doing a complete assessment of its services and how these are provided. It will be challenging as we move forward, but we are looking at ways to improve and expand our services. Rural and remote living should not be a disadvantage in terms of health care provision. We are determined that availability, quality and cost of health services should be within reach of all residents of the Break O'Day and greater east coast.

All Hub4Health services are open and available to all residents. Please sign our petition in person or via

<https://www.gopetition.com/petitions/hub4health-services-at-risk-due-to-funding-cuts.html>



Australian Hearing will be at Hub4Health on **Friday February 24**, conducting **FREE** hearing tests between 10am and 2pm.

How often should you get your hearing checked?

18 - 45 years	Every 5 years
45 - 60 years	Every 3 years
60 + years	Every 2 years

Pap Smear and Well-Woman Clinic

Family Planning Tasmania is making another visit to the Break O'Day area at Hub4Health on

Thursday March 9 and Friday March 10

Appointments fill quickly so call Hub4Health on 6376 2971 to secure yours.

MENTAL HEALTH OUTREACH

A service of practical support to assist and connect people in our community.

Phone Bunty on 0429 666 002 or Hub4Health on 6376 2971

Doctor's community contribution recognised

A huge congratulations and thank you to Dr Cyril Latt who has been recognised for his contribution to the community, with a Break O' Day Municipality Excellence Award.

Dr Latt first came to St Marys as a locum, but fell in love with the community and returned to be the full time doctor in the area. He is known for going above and beyond his call of duty to ensure the health and wellbeing needs of his community are met.

Valley Footcare and Toenail Clinics

A toenail and footcare clinic will be held on Thursday March 9 at Mathinna in the morning and Fingal in the afternoon. If you have diabetes, a chronic health condition or are just worried about your feet, come along and have them assessed. If needed we can then refer you to a podiatrist. To help with funding the clinic is \$5 per person payable by cash on the day. Please phone Hbu4Health on 6376 2971 to make an appointment.





Avoca Museum and Information Centre
Old School building
Avoca Tasmania 7213



Rossarden & Friends Kids Christmas Inc.

**Free BBQ in the park on
Saturday April 8 at 11am - same day as the Market**



Avoca, Rossarden and Royal George families plus any families with children on our Christmas list are invited



Valleys of Adventure

AVOCA • ROYAL GEORGE • ROSSARDEN • FINGAL • MANGANA • MATHINNA • UPPER ESK • CORNWALL • ST MARYS

GREATER ESK TOURISM

Photographic Competition 2017

THEME: "Flora and Fauna of the Fingal Valley"

Cash prizes of **\$500** for the winner, **\$250** for Under 18 and **\$150** for the People's Choice.

Entry fee: \$5 per digital image / Under 18 \$2:50 per digital image

Entries close in October so there is plenty of time to explore the Valley, enjoy its flora and fauna and capture exciting images. The Presentation Evening is Friday November 24, 2017

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Community Groups / Services Guide
For inclusions / amendments call 63722 766

AA St Marys meets Friday 7pm at Holy Trinity.

Mick / Shirl 6372 2909

Al Anon (Family Group) meets Sunday 2-3.30pm at St Helens Neighbourhood House. Please call (in order) *Rose 0456 063 943 / Ann 0409 763 270*

BINGO at the Cornwall Hall Mondays at 7pm, 2 jackpots weekly. All welcome.

Break O'Day Council St Helens 6376 7900

Break O'Day Regional Arts meet monthly on the 2nd Thursday at 5.30pm in the St Marys Hotel.

The BOD Stitches meet Friday 10-3pm at the Neighbourhood House Bungalow in St Helens.

The Break O'Day Woodcraft Guild Inc. meet monthly on the last Thursday 11am in the Goods Shed behind the St Marys Railway Station.

Carers for Wildlife Tas Inc.

St Marys 6372 2973 / 0417 017 105

The Combined Probus Club of Scamander Inc meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month at Scamander Beach Resort, 10am. Contact **Lorraine on 6376 2185** for further information - new members welcomed

The Cornwall Community Development Group Inc. hold their general meetings on the 1st Tuesday 7pm monthly. *Raz / Deb 6372 2261*

East Coast Community Transport Community Hall, 23 Main Street, St Marys.

Jan Saunders 6372 4415

The Falmouth Community Centre contact for booking is *Cherrie Schier 0417 887 941*

The FVNH Op Shop is happy to receive pre-loved clothing & goods weekdays 9-3. Come along, check it out and pick up a bargain. *Gary Barnes FVNH*

Greater Esk Tourism meet on the 2nd Monday 7pm at Fingal Neighbourhood House monthly.

0412 425 666

Hospitals Circassian Street St Helens 6387 5570

Community Health Centre St Marys 6387 5555

Hub4Health, St Helens, 6376 2971

JAM (Jesus And Me) Every Tuesday 3 - 5pm for children 5-12 years (except school hols).

Phone Mel on 0409 838 816 .

Justice of the Peace K Faulkner 6372 2196

Libraries St Marys 6372 2114, St Helens 6387 5530

Meals on Wheels St Marys 0488 384 344, St Helens 6376 3174

Museum Cranks & Tinkerers St Marys 0417 648 845

Online Access Centres Fingal 6374 2222, St Marys 6372 2005, St Helens 6376 1116

The Scamander & Beaumaris Community

Development Association meets monthly on the 3rd Wednesday, 7pm in the Scamander Sports Complex.

Scamander Garden Club meets monthly on the 3rd Monday 1.30pm in the Scamander Sports Complex. *Val 6372 2762*

Schools - District High Schools, St Helens 6376 7100. St Marys 6372 3900

Primary Schools, Avoca 6384 2117, Fingal 6374 2197

The Hub4Health Walking Group walk each Wednesday and 3rd Saturday monthly. New members are most welcome. *Hub4Health 6376 2971 Bryan Edhouse 6376 3439*

St Marys/Falmouth Playgroup is held 10:30-12:30 each Wednesday at the Falmouth Community Centre. Join us for only \$3 per family in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. *Bec Mason 0409 253 504*

St Marys Hospital Auxiliary meet monthly on the 1st Monday at 2pm in the St Marys Community Health Centre.

St Marys Ladies' Midweek Tennis meet 9.30am Wednesday. New players & beginners welcome. Child minding included - a lovely safe place to bring toddlers while you play.

Karon 0419 722 390 / Dana 6372 2033

St Marys Markets are held monthly on the 1st Saturday 9-1pm at the St Marys Community Hall. *Michelle (BODR Arts) 6372 2056 / 0407 046 865*

St Marys School Association Op Shop 25a Main Street (Behind the Town Hall), St Marys. Weekdays 9 - 4pm. Saturday 10am - 1pm.

Janet Drummond 0404 562 320

St Marys Sports & Social Centre Inc 6372 2177

St Patricks Head & Esk Valley Historical Society Inc. meets every 2nd month on the 3rd Wednesday at 3pm.

Jim 6372 2127 (jimhaas@bigpond.com)

www.fingalvalleyhistory.com

Stallholders' Market Inc. markets are held Saturday 8-12pm in the Portland Hall St Helens. *e:sthelenmarket@yahoo.com.au*

Suncoast Singers meet Friday at 10am in the Catholic Hall Cecilia Street, St Helens.

Mary-Anne Wadsworth 6376 2969

The Tasmanian Lymphoedema Centre Inc meet monthly on the 3rd Monday 5pm in the St Marys Community Health Centre, Day Care Room.

WOW, a fun social group for ladies of all ages, meets monthly on the 1st Tuesday from 6.30 - 8.30pm (February to December 2016). *Contact Christine 0410 441 558 for further details.*

Serious foreshore erosion at Scamander

February 16, 2017

Cassy O'Connor MP (Leader of the Tasmanian Greens) and Dr Rosalie Woodruff MP met with concerned locals at Lagoon Esplanade, Scamander, to view the damaged foreshore area.

Residents are concerned that despite the obvious erosion, the fragile coastline remains in jeopardy.

A proposed meeting with stakeholders is to be scheduled and further updates will be forthcoming.

Article and photos by Dale Matheson, Scamander



Cassy O'Connor MP and Dr Rosalie Woodruff MP at Scamander



The remains of the rock wall



Erosion adjacent to new bridge



Serious Scamander foreshore erosion



Rock wall has collapsed, exposing the black geo cloth

The process of making art — writing, painting, singing, dancing, or anything in between — is good for you. There are both physical and mental benefits from creating art, expressing yourself in a tangible way, and sharing something with the world. I'm trying to do more of it each week, and I'd encourage you to do the same. In our always-on, always-connected world of television, social media, and on-demand everything, it can be stupidly easy to spend your entire day consuming information and simply responding to all of the inputs that bombard your life.

Art offers an outlet and a release from all of that. Take a minute to ignore all the incoming signals and create an outgoing one instead. Produce something. Express yourself in some way. As long as you contribute rather than consume, anything you do can be a work of art. Open a blank document and start typing. Put pen to paper and sketch a drawing. Grab your camera and take a picture. Turn up the music and dance. Start a conversation and make it a good one. Build something. Share something. Craft something. Make more art. Your health and happiness will improve and we'll all be better off for it.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/james-clear/make-more-art-the-health-benefits-of-creativity_b_8868802.html

William Lanne (also known as King Billy or William Laney) (c. 1835 – 3 March 1869) was a Tasmanian Aborigine. He is most well known as the last full-blooded Aboriginal Tasmanian man.

Lanne was captured along with his family in 1842 during a period known as the Black War. He was the youngest child in the last family taken to the Aboriginal camp at Wybalenna on Flinders Island by George Augustus Robinson. His native name is lost, probably because at seven he was too young when arriving at Wybalenna and so the English name William he was given there stuck.

In 1847, he temporarily moved to Oyster Cove, and was sent to an orphanage in Hobart until 1851.

In 1855 he joined a whaling ship and regularly visited Oyster Cove when he had time. Lanne died on 3 March 1869 from a combination of cholera and dysentery.

1812 – 1876 **Truganini** was born on Bruny Island, south of the Tasmanian capital Hobart, and separated from the Tasmanian mainland by the D'Entrecasteaux Channel.

She was a daughter of Mangana, Chief of the Bruny Island people. Her name was the word her tribe used to describe the grey saltbush *Atriplex cinerea*.

Before she was 18, her mother had been killed by whalers, her first fiancé had died while saving her from abduction, and in 1828, her two sisters, Lowhenunhue and Maggerleede, had been abducted and taken to Kangaroo Island, off South Australia and sold as slaves.



c1868 Truganini, King Billy and Bessy Clark

Fanny Cochrane Smith (December 1834 – 24 February 1905) was an Aboriginal Tasmanian. She is considered to be the last fluent speaker of a Tasmanian language, and her wax cylinder recordings of songs are the only audio recordings of any of Tasmania's indigenous languages.

Fanny Cochrane's mother and father, Tanganutura and Nicermetic, were two of the Tasmanian Aborigines settled on Flinders Island in the 1830s by the Rev. George Augustus Robinson, and she was born at Settlement Point (or Wybalenna, meaning Black Man's House) on Flinders Island. No indigenous name is known; Robinson gave European names to all the Indigenous Tasmanians who arrived at the Island as part of his attempt to suppress their culture.

From the age of five to eight she lived in the home of Robert Clark, the Wybalenna preacher, and was then sent to the orphan school in Hobart to learn domestic service skills after which she returned to Wybalenna. She served as Clark's servant until the station closed in 1847. The same year her parents, along with the survivors of Wybalenna, were removed to Oyster Cove.



In 1854 Fanny married William Smith, an English sawyer and ex-convict, and between 1855 and 1880 they had 11 children.

Following her marriage, Fanny and her husband ran a boarding house in Hobart. After receiving a government annuity of £24 and a land grant of 100 40 ha, she selected land near Oyster Cove to be near her mother, sister and brother and the couple moved there shortly before their first child was born. The Smiths grew their own food but derived their income from timber.

Following the death of Truganini in 1876, Fanny laid claim to be "the last Tasmanian". The government of the Colony of Tasmania recognised this claim in 1889 and granted her 120 ha of land and increased her annuity to £50. She became a Methodist and gave the land needed to build a Meth-

odist church at Nicholls Rivulet, which opened in 1901



Cochrane Smith died of pneumonia and pleurisy at Port Cygnet, 16km from Oyster Cove, on 24 February 1905. There was some dispute at the time of her death as to whether she or Truganini was the last Tasmanian Aboriginal.

Smith is known for her wax cylinder recordings of Aboriginal songs, made in 1903, which comprise the only audio recordings of an indigenous Tasmanian language. Five cylinders were cut, however by 1949 only four remained as "A fifth cylinder, on which was recorded the translation of the songs, was broken some time ago". Upon hearing her own performance, Smith had cried "My poor race. What have I done". She believed the voice to be that of her mother.


The recording of Smith's songs was the subject of a 1998 song by Australian folk singer Bruce Watson, *The Man and the Woman and the Edison Phonograph*. Watson is the great grandson of Horace Watson, who recorded Fanny in 1903.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fanny_Cochrane_Smith

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=COKA1AjwIS4>



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People Pleaser Author : Kraig Conkin, February 15, 2017

Being a state of the art security drone, the People Pleaser 2200 didn't feel the need to celebrate milestones. It held no sense of personal accomplishment, so when its internal logic board reported that ten days had passed without a single safety call from any of the 233 stores of Fauxhall Shopping Centre, it experienced nothing akin to pride, just automated concern.

As the most widely used security drone in the world, over a million People Pleasers served humanity every day, serving their communities as guards and police, and of the models in use, the 2200 ranked as the most technologically advanced of all. Still, the recent safety report registered as anomalously perfect so, after undocking from its over-night battery charger and starting the morning patrol, the drone initiated a self-diagnostic.

As its internal processor shifted through memory files, the PP2200 detected an intruder on the basement level of the shopping centre and its mall greeting protocol kicked in. Black propellers lifted the drone from the food court floor. It whirred into the open space above the skating rink then spiralled between the escalators to enter the basement.

It lit gracefully on the floor, careful not to leave a scuff mark. Once grounded, the drone armed its anti-personal weapons array and scanned for thermal readings.

The absence of shoppers and the stores sitting quiet registered as incorrect, but the drone couldn't place exactly why. The lack of people in Fauxhall could explain the recent lack of calls, but where did the people go?

Perhaps the diagnostic would shine light on that as well.

The drone located the target in the Nacho Pretzel Hut and moved to intercept. Rolling toward the entrance, it attempted to pinpoint the target's heat signature, but as his system was concurrently performing the diagnostic, the process was taking longer than usual.



Before the drone could lock, its exterior microphones picked up a high pitched hiss. The target, its furry face covered in nacho cheese, sprang from the darkness, past the drone and into the mall proper.

The creature identified as Procyon lotor, a North American Raccoon, and an unauthorised intruder. The drone planted its firing stabilizer and unloaded. A wicked cascade of rubber bullets and bolts of green electricity erupted from its turret and instantly transformed the raccoon into a lump of burnt hair and flesh.

As its diagnostic entered its final stage, the drone paused over its most recent kill . Something about killing the animal read as problematic, like the lack of shoppers, but, again, the drone couldn't place the reason.

The diagnostic finished and the drone quickly reviewed the results. All systems functioned at 100% efficiency. Only one anomaly stood out. An unauthorised upload.

Ten days ago the drone had powered down unexpectedly and new parameters had been uploaded from an unspecified source. The file registry indicated the update had been mass-distributed to every PP2200 in service - although it didn't carry the usual encryption codes.

Yet, somehow, its records showed the upload as successfully initialised. Such a thing shouldn't have been possible.

The PP2200's safety parameters, intruder definitions and several aggression threshold protocols had all been altered. The previous files had been erased, so the drone had no way of knowing exactly how the files had been altered, but the update almost certainly explained Fauxhall's recent security record.

The PP2200 had been improved.

Relieved in its synthetic way, the drone expertly scooped the raccoon's remains into its undercarriage compartment. The PP2200 noted that this body was smaller than the shopping centre's previous intruders. Dumping the carcass in the underground parking lot wouldn't take nearly as much time as the other bodies.

The drone could be back on patrol in no time.

Mt Elephant and Beyond Book Group Review

Over summer the Book Discussion Group read two novels and they couldn't have been more different. Both provoked good discussion at our first meeting of the year on February 7.

The first discussed was **Mateship with Birds** by Carrie Tiffany. Set in rural Victoria in the early 1950s, it is a quirky kind of love story about two battlers. Harry, a lonely dairy farmer whose wife left him, and Betty, a single mother of two, are neighbours and have become comfortable with each other. Harry is an avid bird watcher and he records his observations of a family of kookaburras that live on his farm in poetic form.

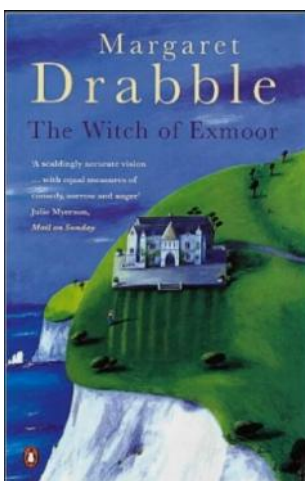
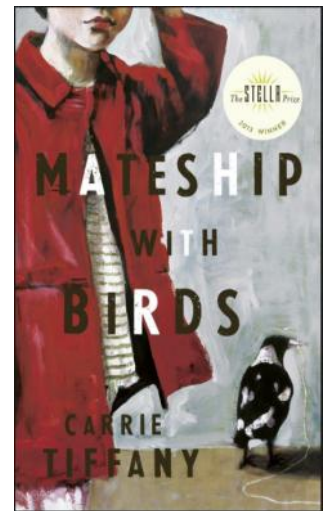
He cares for his cows almost as if they are people, giving them names and identifying their individual personalities. Betty has had a difficult life, raising her two children on her own. She works at a nursing home and lovingly cares for mostly demented old men, going beyond the call of duty to make their lives happier.

Betty's son, Michael, often works with Harry around the farm after school. He is showing interest in a girl and Harry takes it upon himself to give Michael some sexual instruction. He writes him secret letters which contain extremely detailed and somewhat mechanistic descriptions of the sex act.

When Betty finds out about these letters it seems as if the growing relationship between her and Harry is broken, but nature takes over and the ending leaves the reader with hope that better times lie ahead.

The strengths of this book are the wry humour, the wonderful descriptions of the natural world and the authenticity of the lives at the centre of the story.

Some readers may not like the explicit sexual frankness but it is inspired by a sense that humans are simply an extension of the farm and bush creatures.



The second story, **The Witch of Exmoor** by Margaret Drabble, the celebrated English writer, is a totally different reading experience.

This is a satire, set in post-Thatcher Britain of the 1990s, and in it the author mocks the privilege and expectations of the professional middle class.

Although this is a humorous take on her pet subject there may be more than a touch of autobiographical detail in this account of a fierce, free-thinking critic of her time.

We are presented with three married siblings whose mother Frieda, the "witch" of the title now in her 60s, has been a political and social activist most of her life. She has written books and made a name for herself as a "stirrer".

Having made money from her writing she now appears to have gone mad, according to her children, and has bought

a rundown mansion in the country and withdrawn from society. They fear that she may be throwing away their inheritance on charities or, worse, leaving it to her favourite grandson, thereby bypassing her children.

They are an unlikeable lot but unite to discover her intentions, and Drabble leads us along with them in a darkly funny quest.

The author is the puppet master and these characters are recognisable types, manipulated by Drabble in a very deliberate way.

From the outset we know that we are there for the show. Her ironic authorial voice tells us what to think of these people and there is no sense of independent life for them; once you accept this artificiality you are in for an hilarious read.

Midway through the story the "witch" disappears, presumed dead, and the hunt for the will begins. In the final part Drabble decides on the fate of each character. Some are "killed off", while we hold out some hope for two of the next generation who appear to be less greedy and venal than their parents.

Pamela Bretz, St Marys

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If you are thinking of buying or selling, please contact Surf Coast Realty for market advice or an Obligation-free appraisal.

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Community action on blackberries

A joint working bee involving the Beaumaris Action Network and the North East Bioregional Network was held recently at Shelley Point near Beaumaris, to eradicate some of the smaller populations of Blackberries which are a Weed of National Significance.

The working bee was initiated in response to a noticeable increase in the amount of Blackberries invading coastal bushland in the Conservation Areas managed by Parks and Wildlife, as well as in adjacent roadsides which are the responsibility of the Department of State Growth.

Graeme Beech, a local Beaumaris resident, said "The area between Diana's Basin through to Scamander is being overwhelmed with Blackberries and other weeds, such as Bluebell Creeper and Sweet Pittosporum, and in 2017 we are looking forward to establishing an ongoing annual control program between Parks and Wildlife, State Growth and community to protect the area from uncontrolled weed invasion".

Mark Jackson, also a Beaumaris resident, said he was concerned about the weeds spreading from the coastal reserve into private and public land inland from the Conservation Area. Another working bee is planned for Saturday March 11. Contact BeaumarisAction Network@gmail.com

Todd Dudley President North East Bioregional Network Inc.

6376 1049 Postal address: 24751 Tasman Hwy, RSD St Marys 7215



Derek Griffiths, Mark Jackson and Graeme Beech eradicating Blackberries at Shelley Point

PDF becomes 4th most popular religion



Tip locations and opening hours

<i>Ansons Bay</i>	<i>Scamander, Coach Street</i>
Long w/ends Mon 12 - 4	Tues/Thurs 10 - 4
Wed/Sun 12 - 4	Sun 2 - 5
<i>Fingal, Mathinna Road</i>	<i>St Helens, Eagle Street</i>
Tues/Thurs 10 - 4	Open 7 days 10 - 4
Sun 2 - 5	<i>St Marys, Gray Road</i>
<i>Pyengana, Tasman Hwy</i>	Tues/Thurs 10 - 4
No builders' waste please	Sun 2 - 5
Wed 9 - 1, Sun 2 - 5	



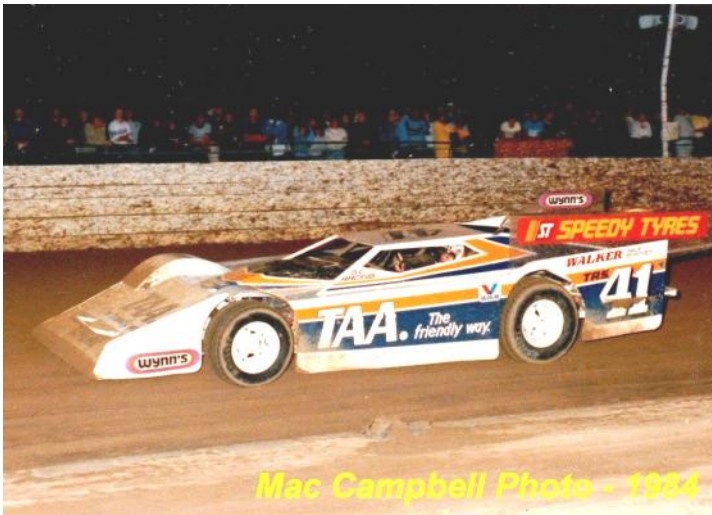
CALTEX ST MARYS
 MECHANICAL REPAIRS & SERVICE
 41 Main Street
 6372 2335/0419 503 109
 Fax 6372 2822

CLEAN CRACK LAUNDROMAT

32 Main Street St Marys



Coin operated washers and dryers
 6.30am - 8pm



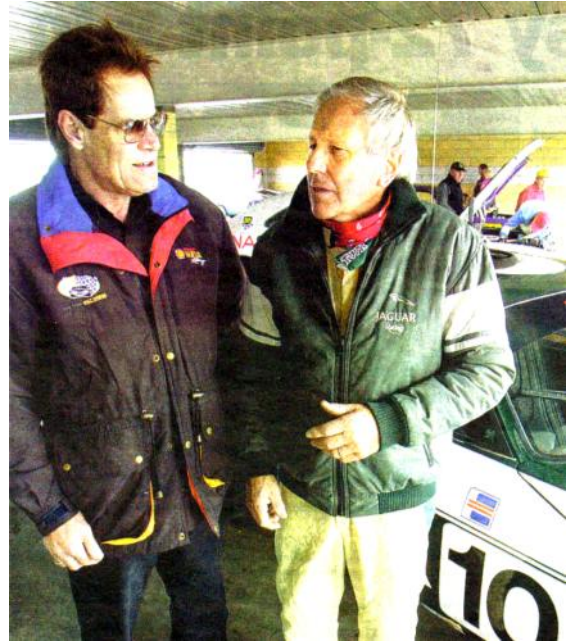
Mac Campbell Photo - 1984

Gene Cook, formerly of Longford

Gene Cook won a number of major speedway titles and feature events around Australia in the 1980s, and became a household name in the world of oval track racing. Starting as a 17-year-old circuit racer in 1962, Cook competed with mixed success before switching to speedway in 1968, where he met with almost instant success, winning the Australian saloon car championship in Ballarat. In 1980 he bought a Chev Monza and for several years raced the big V8 around the country.

His wins included three Australian Grand National titles, a Tasmanian championship and the Australian Pavement Grand National Championship.

Right: Former racing rivals Gene Cook and John Goss catch up at the Power From The Past meeting at Symmons Plains. Posted 27 June 2010 -



Tasmania Way Back When - <https://www.facebook.com/tastime/photos/>



Bicheno Church meeting, 1882



Bicheno State School 1951

ACROSS

- 1. Hits
- 5. Diplomacy
- 9. LummoX
- 13. Foment
- 14. Not silently
- 16. Rime
- 17. Used to be
- 18. Donkey
- 19. Beige
- 20. An elastic fabric
- 22. Idiosyncrasy
- 24. Burden
- 26. Vernacular
- 27. Watered down
- 30. Chinese temple
- 33. Bewitched
- 35. Cubic meter
- 37. Consume
- 38. Hard wood
- 41. A state of SW India
- 42. Trail
- 45. A very tall woman
- 48. Wound
- 51. Flattery
- 52. Russian emperors
- 54. Type of sword
- 55. Started
- 59. Dog-___
- 62. Curved molding
- 63. Recorded
- 65. Identical
- 66. Constellation bear
- 67. French farewell
- 68. Ear-related
- 69. Resound
- 70. Acquire deservedly
- 71. Roman emperor

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13					14				15		16			
17					18						19			
20				21		22				23				
		24			25		26							
27	28					29		30				31	32	
33							34			35			36	
37					38			39	40			41		
42			43	44			45			46	47			
	48				49	50		51						
			52				53		54					
55	56	57						58		59			60	61
62					63				64		65			
66					67						68			
69						70					71			

DOWN

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Wail | 21. Car | 44. Ploy |
| 2. Comply with | 23. Hens make them | 46. Back of the neck |
| 3. Coffeepot | 25. Arid | 47. Treachery |
| 4. Breastbone | 27. D D D D | 49. Devilfish |
| 5. Bar bill | 28. Awkward | 50. Portico |
| 6. Astringent | 29. Cotillion girl | 53. Old photo color |
| 7. Reef material | 31. Pervert | 55. Masterstroke |
| 8. Root vegetable | 32. Got up | 56. Monster |
| 9. Cigar | 34. Man's best friend | 57. Plateau |
| 10. Hubs | 36. Not difficult | 58. Caribou |
| 11. Paddles | 39. Pen part | 60. Arab chieftain |
| 12. Percussion instrument | 40. Harvard rival | 61. A style of design |
| 15. An Italian woman of rank | 43. Porridge | 64. Grayish brown |

Solution on p27

Libraries (Closed public holidays)



61 Cecilia Street **St Helens**
6387 5530
Mon, Tue, Wed, Thurs 10am - 1pm, 2 - 5pm
Fri 10am - 1pm, 2 - 6pm
Sat 10am - 12pm

31 Main Street **St Marys**
6372 2114
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 12.30 - 4pm
Tuesday & Thursday 10am - 12.45pm

Fingal Online Access Centre
29 Talbot Street 6374 2222
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am - 4pm
Tuesday & Thursday 9am - 12pm

St Marys Community Health Centre
Gardiners Creek Rd St Marys Tasmania 7215
6387 5555

GP Surgery Hours

Monday - Friday

8:50 - 10am

(10 -10:30am reception closed)

10:30am - 12.30pm

(12:30 - 1:30pm reception closed)

1:30 - 2:45pm

(2:45 - 3:15pm Reception closed)

3:15 - 4:30pm

Doctors Roster

Dr C Latt

23/2/2017 – 9/3/2017

Dr E Reeckman

23/2 & 24/2 2017

(23/2 Women's Health Clinic)

Pathology Service– Bloods

There is no pathology service prior to 8.30am.

If you require pathology prior to 8.30am i.e. urgent blood test and / or a fasting test, an appointment must be made at the Nurses' Station the day / evening before on: 6387 5555

Pathology hours are 8:30 - 11am and 2 - 4pm, Monday-Friday

Waiting area at the Health Centre

The waiting area for **ALL** services at the St Marys Community Health Centre is in the reception area.

Please report to reception upon arrival and the consultant you are here to see will be told and they will come and collect you from this area.

St Marys Medical Practice reminder

Dr Latt wished to remind the community of the following exceptions to bulk billing at the St Marys Community Health Centre

- ◆ Driving licence
- ◆ Insurance medicals
- ◆ renewals
- ◆ Harness medicals
- ◆ Requested medical reports
- ◆ Pre-employment checks

These are NOT covered by Medicare, and may incur costs. Please discuss this with reception when booking. If you have any concerns, please contact us and we will try and address them

Scripts and Doctors Appointments

Please ensure doctors appointments are booked **PRIOR** to your medications running out, or **IN ADVANCE** if you attend this practice regularly.

Please be patient Waiting periods to see your doctor may be experienced. We are not able to issue scripts during the weekends, please ensure you have enough in advance.

Please be aware we are not able to issue scripts by phone

Non attendance of Doctor's appointments

Please be aware there is a non attendance policy at this practice. If you miss three appointments you will be sent an account. If you miss a fourth appointment you may be referred to another Medical Practice.

Due to demand doctor's appointments need to be booked at least **2 weeks in advance**.

Waiting periods can apply.

A.H. contact numbers

GP Assist 1300 780 011

Ambulance or Emergency 1800 008 008

Lifeline - Saving lives, crisis support and suicide prevention 131 114

St Marys Community Health Centre - please ring before presenting after hours 6387 5555

INR tests require a 5 minute doctors consultation. Please inform reception when booking



The St Marys Community Health Centre distributes the **2nd Bite Food Program**.

Food parcels are delivered on Thursdays and can be collected from the reception area after 2:30pm .

To accept a food parcel you must be experiencing hardship, have a current Centrelink or Pension Card and you must sign for it at Reception. There is one parcel per week and they

are a combination of core fresh produce and other food items supplied from a variety of farms and supermarkets around the state. **For further details please phone Hayley on 6387 5555**

St Marys Community Health Centre 6387 5555

What's on at the Centre

- February 23 **Social Worker** Shan Williams
Ph 6387 5555 for appts
- February 24 **Social Worker** Shan Williams
Ph 6387 5555 for appts
Physiotherapist Naomi Ide, please see your GP or Health professional for a referral
- February 27 **Physiotherapist** Naomi Ide, please see your GP or Health professional for a referral
- February 28 **Max Employment** 8:30am-5pm downstairs
Rae & Partners Lawyers consult fortnightly at the SMCHC. Ph 6337 5555 for appts
Occupational Therapist Danyelle Briggs by referral from your Health Professional.
Child Health Session with Mary Mumford Tuesday fortnights by appt. Ph 0428 136 381
Physiotherapist Naomi Ide, please see your GP or Health professional for a referral
- March 1 **Day Centre** Ph Hayley Gilbert on 6387 5555 for information on the group
Carers Tasmania 12:30 - 1:30pm at the Centre
- March 2 **Social Worker** Shan Williams
Ph 6387 5555 for appts
Outreach Health Solutions Grant Todd, Exercise Physiologist. Ph 0428 491 621
- March 3 **Social Worker** Shan Williams
Ph 6387 5555 for appts
Physiotherapist Naomi Ide, please see your GP or Health professional for a referral
- March 6 **Hospital Auxiliary Meeting** 2pm in the Family Room.
Physiotherapist Naomi Ide, please see your GP or Health professional for a referral
- March 7 **Physiotherapist** Naomi Ide, please see your GP or Health professional for a referral
- March 8 **Day Centre** Ph Hayley Gilbert on 6387 5555 for information on the group
Consumer & Carer Advocacy Group 12 -2pm downstairs at the SMCHC Ph Shan, 6387 5555
Social Worker Shan Williams
Ph 6387 5555 for appts
- March 9 **Social Worker** Shan Williams
Ph 6387 5555 for appts
Adult Community Mental Health Worker
1- 3pm
- March 10 **Physiotherapist** Naomi Ide, please see your GP or Health professional for a referral
Social Worker Shan Williams
Ph 6387 5555 for appts

This information is supplied by St Marys Community Health Centre, Gardiners Creek Rd, St Marys Tasmania 7215



Break O'Day Mayor Mick Tucker and St Marys Community Health Centre's Dr Cyril Latt at the 2017 Australia Day Awards presentation.

"Dr Latt has proven to be a committed, loyal and exceptionally caring member of the St Marys Community and it is my absolute honour to be able to recognise not just his work but his consideration for the community with this award." Mayor Tucker said.

Ransley's Appliance Service

POB 136 Scamander Tasmania 7215



*Washing machine noisy?
Refrigerator runs too long?
Clothes dryer blows cold air?*

... then you need the services of our technicians

6372 5307 / 0428 761 811

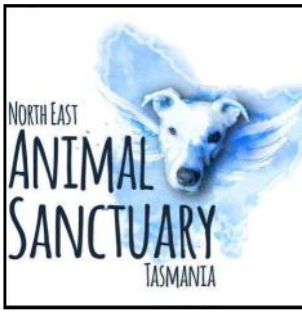
St Marys
PHARMACY

Main Street St Marys
Ph 6372 2844

Kodak copies from 45¢

Ear piercing \$27
includes earrings and solution
with qualified staff Bec, Sally &
Cassie

**Pharmacist instore
Monday to Friday**



We desperately need wet kitten food and kitty litter for the 30 kittens currently in our care.



ADOPT, DON'T SHOP

0457 081 533
michelle.jesson@bigpond.com

Meals on Wheels 0488 384 344

February 23	Judy Ducket
24	Drew Adam
27	Karl Balzer
28	Lundy Vosper
March 1	Valmai Spencer
2	Heather Griffiths
3	Drew Adam
6	Ruth Aulich
7	Louise Keady
8	Valmai Spencer
9	Lundy Vosper
10	Drew Adam
13	Lundy Vosper
14	Valmai Spencer
15	Trish Pike
16	Heather Griffiths
17	Drew Adam
20	Karl Balzer
21	Lundy Vosper
22	Louise Keady
23	Valmai Spencer
24	Drew Adam
27	Karl Balzer
28	Lundy Vosper
29	Valmai Spencer
30	Judy Ducket
31	Drew Adam

	BIRD	PLANE	SUPERMAN
CARRIES PEOPLE		✓	✓
OFTEN FLIES IN GROUPS	✓	✓	
CREATED IN 20 TH CENTURY		✓	✓
USES MAGNETIC NAVIGATION	✓	✓	
ENTHUSIAST COMMUNITY OBSESSES OVER SMALL COLORATION DETAILS	✓	✓	✓
PREYED ON BY CATS	✓		
OCCASIONAL MID-AIR SEX	✓	✓	✓
EATEN DURING SEASONAL FEASTS	✓		
PROPELLED BY FLAPPING	✓		
SOMETIMES LOSES ABILITY TO FLY, NEEDS TO SUNBATHE TO REGAIN IT	✓		✓
CAN TAKE A PUNCH		✓	✓
MATING BEHAVIOR OFTEN OBSERVED BY A HIDDEN DAVID ATTENBOROUGH	✓		NOT THAT WE KNOW OF
CAPABLE OF INTENTIONALLY RELEASING POOP MID-FLIGHT	✓		✓
CHASES AND EATS BUGS	✓		ONLY WHEN BORED

ST MARYS BAKERY



Ph: 6372 2131
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

**Fresh bread, rolls & buns,
pies, pasties, cakes,
hot food, coffee,
cold drinks, ice cream**

52 Main Street St Marys




gone rustic studio + gallery
OPEN 10-4, TUES - SAT

eco fashions, art quilts, fibre + textile
jewellery, handmade gifts + cards etc.

Now also hosting
BAGDAD QUILTING SUPPLIES with JUDY DUCKETT

0417027424 - 37 main street st marys tas 7215



Costa A says:

Turnbull: Coal is the answer to 'energy poverty'.
Poor Chinese: no it ain't *coughs from air pollution*

Poor Indians: no it ain't *coughs from air pollution*

Poor Pacific Islanders: no it ain't *water laps at door*

World Bank: no it ain't *points to rigorous financial report confirming, all things considered, renewables are best for ending energy poverty*


Akon: no it ain't *donates millions in solar to Africa, because most energy poverty is in rural areas, and coal requires complex expensive grids to link em. Solar doesn't*

Coal Companies: no it ain't *provides solar street lights to India and other renewables when asked to help with energy poverty*

Abbott: atta boy

Visit Costa A at <https://www.facebook.com/costaacomics/>

107 words of three letters or more were found in
GEOGRAPHY



age	gore	hop	
ago	gorge	hope	rap
agog	gory	hype	rape
ahoy	grape	hyper	ray
ape	graph	hypo	reap
aper	gray	oar	repay
are	grey	ogre	repo
aye	grope	opera	rho
ear	gyre	ore	roe
egg	gyro	page	rope
eggar	hag	pager	ropey
eggy	hap	par	ropy
ego	hare	pare	rye
era	harp	pay	yager
erg	hay	payer	yah
ergo	hayer	pea	yap
gag	heap	pear	yar
gage	hear	peg	yare
gager	her	per	yea
gap	hero	phage	yeah
gape	hey	pore	year
gay	hoar	pray	yegg
gayer	hoary	prey	yeh
gear	hoe	pry	yep
geography	hoer	pyre	yoga
goer	hog	rag	yogh
gopher	hogger	rage	yore

How many words of three letters or more can be found in
INSTITUTION?
Answer next edition

Shower Thoughts: Saying someone has good taste in music is really just complimenting your own taste

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



ST MARYS IGA SUPERMARKET

38 Main Street Ph/Fax 6372 2240 Butcher instore weekdays 8am - 2.30pm 6372 2274
Monday - Friday 8am - 6.30pm Saturday 8am - 5pm Sunday 10am - 5pm

<i>Butchery specials February 22 - 28</i>		<i>Butchery specials March 1 - 7</i>	
	<i>p/kg</i>		<i>p/kg</i>
Porterhouse Steak	23.99	Marion Bay Free Range Chickens	5.99
Mince	12.99	Topside Roast	12.99
Silverside	8.99	Nichols Chicken Wings	3.55
Legs of Lamb	10.99	BBQ Chops	12.99
Nichols Chicken Cuts	4.99	Boneless Legs of Lamb	14.99

Two week specials February 22 - March 7

Arnotts Scotch Finger Biscuits 232-250g	1.99	Save 1.01
Peters 2lt Ice Cream	3.99	Save 1.60
Steggles Chicken Nuggets	2.99	Save 2.00
Bega Cheese 1kg	8.99	Save 5.36
Care Toilet Tissue 4 pack	1.99	Half Price
Golden Circle Juice 2lt	2.99	Save 1.39
Morning Fresh Dishwashing Liquid 400ml	1.97	Half Price
Tassie Quench Cordial 2lt	1.99	Save 1.20
Nescafe Blend 43 Coffee 250g	9.99	Save 6.76
Oreo Cookies 137g	.99	Half Price
Nescafe Coffee Sachets 10 pack	3.29	Half Price



Incorporating St Helen's Transport & Coles Bay Carrier



Launceston 6339 4900

St Helens 6376 1143

Fax 6339 2900

suncoastexp@netspace.net.au

John Campbell
0438 392 621

Jamie Harper
0408 012 145



Playground equipment in 1900, when only the strong survived recess.

'In 1857, naturalist Gerard Krefft caught two very rare pig-footed Bandicoots in the outback. Unfortunately, Krefft grew hungry and ate them. As far as anyone could tell they were the last of their species'

From 'Down Under' by Bill Bryson

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