

THE VALLEY AND EAST COAST VOICE

Established 1968

Edition 54.22 8th December 2022 Deadline for 54.23 is at 5.00pm on Friday 16th December 2022

A GREAT DAY OF GOLF RAISES FUNDS FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

62 players attended the annual Johns Family Charity Golf Day on Saturday 26 November, which again supported Lifeline. Held at the Malahide Golf course, fine weather and a course in fantastic condition helped to make the day a great success. "RAW also attended and we will be supporting them next year," said Club Captain Andrew Johns.

The winning team of Malcom Woods, G Woods and P Buchanan scored 59, with Andrew Wright, Shan Wilmot and D Groves only 1 stroke/point behind on 60. Third place went to Mark Johns, D Boatwright and J Kershaw, with a score of 62.

The day included a barbeque lunch and afternoon tea, with \$4,000 being raised to support suicide prevention.

Johns family member acknowledged the hard work which his mother, Annette Johns, undertakes for



Players wait to start the 18-hole game on a course in fantastic condition.

the event, commenting on the Malahide Golf Club Facebook site, "Exceptional field and a magnificent day! Massive thank you to mum, Annette Johns for all your hard work, it doesn't go unrecognized!....and the biggest thank you is to each and every person that continue to support this event in the memory of our late great father, husband, grandfather and great-grandfather, Murray Leslie Johns."

"A big thanks to all our major sponsors, Drummond Golf Jason Russell, Players make their way back National Sports Authority, and Malcom Woods," concluded Andrew. Full results are on page 31.



to the club house.



Malcolm Woods collects the prize for the winning team from Club Captain Andrew Johns.

Article and photographs courtesy of Andrew Johns.



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Regular articles i.e. news of current activities/events and general information will, at the discretion of the Editor, be carried free of charge. Community group announcements up to 5 lines or business card size are free, anything larger will be charged at 50% of current rates. The decision regarding whether or not an article attracts advertising fees is the Editor's. Groups will be advised of any cost before going to print.

Private community announcements/private classifieds are free for one issue.

Articles for publication may be left at the Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House, St Marys Pharmacy, posted or emailed.

We do not accept responsibility for the accuracy of information provided by contributors.

For online advertising or any other advertising queries, please contact the editor.

valleyvoice@fvnh.org.au

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Annual posted subscriptions are \$69 and annual online subscriptions are \$20 per year.

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Opinions in any letters published are not necessarily those of the Editor, staff or volunteers.

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, including letter to the Editor, must bear the author's full 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. Whilst we value and welcome community input, the Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House does not provide specific feedback regarding any decision made not to publish a submission.

The Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House reserves the right at all times, without notice, to update, change or amend our guidelines. All information is correct at time of printing.

This newspaper is about the Fingal Valley and the East Coast, and the people who live here. If you have a story you would like to share, or a suggestion for an article or regular column, please contact the Editor. You can show off your literary talents and submit it for consideration, or the Editor can write it for you. Photographs are important too, so try to include them, with some information as to where and when it was taken, what the occasion was, and who is in it.

We also like to tell people about our sporting history, and tales of sporting prowess and vanished sporting events are also welcome.

Email me at: valleyvoice@fvnh.org.au

Elizabeth

Editor - The Valley and East Coast Voice.

As The Valley and East Coast Voice will be celebrating 55 years of publication next year, we will be replicating a page from a past copy of 'The Valley Voice' in each issue. This issue, we feature of Volume 51, Number 18, published Thursday 10th October 2019.

If you have memories to share about the pages we replicate, please share them with us - valleyvoice@fvnh.org.au



THE VALLEY AND EAST COAST VOICE

Established 1968

Edition 51.18 10 October 2019

Deadline for 51.19 is at 5.00 pm on Monday 21st October 2019

WORK TO COMMENCE ON RESTORATION OF FINGAL ICON

In a statement made on Friday, 4th October 2019, Senator Claire Chandler and Break O'Day Mayor Mick Tucker welcomed the start of the funding agreement which will enable the restoration and renovation of the Old Tasmania Hotel in Fingal.

As promised before the last election, the Federal Government has provided \$500,000, and the Break O'Day Juncil has contributed \$100,000, making a total of \$600,000 being made available to restore the historical two-storey building, an important part of the history of Fingal.

Built in the 1850's by former convict Daniel Pestell, the Old Tasmania Hotel has been a landmark in the town, first trading as a hotel before being abandoned in the 1970's, then being used to house the Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House since 1987. Local resident Scott Marshall saw potential in the building in the 1980's, and began an extensive restoration project, along with 14 partners, funded by a grant of \$60,000. This work has enabled many programs to be run at the FVNH, This includes the play centre, used during term time to introduce children of the area to educational experiences before moving into the education system, and Eating With Friends, an opportunity for people of the area to gather and enjoy good food and pleasant company. A community library, training sessions by a variety of providers, counselling services, legal literacy assistance, and food assistance programs also use the Neighbourhood House, and the gardens are a lovely place to sit and have a chat with staff or counselling services.

and the Fingal History Group has seen the collection of archives including photographs, diagrams, newspaper cuttings and historical documents grow, requiring safe and suitable storage, and an area for the public to access these is becoming more urgent.

Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House manager Gary Barnes is "looking forward to the work starting, and excited for what we will be able to provide for the people of the area. It will be great to have space upstairs which we can use, and to be able to offer more areas for the community to use, and for hire to organisations for workshops and training. We are really looking forward to the future of the Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House."

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NEW FIRE DANGER RATINGS HELP PEOPLE PREPARE FOR BUSHFIRE

A new and nationally consistent fire danger rating system was launched across Australia on 1 September 2022. It has been implemented in Tasmania by the Tasmania Fire Service. The system provides clearer and more accurate information to people at risk of bushfire. The new Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) brings together the latest science and knowledge of fire behaviour. Supported by extensive community research, AFDRS is the most significant change to the fire danger ratings system in more than 50 years.

Under the previous system, fire danger ratings were based largely on forest and grass fire models. The new system uses eight different types of vegetation, which have been mapped across Australia. Based on fuel types, a further 22 sub-categories support the system, meaning we can look forward to more accurate predictions.

What you'll need to know

The new Australian Fire Danger Rating System forecasts the potential level of risk before a bushfire starts.

Ratings are calculated using weather forecast and vegetation information.

The display of daily ratings has been simplified. Four levels of fire danger rating will be used, with clear actions for people to take at each level.

- Moderate (Green) Plan and prepare
- High (Yellow) Be ready to act
- Extreme (Orange) Take action now to protect life and property
- Catastrophic (Red) For your survival, leave bush fire risk areas

No rating (White section under Moderate) - means if a fire does start, it is not likely to fire.tas.gov.au to complete your 5 Minute threaten the safety of the community.



Be sure to have your plans in order. Go to Bushfire Plan online.

(Photos: Red Hot Tips Program)

You will find daily fire danger ratings on both the Tasmania Fire Service (www.fire.tas.gov.au) and Bureau of Meteorology (www.bom.gov.au) websites. As in the past, the daily fire danger rating tables will show forecast fire danger based on fire weather areas. The maps provided by the TFS will show a finer scale and so give more local detail.

Fire Permits and Total Fire Ban declarations will be made by the Tasmania Fire Service in the usual way.

What to do

Know the changes, they could save your life. Make sure your fire safety plans are up to date. Go to: www.fire.tas.gov.au

It is never too early to begin preparations to protect your property, and most importantly, the lives of those you love.



Plan ahead - look after loved ones and friends.

Alex lives locally in Bicheno and is available to assist clients with all legal matters. Appointments are by arrangement in Swansea, Bicheno, St Marys and St Helens. With nearly 15 years' experience working as a Barrister & Solicitor in Tasmania and Western Australia, Alex is your local lawyer on the East Coast of Tasmania.



Phone: 0407 242 265 Email: alexgrahamlegal@outlook.com

TANIA RATTRAY MLC

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR **MCINTYRE**



Your full-time Independent **Legislative Council Member** representing the Fingal Valley and East **Coast community**

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LOCAL ARTIST SERENADES BRISBANE 'WITH ONE VOICE'

How wonderful and special is the sweet sound and power of music.

It was a brilliant blue sun-shiney Brisbane sky. King George Square was bustling with Christmas shoppers and joyful attitude.

Wednesday 30 November, I joined in attending 'With One Voice' choir at Brisbane City Town Hall for a casual singing session.

I had, so far, such a lovely day enjoying my sister Madonna's company. At 5.30pm we joined the other choir members and took our seats ready for instruction. The Choir Mistress Melissa Gill joined by keyboardist Richard addressed the near 20 relaxed attendees. With a brief warm welcome we were soon handed out lyric sheets.

After announcing 'Welcome To Country', we were given brief introductions then commenced our session. It was particularly special, as I was introduced to two new songs I was unfamiliar with, 'Candlelight Cannon' and 'Heaven Everywhere'. The choir session was lovely, singing with all our might, laughing and having a load of fun.

'With One Voice' is a great opportunity to learn as you go, get together with people and enjoy each other's support in raising our voices. Good one Brisbane!

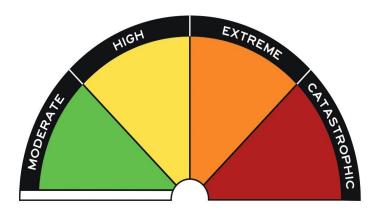
I hope to return soon and enjoy more singing with this lovely group.

All interested people and choir members everywhere are most welcome to participate in the Break O'Day 'With One Voice'.

Contact Liz on 0439 001 533 to find out more.



The new Fire Danger Ratings are:





Australian Fire Danger Rating System

MODERATE

Plan and prepare

HIGH

Be ready to act

EXTREME

Take action now to protect life and property

CATASTROPHIC

For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas Now simpler with clear actions to take.

KNOW THE CHANGES THEY COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE

Check your daily Fire Danger Rating at fire.tas.gov.au







CONCERNS ABOUT ST MARYS AND ELEPHANT PASSES AIRED AT MEETING

At a public meeting held on Friday 25th November at the St Marys Town Hall, around 150 residents and business owners of St Marys and the surrounding areas expressed their anger, disappointment and frustration with yet another closure of the St Marys Pass and traffic restrictions on the Elephant Pass, following the damage caused to theses road by the extremely high rainfall earlier in the month.

Organized by local supermarket owner Dana Smith, the main focus of the meeting was to understand the impact that the road closure and limitations has had on the St Marys community and the surrounding towns.

Break O'Day Council members, including Mayor Mick Tucker and General Manager John Brown, listened as residents told of late-night travelling, inability to afford increased fuel costs, concerns about children's safety travelling on school buses, and the disruption to routines being experienced until the roadworks are finished and the roads re-opened. Concerns were also expressed about the time it now takes for Ambulance Tasmania vehicles to respond to call-outs, and the reluctance of freight companies to use the alternative route, along German Town Road, Semmens Road and Upper Scamander Road. Drivers spoke of many near-misses on this route, and problems with large trucks on Elephant Pass, which should have a lower speed limit.

The consensus was that the community would like to see the State Government commit to finding an alternative route which does not by-pass any of the townships on the route, and would also like to have in writing a clear time-line for the project. A lack of communication regarding progress of the works, and an expected re-opening date, were other points which were raised.

Local Liberal member John Tucker, who attended the meeting stated that it was hoped that the St Marys Pass will be open before Christmas, the State would look at all options and consult the community, and that he would look for grants which are appropriate for the community.

To find out more about what steps the Tasmanian Government is taking in is response to the St Marys Pass and the Elephant Pass situation, a letter was sent to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Mr Michael Ferguson, asking him a number of questions:

- ♦ What are the short-term and long-term plans for both roads
- ♦ What work has been undertaken so far on both Passes
- Is a different route for St Marys Pass being considered
- ♦ Is any maintenance is being undertaken on Semmens ('S') Road
- ♦ What assistance is being offered to the businesses in St Marys
- How can people find out the latest news on the remedial works on both Passes

Here is Mr Ferguson's reply:

"First of all, I'd like to thank locals for their patience while we work to return roads to a safe condition after the smashing the North of our state took from record amounts of rainfall and flooding. I've received some great letters which express views and suggestions on how to prevent future closures and I am responding to all of them with the benefit of my department's advice as well as my recent on-site visit at St Marys Pass with John Tucker MP and Mayor Mick Tucker.

We've got teams working hard and I've told the department to spare no expense in getting the Pass fixed and reopened as soon as possible. This has to be our priority right now, but I'm prepared to lead the work together with the local community on examining new options in the New Year. The huge damage of the floods and the dramatic impact on East Coast people and businesses is similar to what we have seen in other regions but is taking longer. This means we need to look at ways to prevent risk of future closures.

After repairs are completed to St Mary's Pass, I've tasked my Department of State Growth to begin technical work on access options and engage with the Break O'Day Council on its proposed alternative route over the top. This work will include technical advice on long-term repairs to the Esk Main Road through St Marys Pass and any viable alternatives.

Work continues seven days a week on the landslip at St Marys Pass and is progressing well.

At St Marys Pass, a rock base was laid last week to prepare the area for the gabion wall structure, which will support the road. The first block section of the **new** gabion wall was completed late last week and works are well progressed on further sections and on a retaining wall on the hillside.

The Elephant Pass remains open to all road users with a reduced speed limit and a short section that has been reduced to one lane. Work has commenced on **stronger**, **larger** gabion walls to support the road. Elephant Pass is the Government's recommended detour during the closure of St Marys Pass.

The detour will add about 20 minutes to the journey between St Marys and Scamander if you travel via Elephant Pass. Contractors are actively monitoring Elephant Pass to identify any change in its condition. This monitoring shows that the road is safe for use with the measures we have put in place.

The community can be assured that the Government is doing everything possible to open the St Marys Pass as soon as it is safe to do so, and we will continue to provide progress updates here: https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/projectsplanning/road projects/north west road projects/october flood recovery/st marys pass repairs

Road users are encouraged to limit travel through this area if possible and, for those travelling to or from the south, to consider using Lake Leake Road as an alternative.

Semmens Road/German Town Road and Upper Scamander Road are not part of the State road network, but are owned and managed by a combination of Parks and Wildlife Service, Sustainable Timbers Tasmania and Break O'Day Council. We are working collaboratively with all organisations and are aware that Semmens Road will be maintained by Sustainable Timber Tasmania while St Marys Pass is closed.

We are doing regular updates on both the RoadsTas Facebook page and the Transport Website: https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/projectsplanning/road_projects/north_west_road_projects/october_flood_recovery/st marys pass repairs

My colleague the Minister for Small Business Madeleine Ogilvie has announced that grants of up to \$25,000 are available to support Tasmanian small businesses directly impacted by the flooding with clean-up and restoration activities. Furthermore, non-profit organisations impacted by the floods in North and North-West Tasmania can now apply for up to \$25,000. That financial assistance is being jointly funded by the Australian and Tasmanian Governments under Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements. Assistance is available for non-profit organisations impacted in the 17 hardest-hit local government areas, including Break O' Day municipality.

Finally, the Premier, Mr Rockliff, has requested the assistance of the Prime Minister, Mr Albanese, for businesses in regional and remote areas impacted by road and bridge closures. These businesses are not eligible under the current Recovery Grants program but have experienced significant reductions in their earnings as a result of the impact to road and bridge infrastructure," Mr Ferguson concluded.

Copies of a petition have been circulating which have been signed by over 300 people, and these will be given to Mr Mitchell. "Thank you to those who have signed the petition. They demonstrate people power, and that's what we need to get something done about this," said Dana, "I'm looking forward to meeting with Brian Mitchell when he visits St Marys next week," she concluded.

An informal meeting has been organized by Dana, which will take place on the balcony outside C & D's IGA, Main Street St Marys, on Monday 12th December from 12.00pm, at which local Federal Member Brian Mitchell will discuss the situation regarding transport problems with people of the area and the petitions will be handed to him. Call in and let Brian know about YOUR concerns about the current situation.

FEDERAL MEMBER TO VISIT ST MARYS

"As your federal MP I am fully supportive of calls by the St Marys community for a sealed third route to St Helens.

It is clear that with increasing risks of rockfall and land slip from extreme weather events, plus more frequent traffic that is heavier and bigger, we can't continue to rely on St Marys and Elephant Passes as the principal routes to the coast. And that connection to St Helens is just too vital to lose.

Crews are working around the clock to repair and re-open St Marys Pass which is currently closed, and that is the correct main priority right now. I'd like to commend the crews for their hard work in difficult conditions.

But an alternative sealed third route between St Marys and St Helens is clearly needed. We know it will take years to plan, develop and build and that is why it is so important to get started right now.

I'm joining the community's request for the State Government to commit to planning a third route. Once the State Government develops a plan, I will offer my full support as your local federal MP for any request for Federal Government funding assistance. I understand just how important keeping the connection is, and how we

simply can't rely on St Marys and Elephant Passes as long-term principal routes.

I'd like to acknowledge the hard work of Dana Smith in bringing the community together on this vital issue. We need to make sure the State Government understands the community is united on the need for a third route, and I look forward to sitting down with Dana and other community members later this month.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!"

Brian Mitchell MP

Federal Member for Lyons

LOCAL STUDENTS AND COUNCIL WORK TOGETHER TO BRING CHRISTMAS CHEER TO BREAK O'DAY

Council's Community Services team has been working with students from the St Helens and St Marys District Schools to create signs to spread Christmas cheer.

Students from Kinder to Grade 6 were invited to submit their Christmas-inspired artwork to Council with 15 winning designs chosen by an independent panel to be turned into the signs.

The winning designs were: St Helens District High School: Jai Toms - Kinder, Jackson Case - Grade 6, Flora Gable - Grade 2,

Archie Barr – Grade 2, Lucy Frost – Grade 1, Baxter Szycman – Grade 2, Madelyn Payne – Grade 1, Owen Midson – Grade 2.

St Marys District School: Claire Ward – Grade 5, Charlize Speers – Year 5, Leira Rankin – Year 2, Kyuss Barratt – Year 3, Willow Davenport – Year 3, Vann Burke – Prep, Sophia Syka – Year 6.

These designs have now been printed and will be displayed underneath the township signs around the municipality.

"The artwork the students have created is amazing and is sure to brighten up our towns and inspire the Christmas spirit," Mayor Tucker said. "I can't wait to see them around the towns and I am sure the rest of the community will find them as joyful as we do."



Council Works members Sophie Richards and Anthony Goss with Students from St Helens District School and their artwork.

Community Services Project Officer Jenna Bailey said it had been a great project to work on.

"The students have been great to work with - we had no idea how many talented artists we had here! Being able to do these types of projects with the community is one of the best things about working for Council and it really has been a pleasure working with the schools and students," Ms Bailey said.

After Christmas, once the signs have been taken down, they will be presented back to the student artists as a keepsake.

Council plans to continue this project next year, giving a new set of students the opportunity to be a part of this project.

(Article and photograph courtesy Break O'Day Council)

FINGAL VALLEY SUPERMARKET

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Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House

FINGAL FOCUS

Contributed by Mike Brouder

Experience is what you get when you don't get what you want...

Christmas or not, there are other items which are of concern. The two Passes, St Marys and Elephant, are, in their own way, life-lines for the Fingal Valley. Closure or even disruption are very serious issue. Not only do businesses suffer, but the disruption to normal traffic flow is, or can be, crippling. I had to renew my vehicle registration recently, and I drove from Fingal to St Helens. The normal distance on my odometer is about 68 or so kilometres, going down the St Marys Pass. This time, going by way of Elephant Pass with that route's delays for road works, the distance is about 87 kilometres. The extra distance plus the time delay must be frustrating for regular travellers, and also very expensive with the current cost of petrol. There must be a way to overcome this problem. It won't necessarily be simple or straightforward, not cheap. We cannot be held to ransom every time there is a rainstorm when both Passes are in danger of closure due to landslip. The Passes have out-lived their usefulness. They were built in the time of horse-drawn carts and perhaps bullocks drays. The value of roads to the East coast and to the North-east of the state cannot be overstated. These area will not develop at a reasonable rate unless potential settlers are not discouraged by the fluctuating accessibility through the Fingal Valley. Delivery of goods and equipment through these routes are severely disadvantaged. The powers-that-be MUST do something constructive towards a solution.

Man: "I had it all. Money, a luxury car, the love of a beautiful woman. Then POW! It was all gone."

Friend: "What happened?" Man: "My wife found out!"

The French will only be united under threat of danger. Nobody can bring together a country that has 265 different cheeses. - Charles de Gaulle.

A Maestro was so infuriated by a clarinettist who ruined a whole passage of music which the Maestro was conducting that he took out a gun and shot the clarinettist dead. Of course, he was arrested, convicted and was sent to the electric chair. The lever was pulled three times but had no effect. The Maestro survived simply because he was such a bad conductor.

A WORD TO HUSBANDS; To keep your marriage brimming, with love in the loving cup.

Whenever your wrong admit it, whenever you're right, shut up. - Ogden Nash

In a Vet's waiting room: Back in five minutes. Sit, stay.

By the time you swear that you're his, shivering and sighing and he vows that his passion is infinite and undying.

Lady, make note of thisone of you is lying.

A friend has two Dobermans. One is called Rolex and the other is called Timex.....they are watchdogs.

Did you know that oxygen solidifies at -218.79 degrees Centigrade.....now that's really cool!

I was told that I should marry an ancient Egyptian.....they make great mummies

The Good the Bad and the Ugly: Good - your husband understands fashion.

Bad - your husband is a cross dresser

Ugly - your husband looks better than you.

Humour is alive and well if reports of mechanics are to be believed.

Aircraft Pilot Reports: P = pilot and M = mechanic

P...Test flight OK except auto land very rough. M.. Auto land not installed on this aircraft.

P...Evidence of leak on main right landing gear. M... Evidence removed.

P...Number tree engine missing. M... number three engine found on right wing after brief search.

(Well, I thought they were funny.....Mike B.)

I am one of those who profess that Christmas would not exist without Christ. So, with all the good wished I can muster, I wish you a very MERRY CHRISTMAS. This even extends to those readers who are not fans of mine. I wish you ALL the very best.

		Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
STAR FM	Brekkie	Start your working week	Fruity and Loopy	I see Stars	Breakfast Mania	TAZZ on Toast	Saturday's Sunny Side Up	Sunday Mornings
Program		with	with	with	with	with	with	
Guide		Star FM Get Sand between	Flashy Tazz on Tuesday - Plus Community	The Sand Man Mary-Anne's Music Mix PLUS Real	Manny Rhythm N' Reggae	TAZZ Simply 60's	Manny "Get Happy"	
	Morning	your toes with	Interviews at 11.15 with TAZZ	Estate Tips and Tricks at 10.30 with	with	with PUGS	with	with
STAR FM Tamania But Music Mial	Arvo	The Sand Man Jackster's MUSIC BOX PLUS "Pet Talk" with Dr Andrew after 2 bm with	Get infused with	Mary-Anne "Around the World" with your hostess	In the Shed	"Fresh and Fruity Friday's	Angelina A dose of Dr Dave PLUS Quizzes at 3 and 4pm with	Star FM's The 80's Zone
Music Musi:		Jackster and Porsche	Jonno	The Tone	ZEDD	Angelina	Dr Dave	
ON THE SE	Late Arvo	In the BACKSEAT	You're in the Lab on 2 For Tuesday Request Show	Something Fishy is going on	DR DAVE'S Travelling Medicine Show	"Rock On"	"The No 80's Zone" [everything except the 80's]	with The Tone
		with Astro or JAX	with Dr Dave	with Fyshy	with DR DAVE	with Jonno	The Tone	Big Daddy Davo's Blues
	Evening	Monday Evening	Neville's Country Corner	That 70's Show	Thursday Nights	The Party Pit with	Let Loose	Mix
		With	and more with	with	with	with	with	hosted by
		Star FM	Neville	Star FM	Star FM	Jeanymaree and Mezza	Star FM	Dave



*Church Grounds - Devonshire Teas & Lemonade Stand Children's Games & Activities





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Hosts: Tony and Bronwyn

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11December The Bliss18 December AMG



The Say by the "Cage Rattler"



At the risk of offending some people, without that being the direct intention, this is a touchy subject. It is prompted by something that crops up from time to time when massacres or shootings (often one and the same, unfortunately) occur religion in general.

I'm not going to target any particular religion, either, just the act of worshipping that can lead to many unnecessary deaths and injury. Also, as a Christian who actually still believes in a higher being, as you see that particular image or ideal, I am no longer going to necessarily say that my image of Him is the same anymore as I remember growing up. Lots has happened to change my mind over time. Whether it be God as has been depicted in Scripture, or Allah for Muslims, or Jews, Buddhists or Hindus or any other religion, I have no idea about this faith, and protection of the faith has cost countless millions of lives. That is totally undeniable. I would qualify that by saying this is highly likely to not having been the intention of the founders of these various faiths over thousands of years.

I'm suggesting however, that perhaps the problem has never really been the intention of the religion, because for most, the thought of being in a better place and reward for living a good life would have made incredibly tough lives bearable to a huge majority of followers. I am now thinking the real problem is more on how the 'rules' of these religions have been interpreted, then taught and policed by the various clerics that followed. I'd suggest that Holy Wars, and there have been and still are, happen as a result of perhaps misguided and chaotic teachings to the followers,.

I am a Roman Catholic, although not currently practising, and it disappoints me at times that my own church finds it necessary to stick to some very old laws that I think just don't fit into the 21st century as well as they could if amended and tweaked a bit. Tradition is fine, I have no problem with that, but in some ways that causes people to wonder, like me these days, why laws like Canon Law still exists. The same thing for difficulty divorcing, getting married within the church when one or both of the persons have had a divorce issue, birth control matters and things related to the priesthood too numerous to mention. Let's just say the Roman Catholic, and all other Christian faiths, could move and update quicker in my humble opinion.... It's not all bad and I and others have had help and reinforcement from individuals within the Roman Catholic Church, and the priests I've known are incredible people and provide so much in many ways, including in marvellous humanitarian ways. During wars, too, the Last Rights as the soldier or victim, even the enemy, allowed some peace as they passed away. Truly wonderful. The onthe-ground priests aren't the problem, the top of the tree may well be, though.

As for religion in general, just look at history and you'll see on countless occasions the various 'Defenders of the Faith' inciting the rank and file to sacrifice their lives to "defend that faith". So that always resulted in invasions, pillaging and destruction, execution, and forcing the vanquished to take on a faith that they didn't subscribe to or were born to accept. No God would or should say that this was justified or right. When any religion forces itself on you or punishes you because you don't directly adhere to its rules, there is now a problem for me. Just how it is I'm afraid....

I truly live in trust that one day there will be another Vatican Council within the Roman Catholic faith that will offer me a road back to the Church I perhaps naively followed until about a decade ago. I still believe in God (truly do), but the way that the teachings of God have barely altered along with generations has me questioning more than ever how God is enlightened in the modern world....

One day maybe, and with genuine hope that us Roman Catholics will see a Holy Father with great courage to move the faith faster than it currently does.

What do you think?

PROBUS INVITES NEW MEMBERS

Scamander Probus is inviting new members, and is open to anyone who is retired or semi-retired, living on the East Coast of Tasmania.

We meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Scamander Beach Resort from 10:00am, enjoy morning tea fully catered by the Resort.

Scamander Probus has been a real asset to the township, with friendships made, many happy bus trips during the years and excellent guest speakers at meetings.

Make new friends, learn a new skill, explore new interests and hobbies – there is so much to choose from when you become a member of your local Probus Club.

For more information, contact Valmai on 0437 397 219 or Lorraine on 6375 2185.

Combined Probus Club of Scamander Inc.





Award for Outstanding Contribution to East Coast Tourism

The East Coast Tasmania Tourism Awards acknowledge and reward exemplary performance by individuals and businesses in the tourism industry on the East Coast of Tasmania.

This year in 2022, an Individual Contribution Award was held to acknowledge those in the community for their service to the Tourism Industry. The winners were announced at the East Coast Tasmania Tourism 10th Anniversary celebration event on 24th October at Spring Bay Mill.

Congratulations go to the Award Winners for their stellar contribution towards tourism on the East Coast of Tasmania over the past year.

Alison Wallace - Spring Bay Mill, Triabunna Kathleen Poole - Bicheno Beams, Bicheno Simon Holmes - Big Shed Studio's, St Helens Judy and Stuart Muir - Beaumaris Beach Guest House, Beaumaris

For more information, please contact ceo@eastcoasttasmania.com.au or visit www.eastcoasttourism.com.au

5 MINUTES WITH THE MAYOR



One of my absolute favorite jobs as Mayor of Break O'Day is attending, and awarding, our Australia Day Citizen and Young Citizens of the Year Awards at our annual Australia Day event - and nominations are now open.

Every year as part of Australia Day, Councils from around the nation hold an Australia Day event. The event always features a special guest, in the past we have hosted Tasmanian legends such Jo Palmer, when she was still working as a news anchor for Southern Cross, the voice of Blinky Bill - Robyn Moore, and even Robert Morris-Nunn, a famous Tasmanian architect.

But, the BEST part of the day is being able to formally recognise the work and dedication of people in Break O'Day who go above and beyond for our communities... But we cannot recognise these local legends unless you nominate them!

Is there someone in your community or circle of friends that you think should be recognised? Maybe they volunteer for several organisations, maybe they quietly go about supporting others and fly under the radar, or maybe they have made a real difference in the community.

Whatever it is – we want to hear all about it!

To make a submission all you have to do is head to our website and fill in the

nomination form: https://www.bodc.tas.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Australia-Day-Awards-Nomination-form-2023-New-Fillable-002.pdf, We can also print out the form for you if you drop in to the office.

Submissions close on Tuesday 3 January and will be assessed by a panel. We look forward to hearing about the Local Legends of the Fingal Valley.



ST MARYS CHRISTMAS PARTY AND PARADE

As residents from the area celebrate the festive season at St Marys Community Space on Saturday 24th December, traffic in St Marys will once again come to a temporary halt as the annual Christmas Parade makes it way around the town.



Starting at the St Marys Recreation Ground, all floats and participants, including bikes and walkers, are to assemble there by 4.45pm, with the parade starting on the dot of 5.00pm.

Heading out to Story Street, the parade will then make its way to Main Road, turn left and head west to Cameron Street, where it will turn left. The parade will continue along Cameron Street to Groom Street and turn left, then to the Community Space, where the St Marys Christmas Party will continue.

During the Parade, all children must remain seated,

and nothing is allowed to be thrown from the floats, including lollies and water bombs, in accordance with the permit conditions.

"We would like as many people as possible to create a float and be a part of this Christmas celebration," said one of the organizers. "The more floats, big or small, the better the parade will be," she added.

"We hope to see everyone enjoying the celebrations," the organizer concluded.

Check the Facebook page for more details; St Marys Christmas Party.





IN THE KITCHEN WITH KIRSTEN



CHRISTMAS BAKING

Make your own fruit mince. There is something uniquely English about a fruit mince tart and serving them at Christmas time only seems right. To me there is only one fruit mince, and it is the one based on suet. However, times change and its important that we do have options for all people, and this vegan fruit mince is a pretty good substitute. I have given a sweet pastry recipe for the tarts and for the vegan you will need to use your best short crust recipe you have . Fruit mince originated you know with real mince it in, according to an article from the BBC. A recipe book in the 1390's mentioned them, called "tartes of flesh" and in fact, they had no dried fruit, but instead ground up boiled eggs, cheese and pork, which was then mixed with mixed spice saffron and sugar. It seems that somewhere along the way in the 17th century there was a connection made to Christmas although they were eaten at other times too. And so, the mince pie cane to stay as a Christmas treat and of course, in British cuisine, is an important part of the Christmas menu. Here are two recipes for fruit mince.

Vegan Fruit Mince

Ingredients

350g raisins250g sultanas175g Mixed candied peel150g currants100g dried cherries2 oranges1 lemon150g copha1 teaspoon ground cinnamon½ teaspoon ground nutmeg¼ teaspoon ground ginger¼ ground allspice½ teaspoon ground cloves350g dark brown sugar400g cooking apples

4 tablespoon brandy 2 tablespoon cherry brandy

Method

Chop all fruit so it is a similar size to the currants. Zest one orange and the lemon, then extract the juice from both oranges and the lemon. Peel and core the apples, then coarsely grate them.

Put everything except the alcohol into a large bowl and mix the ingredients together using your hands- far easier than using a spoon due to the quantity of ingredients involved.

Cover the bowl loosely with foil and leave for at least 12 hours (and up to 24 hours) for the fruit to soak up the juice and flavours. When ready to cook, give everything a quick stir and place mixture into an oven proof dish. Cover with foil and bake for 3 hours at 110° C.

Remove from the oven and give the fruit mince a good stir. Let it go cold at room temperature (don't put it in the fridge) stirring at regular intervals. This will prevent lumps of fat forming. Stir every 30 minutes to begin with and then every 10 minutes as it approaches being cold. Once cold, the mincemeat may look cloudy. This is normal and, once baked into pies, this cloudiness disappears.

When the mincemeat is cold stir through the alcohol and spoon into sterilised jars, pushing down firmly to remove any pockets of air. Seal, label and store for up to 1 year.

Best-ever Traditional Fruit Mince

<u>Ingredients</u>

250g raisins 375g currants 85g chopped mixed peel 1 lemon, 200g grated suet or salted butter 250g dark brown sugar ½ small nutmeg, grated 1 large granny smith apple, peeled and grated

100ml brandy

Method

Zest the lemon, then juice one half. Mix the brandy and lemon juice, and soak the raisins and currants in the brandy and lemon juice for 1 hr until plumped up, then drain and set the brandy aside. Mix the soaked fruit, mixed peel, lemon zest, butter, sugar and nutmeg together, then pour in the brandy then mix well. Spoon and press into sterilised jars. Will keep in the fridge for at least 6 months, and makes a great gift for next year!



Fruit mince pies

Ingredients

250g plain flour 1/2 cup sifted icing sugar 125g butter, chopped 2 egg yolks, lightly whisked 410g grams of your best fruit mince 1 tbs icing sugar, extra

Method

Process flour and icing sugar in a food processor until combined or by hand. Add butter and process until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Add egg yolks and process until mixture comes together in a ball, adding a little water if necessary. Remove dough and knead lightly on floured board. Cover in plastic wrap and chill for 30 minutes.

Preheat oven to 210°c. Roll out pastry on lightly floured surface until 3mm thick. Using a 7cm fluted pastry cutter, cut out rounds. Line patty pans with pastry rounds. Fill each with 1 tablespoon of fruit mince.

Cut star shapes from remaining pastry and place on top of tarts. Bake for 15 minutes until golden. Cool and dust with extra icing sugar.

And here are a couple of quick savouries to take to parties.

Rockmelon and Prosciutto Bites

Prosciutto

Cantaloupe

Cracked black pepper, to taste

Cut up as much cantaloupe as you'd like into slices, wrap a strip of prosciutto around each, and top with cracked black pepper



Easy Cheese Puff Tarts

Buttery and flaky pastry filled with a delicious little hot cheese and caraway filling, super quick to make. They can be frozen ready to bake whenever you want these tasty hot little morsels. Enjoy!

Ingredients

4 sheets frozen butter puff pastry 500g cheddar cheese, grated 100 g parmesan cheese, grated

8 tablespoons full-cream milk 4 large eggs 2 teaspoons toasted caraway seeds - optional

spray olive or coconut oil

Note: You will need mini muffin tins.

Method

Lightly spray oil over muffin tin (very thin coating) and preheat oven to 220°C. Take pastry from freezer, carefully separate sheets and place on bench.

Mix all ingredients in a bowl till well mixed, alternatively you can mix in a food processer or

Cut pastry using a 6 cm cutter and line muffin tins. Place a heaped teaspoon of the mixture into each hole.

Bake for around 12 - 15 minutes till golden brown and really puffy. Serve hot!

These can be frozen raw or cooked, and heat really well. Add a bit of chilli or other herbs if you fancy, for a bit of a bite.



Have an awesome day and thank you.

Don't forget to Subscribe, Like and follow for more exciting food stories.

Kirsten Bacon

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCs7TNBH6Wi1NjOcY4E929Wg/featured

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TIP SHOPS NOW OPEN

St Helens Tip Shop

Sunday to Friday 11am - 2pm

Saturday 11am - 4pm

St Marys Tip Shop

Tuesday and Thursday 11am - 3pm

Sunday 2pm - 4pm

BREAK O'DAY MUNICIPALITY ANSONS BAY - North Ansons Bay Road

WASTE TRANSFER STATIONS

Open: Wednesday 12pm to 4pm Sunday 10am to 4pm

12pm to 4pm on Mondays of long weekends

PYENGANA - Tasman Highway

Open: Wednesday 9am to 12pm Sunday 2pm to 5pm

ST HELENS - Eagle Street (includes recycling)

Open: 10am to 4pm every day

SCAMANDER - Coach Road (includes recycling)

Open: Tuesday 10am to 4pm Thursday 10am to 4pm Sunday 2pm to 5pm

ST MARYS - Gray Road (includes recycling)

Open: Tuesday 10am to 4pm Thursday 10am to 4pm Sunday 2pm to 5pm

FINGAL - Rossarden Road

Open: Tuesday 10am to 4pm Thursday 10am to 4pm Sunday 2pm to 5pm

Charges apply at all waste transfer stations - please see sign at entrance.

BLACK WATER DUMP POINTS

St Helens - 117 Tully Street, St Helens St Marys - Harefield Road, St Marys Fingal - Talbot Street, Fingal

No charges apply to use black water dump points.





tinsel, and decorations.

RAINBOWS AND RADISHES

By Bloomin' Iris



Castlewellan Gold Cyprus, above, or a White Spruce,

below, make great living

Christmas trees.

CHRISTMAS JOY WITH A POTTED TREE

It is that beautiful season again where we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas, but enjoy all the wonderful trimmings of a

yummy lunch with family, lovely gifts exchanged and we put lots of energy into being a loving family. Part of all this is our gorgeous tree, decorated lovingly by little and big hands. Many of us have a lovely tree stashed away in a cupboard that we bring out a few weeks before Christmas, then out comes the

If the family is not going to be a big crowd this year, you may want to buy a living tree from a nursery, you can then plant it out into the garden, or keep in a large pot where it can safely grow until the next Christmas season.

We conserve our beautiful pines and do not chop them down willy-nilly, for the sake of a few weeks in a bucket of water. It then becomes a hassle to recycle in the summer and drops pine needles all over the lounge room carpet, and I think we can all relate to that, one year or another gone by.

I want now to give you a list of a few Conifers suitable to keep for the Christmases in the future, that you can decorate, that will look beautiful.

A **Castlewellan Gold Cyprus** is a gorgeous tree with green and gold foliage.

It is easily cared for and is a beautiful tree to grow afterwards in the garden. It will grow to 5 meters or more in height, very showy, and is fairly slow to grow in the garden for the first couple of years, and perfect for a nice show of colour with your Christmas decorations.

<u>Picea Glauca - White Spruce</u> From the northern states of the USA, this is a slow growing tree until the root system gets larger; it then grows more rapidly. A beautifully shaped tree, grey green in colour, and a perfectly-shaped little Christmas tree.



Last but not least <u>Chamaecyparis Lawsoniana Nidiformis - Lawson Cyprus</u> is a rounded shrub with a fairly, flat top and weeping sprays of grey-green foliage.

It is slow-growing, 1.2 meters in ten years, but a very pretty shrub. All the Cyprus are a hardy tree, however they like to be kept a little moist in summer - do not let dry out and feed with a good fertiliser.

It is always best to ask the nursery what one to use when you purchase your tree.

Let us hope we are all having some success with our gardens after a very wet winter and spring. My tomatoes are powering on, the raspberries too, and maybe we will be able to bandicoot a few spuds for Christmas lunch.

I wish you all a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and prosperous New Year, oh, and don't forget the radishes!



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BREAK O'DAY

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St Paul's: 9.30am every Sunday

58 Cecilia Street, St Helens.

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Holy Trinity: 10.00am every Sunday

13 Main Street, St Marys.

Pyengana

St Michael & All Angels: 7.30pm 4th Sundays only

28007 Tasman Highway, Pyengana.

Enquiries: 6376 1144 or Facebook: anglicanbod

ST MARYS CATHOLIC PARISH

WEEKEND MASS:

ST HELENS: Saturday 5.00pm

> Sunday 4.00pm

ST MARYS: Sunday 9.00am

11.00am BICHENO: 1st Sunday

2nd and 4th Sunday FINGAL: 10.30am

.....

WEEKDAY MASS:

ST MARYS: Friday 10.00am

ST HELENS: Thursday 10.00am

Parish Administrator:

Fr. Norbert Z Ochoa 0437 324 227

fr.bitz51@gmail.com

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Corner Grant Street and Seymour Street, FINGAL

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For further information, contact Joan on 0458 598 870.

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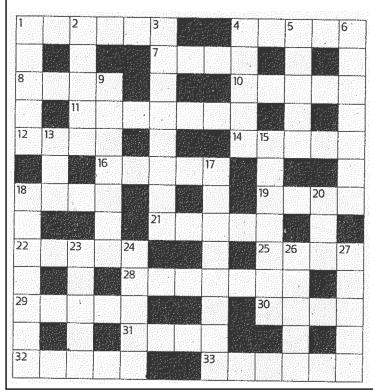








Crossword 54.22



ACROSS

- 1. Good-luck charm (6)
- 4. Bend (5)
- 7. Boy's name (4)
- 8. Howl (4)
- 10. Tireless worker? (5)
- 11. Baby's outfit of clothes (7)
- 12. Obey (4)
- 14. Sorceress (5)
- **16.** Perfect (5)
- 18. Operatic solo (4)
- 19. Fruit (4)
- 21. Chronic drinker (5)
- **22.** Indoor game (5)
- 25. Where the sun rises (4)
- 28. Complaint (7)
- 29. Broadcasting agencies (5)
- **30.** Sluggish (4)
- 31. Body powder (4)
- 32. Early Scandinavian (5)
- 33. German emperor (6)

DOWN

- 1. Rodney _ __, Australian cricketer (5)
- 2. Climb (5)
- 3. Building divided into flats (8)
- 4. Ship's propeller (5)
- 5. Satellite's path (5)
- 6. Baseball player (7)
- 9. In glowing health (7)
- 13. Listener? (3)
- 15. Sway, influence (7)
- 17. _ _ On Your Collar, song (8)
- 18. Belly (7)
- 20. Chump! (3)
- 23. Radio-location device (5)
- 24. Sudden outbreak (5)
- 26. Map-book (5)
- 27. Tall building (5)

Fingal Online Access Centre

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EAST COAST

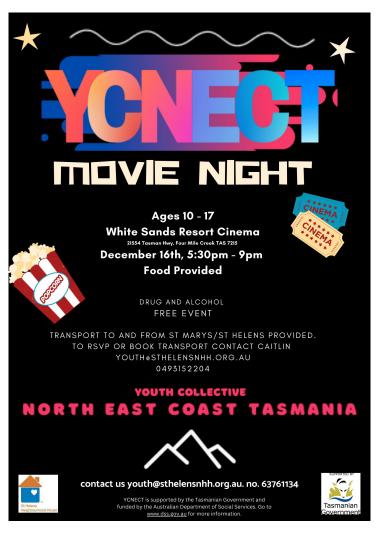
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So, when you're ready to buy or sell in the local area, feel free to give me a call. I'm just down the road.

Dave Liebmann

dliebmann.sthelens@ljhooker.com.au

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YENEET NEWS

Youth Happenings in the Break O'Day

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 16th - 5.30pm-9pm Movie Night at White Sands Cinema, Four Mile Creek

SUMMER SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM!!

Surfing, Mountain Biking, pool days and beach days, stay tuned for more details!

ONGOING EVENTS

Tuesdays 3pm - 4.30pm: Youth Meet-ups St Helens TTC Thursdays 3pm - 4.30pm: Youth Meet-ups St Marys Skatepark

ALSO FOR YOUNG PEOPLE....

Wednesdays 3pm - 4.30pm: Free2b Girls Group Thursdays 3pm - 4.30pm: Skittles LGBTQI+ Group Both at SHNHH Bungalow



YCNECT is support by the Tasmanian Government and funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.

YCNECT IN 2022...

Earlier in the year, YCNECT and the St Helens
Neighbourhood House were successful in receiving
funding to further develop our youth programs and
services within the Break O'Day area. Since August,
we've been running weekly meet-ups in St Helens and
St Marys, a Spring School Holiday program, and two inschool adventure programs in collaboration with St
Helens High School. We're looking forward to running
more programs in 2023 including some exciting
developments in St Marys!



Connecting with horses - a collaboration between RDA St Helens, St Helens District School and YCNECT/SHNHH

YCNECT's services and programs are for young people aged 10-17 living in the Break O'Day area. For more information contact Youth Program Manager Caitlin youth@sthelensnhh.org.au or call St Helens Neighbourhood House on 6376 1134







AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS

Binalong Bay 24hr access

Outside wall of toilet block, main beach carpark, Main Road, Binalong Bay.

St Helens District High School

In the swimming pool enclosure, available during pool hours.

St Helens Supa IGA

Wall mounted inside the foyer, available during open hours.

St Helens Football Club

Located inside the club rooms.

Scamander Sports Complex

On the wall just inside the dining room doors.

Falmouth Community Centre - 24hr access

Wall mounted outside Morrison St entrance.

Four Mile Creek - 24hr access

18 Four Mile Creek Road, pole mounted right-hand side of property.

St Marys District School

In the swimming pool enclosure, available during pool hours.

Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House - 24hr access

On the wall outside the front door.

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Tasmanian Government Family Violence Response and Referral Line - 1800 633 937

To stay up to date with emergency warnings in Tasmania - www.alert.tas.gov.au

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1800 984 434 taslifeline@lifelinetasmania.org.au	1800 551 800 www.kidshelpline.org.au	A central online directory of community services across Tasman Supported by TasCOSS and member organisations.		
Lifeline	Beyond Blue	www.findhelptas.org.au Financial Counselling Support		
131 114	1800 243 232	If you or someone you know requires financial counselling support		
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1800 800 110	1800 243 232	1800 007 007	1800 858 858	
www.ndis.gov.au	www.anglicare-tas.org.au	www.ndh.org.au	www.gamblinghelpline.org.au	
Carer Gateway	Disability Information Hotline	Fingal Valley Neighbourhood	St Helens Neighbourhood	
1800 422 737	1800 643 787	House	House	
www.carergateway.gov.au	www.dss.gov.au/disabilityhelp	(03) 6374 2344	(03) 6376 1134	
If you know someone that is a carer	If you or someone you know has a disability	admin@fvnh.org.au	admin@sthelensnhh.org.au	



Building Blocks News



Building Blocks early learning literacy and numeracy program for children 0– 8 years Read Sing Create! will be back at St Marys Library from 11.00am -11.30am each fortnight during term time - 13th December is the final session for 2022.

Join us for a fun, free session of music, songs and stories to share with all ages. Sessions are interactive and perfect for busy children who love to explore sounds and rhymes. **All welcome.** We read lots of stories to children from the very earliest age, so they can learn how stories work. Children begin to recognise what kind of story it is and to predict the words and actions that will come next. Being able to predict is an important skill in learning to read.

Building Blocks is taking enrolments for Fingal Play Centre in 2023 - we provide occasional child care from 9.30am - 2.30pm on Mondays (school term time only) for 3-5 year-olds. Fee to health care card holders for \$10 per child.



The Building Blocks team would like to thank the families, children and wider community of Break O'Day who have attended and supported our programs in 2022.

We look forward to taking a short break in January, but will be back with lots of great sessions, including a new baby group, in 2023.

All our program info at www.buildingblockstas.com or look for "Tanya Building Blocks" on Facebook for weekly updates.



DECEMBER 2022





AMMON	Tue	WED	Тни	FRI
	00 002 116 or Email: Buildin acebook: 'tanya building bloo	1 St Marys LiL End of Year Celebration @SMDS 10.30-11.30am	2 Read Sing Create! St Helens Library 10.30- 11.30am Play & Learn Bicheno PS End of Year Celebration- 9.15-10.15am	
5 Fingal Play Centre 9.30-2.30pm 12Fingal Play Centre	6 Read Sing Create! Bicheno Library 11-11.30am Jetsonville Playgroup 10-12pm 13 Read Sing Create! St Marys Library 11-11.30	7 Falmouth Playgroup 10-12pm End of Year Celebration @ Falmouth Community Centre 14 Coles Bay Play & Learn at Park Play @ Swanick 10.30-	15 Move & Play 10.30- 11.30am Scottsdale	9 Read Sing Create! St Helens Library 10.30-11.30am Bridport LiL End year Celebration 10.30-12pm @ skate park 16 Read Sing Create! St Helens Library
9.30-2.30pm	20 Read Sing Create!	12pm 21end of term 4	Indoor Active Centre, Arthur St, Scottsdale	10.30-11.30am FVNH Queen's Jubilee Tree Planting & community barbeque 4-6pm @Recreation Ground Fingal
	Bicheno Library 11-11.30am		20	All Building Blocks sessions are free of charge for all children from 0-8 years old, along with their parents, carers &
26	27	28	29	grandparents. FVNH Play Centre by booking only

FOOD, FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD...... CHRISTMAS DINNER AT MUM'S

"Food, food, glorious food" ... When I hear the music and words of that song, it takes my mind rushing back to that depressing, yet epic musical, 'OLIVER' set in a workhouse in England in the 1830's. The only places a destitute orphan might have a chance

to survive. For some reason it hitchhikes off the back of Christmas as being one of the saddest true Christmas stories ever told. Perhaps it is the parallel of being poles apart from the bounty of food that Christmas at mum's evokes in my memories that allows me to align them in my mind's eye. I think of those poor waifs in that desolate, depraved place. Their only daily meal a meagre bowl of gruel, day after day, year after year, when to me, Christmas is an abundance of dishes that seem to keep on appearing, one after another, from the laden arms of family members, who all join us around the groaning Christmas dinner table, already filled with festive foods.



My mind's eye sees that kaleidoscope of colours that have no comparison to what I call Christmas. Garlands of coloured streamers and balloons dancing that celebratory dance above the heads of those family members gathered there. Spread before them is a big leg of pink ham, carved white turkey breast, the glassy shine on the ruby cranberry sauce in a pottery dish, a big bowl of bright green peas. Rainbow coloured salads in crystal bowls, loads of fizzy drinks for the kids and beers in the

kid's old pink plastic baby bath filled with ice. Big yellow pineapples on a wooden platter with juicy pink watermelon wedges, two big bowls of dads first crop of raspberries and sweet, juicy strawberries. Those glossy red cherries atop everyone's favorite Aussie Pavlova, with shaved chocolate shards sprinkled onto fluffy cream. Pride of place in the middle of the table is Nan's rum laced fruit cake next to a big brown jug filled with creamy brandy custard to pour over the top of a fat Christmas pudding still wrapped in the calico pudding cloth waiting for us to finish all the other food first. The tinkling ring of mum's best crystal glasses, drowned out by the loud laughter of the adults as they catch up



a whole year of being apart, the squeals of happy children, popping Christmas Crackers, firing fountains of water from plastic water pistols. The aromatic smell of the real pine Christmas tree that has suddenly appeared on the back verandah, still laden with its collection of decorations now gently stirring in the summer breeze.

All these aromas, sounds, visuals and senses come together to form the biggest part of my Christmas as they catapult around my brain colliding with that one line from the musical, Oliver..." Food, food glorious food....."

What an oxymoron!

Annette Clark

CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES

Break O'Day Anglican Church Christmas Activities

11th December St Helens 7.00pm Carols on the Lawn at St. Pauls 12–16th December St Helens Parish Hall Distribution of Christmas Hampers etc. in conjunction with Anglicare.

18th December St Helens 9.30 am Service of 9 Lessons and Carols and communion

Pyengana 7.30pm. Christmas Service

23rd December St Marys 6.00pm Sausage sizzle and Carols on the lawn at Holy Trinity

24th December St Helens 11.15pm Midnight Service at St. Pauls followed by refreshments

25th December Christmas Day

St. Helens 9.30 am. Family Christmas Service at St. Pauls
St. Marys 9.30 am. Family Christmas Service at Holy Trinity

12.30pm. Christmas lunch at Holy Trinity - gold coin

donation

Catholic Parish Christmas Mass Times - Break O'Day

24th December

St Marys 7.30pm St Helens 9.30 pm

25th December

Bicheno 9.00am Fingal 11.00am St Helens 4.00pm





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COLOUR IN SANTA TO WIN



ENTRIES MUST BE IN THE COMPETITION BOX BY 6PM ON FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2022.

NAME:	DIVISION:
ADDRESS:	
PHONE:	

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- 1) Entry is free and closes at 6pm on Friday 16th December 2022.
- 2) The age divisions are: Division 1: Age 7 and under Division 2: Age 8 to 12
- 3) Completed entries are to be delivered to either Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House or handed in at the Tree Planting afternoon on Friday 16th December 2022 at the Fingal Recreation Ground by 6pm.
- 4) No responsibility is taken for entries not lodged as outlined above. NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED
- 5) Entries will be judged by independent judges and their decision is final. No correspondence will be entered in to.
- 6) The winner in each division will receive a prize.

IN OUR SCAMANDER GARDEN

What have we been up to in the garden recently?

Well, for ages I said, "That hedge needs pruning Steve," and he liked it how it was, and so finally, and here is the secret, everyone, I stopped nagging him and out came the ladder and he sat it upon the ute, and started on his merry way of cutting between 1 metres off along the top and not as much from the sides and what do I have now? A nicely trimmed hedge. It took a week to do, with a bit here, and a bit there. I gathered up the fallen branches and carted them off in the wagon to help protect some seedlings that are being eaten by wallabies.

Another job he created for himself was to make a three-legged stool. On beginning this project, Steve decided it was harder than he first imagined it would be. Now it is used as a stool or a workbench and, me being a leaner, tend to lean all sorts of tools on it.

The other day I received an invitation to help people make floral arrangements as a part of the International Day of People with Disability. I called in reinforcements. The Scamander Garden Club was delighted to be involved by donating the oasis blocks and some colourful boxes and another member, Sandra Flannery, and I gathered flowers from our gardens, and then we raided our neighbour's shrubbery as well. Thanks to Helen and Nicci. On the way to Sue Gofton's in St Helens, as she was the hostess, I popped into mum's and gathered a few more rose sprays. I learnt some mosaics while there. I will show you some of the arrangements from the day, and all commented that they were glad they had come and they enjoyed themselves.

I had to rush around the garden picking some taller stemmed flowers today as the winds were roaring. My husband loved the arrangement that resulted. The corn is coming up in a couple of beds and the potatoes have really taken off. I have been picking gigantic cabbages and they are so sweet to eat. The strawberries are the best ever. I have picked snow peas and tomatoes, and if you had driven up the driveway a minute ago, you would have witnessed me jumping over the garlic to get to the raspberries. Who said gardening is not exercising? Just cutting the cabbage is a task in itself. The wisteria has finished and so has the big red climbing rose with the scent that must reach Falmouth.

Looking out the window, I can see a golden river of Californian Poppies and at the end, there are many pink lilies and geraniums, then out the opposite side of the house, there are masses of orange and red lilies which look superb. A few poppies have been knocked around by the wind though. Some have lost their heads. The goldfish love me giving them a feed and they swim from their cavern, flipping their tails in salute. The chooks have begun laying more eggs and so the baking has increased, and Steve loves the cheesecake still warm from the oven.

We love our garden and hope you have enjoyed some of our adventures too.

So till next time, Peg.







Karen made a lovely arrangement at the International Day of People With Disability function.

HISTORY GROUP IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

The *Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House History Group* are seeking more volunteers. We have many projects to get involved in and would like to encourage anyone interested to make contact via email: History@fvnh.org.au or leave a message with Shirley on 6374 2344.

EASTCOAST REMOTE CONTROL FLYERS

Remote-control flying every Sunday at 145 Reids Road, Priory (St Helens) from 9.00am. Visitors welcome.

Phone Paul on 6372 2529 for more details.



SCAMANDER RIVER GOLF CLUB



Wednesday 23rd November - Mid-Week Competition -

Single Stableford

Brad Ennis 33 points 1st 1st Tim Upton 32 (on c/b) 2nd 2nd 3rd Rose King 32

4th

Nearest the Pin

Brad Ennis 6th:

8th: Dick Swanson

Longest Putt Rose King Wednesday 30th November - Mid-week Competition

NO RESULTS 3rd

5th

Nearest the Pin 6th:

8th:

Saturday 26th November - Tony Swanson's Bash - Single Stableford

1st John Tatnell 37 points 2nd **Darrell Thurley** 32 Joint 3rd Michael Holmes 31 Tim Upton 31 D C Williams 31

Saturday 3rd December - East Coast Surf Monthly Medal -Stroke

Jens Kalisch 86/69 1st 2nd **Tony Swanson** 91/70 3rd John Tatnell 93/71

Nearest the Pin **Brad Ennis** 6th:

> 8th: Rodney MacBeth

Longest Putt **Barry Harrison**

Nearest the Pin 6th: **Dick Swanson**

> 8th: **Barry Harrison**

Longest Putt Dick Swanson Carter Award Dean Richardson **Upcoming games:**

7th December Mid-week Competition - Jackpot

Stableford

10th December Wilson Cup - 2 Person Ambrose 14th December Mid-Week Competition Sponsored

by Steve and Donny

17th December Jim and Beth Haas and John

Denmen Lefties v Righties



breathe move regenerate St Marys Hall Thursdays 5:15 pm



Bring mat & blanket (few mats available) \$10 per session Any questions? Call Katrin 0402 315 564



Any day is the day to ask, "Are you OK?" and support those struggling with life. Look for signs of change in friends, family, community members and ask them the question.

RU OK have suggestions to help you ask, RU OK?









1. Ask

2. Listen

action

4. Check in

MALAHIDE GOLF CLUB



Friday 25th November - Chicken Run

1st	Gerald Hall			31 points
2nd	Andrew Johns			32.5
3rd	DB Lowe			33 (on c/b)
4th	David Duthie			33 (on c/b)
5th	Stan Ellerm			33 (on c/b)
6th	Mike Prewer			33
7th	Craig Woods			33.5
8th	Rod Hunt			37
9th	Lynden Leppard			38
10th	Bill Swann			39
Neares	st the Pin	4th: Clu	b	

Saturday 26th November - Johns Family Charity Day

8th Mike Prewer

M Woods, G Woods, P Buchanan	59 points
A Wright, S Wilmot, D Groves	60
M Johns, D Boatright, J Kershaw	62
N Austin, M Miller, N Child	62.1
S Ward, S Child, M McCarroll	62.9
R Hunt, L Leppard, J Free	63.1
A McArthur, M Jorden, A Francis	63.2
G Campbell, G Powell, G Boxhall	64
R Wadley, S Ellerm, J Gledhill	64.4
A Lowe, DB Lowe, D Duthie	64.5
M Austin, D Bramich, S Bennett	64.5
P Sorenson, J Freiboth, C Freiboth, `	65
A Johns, L Johns, P Johns	65.4
P Johnson, T Mickleborough, S Hidds	65.3
G Hall, A Lohrey, E Lohrey	67
R Mathews, S Lowe, D Lowe	67.4
B Ennis, M Ennis, S Tatnell	68.5
G Richardson, T Welling, D Milne	68.9
S Scharapofu, S Bleatham	69.5
C Woods, A Stone, J Vincent	72
A Johns, R Plummer, J Brain	74.9
	A Wright, S Wilmot, D Groves M Johns, D Boatright, J Kershaw N Austin, M Miller, N Child S Ward, S Child, M McCarroll R Hunt, L Leppard, J Free A McArthur, M Jorden, A Francis G Campbell, G Powell, G Boxhall R Wadley, S Ellerm, J Gledhill A Lowe, DB Lowe, D Duthie M Austin, D Bramich, S Bennett P Sorenson, J Freiboth, C Freiboth, A Johns, L Johns, P Johns P Johnson, T Mickleborough, S Hidds G Hall, A Lohrey, E Lohrey R Mathews, S Lowe, D Lowe B Ennis, M Ennis, S Tatnell G Richardson, T Welling, D Milne S Scharapofu, S Bleatham C Woods, A Stone, J Vincent

Nearest the Pin 1st and 10th: A Wright

4th and 13th: N Austin 8th and 17th: S Scharapofu

Friday 2nd December - Chicken Run

1st	
2nd	NO RESULTS
3rd	
4th	
Nearest the Pin	4th:
	8th:

Sunday 4th December - Malarooma Shield

Another great day with a visit from the Ringarooma Golf club for the Malarooma Shield, which was retained by Ringarooma. Congratulations to Ringarooma.

Ringarooma

1st	D Walsh, D Walsh	66.75 points
2nd	S Burr, J Carins	69.75
3rd	R Bennett, W Torrents	72.75
4th	M Summers, I Mountney	73.5
5th	P Watt, J Wardlaw	73.75
6th	A Mountney, D Reynolds	<u>76.5</u>
		433 points

Malahide

1st	C Woods, R Plummer	71.5 points
2nd	C Freiboth, J Freiboth	71.75
3rd	A Johns, S Lowe	73
4th	A Stone, J Vincent	73
5th	G Lanham, R Mathews, S Ellerm	73
6th	P Sorenson, G Richardson	<u>74</u>
		436.25

Nearest the Pin 4th and 17th: I Mountney

8th and 18th: DB Lowe

Upcoming Games:

10th December - Monthly Medal

17th December - Ham Day

Malahide Golf Club hold a Chicken Run on each Friday starting at 1.00pm, \$4.00 entry.

Saturday competition starts at 10.00am and we also have a Facebook page that is updated regularly

⇒ Full membership is \$235 per annum

⇒ Social Membership is \$50 per annum

Contact Andrew Johns - Club Captain on 0427 854 555



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ST MARYS SPORTS CENTRE

By Volun Tier



Welcome to another fortnight at the Club, a few days of fine weather has seen the course maintenance pick up, with all fairways now being mowed after several weeks' closure. The course is now open again and a Chicken Run was held last Wednesday, with the eager participants keen to get back in the swing and blow off a few cobwebs. This will be a regular event each Wednesday at 4.30pm, but you can enter any day as long as you have someone to mark your card, and winners will be announced every Wednesday, there are a few more regulars turning up this week. Scores listed below. Our Spring Specials Nights go into a short hibernation over the Christmas break, to give our hard-working ladies a short break until the first Friday in February, thanks to all those who supported the nights, they were a great success. Big cheer goes out to Jun and Feng who cooked up a storm last Saturday after our Pennant Bowls game against Swansea, thanks to 10 of their players who stayed behind and had a lovely meal and thanks also to all the 30 patrons who enjoyed the evening as well. Talking of bowls, our first home game finally got under way against Bicheno last week, and after a very tight struggle all day, Bicheno came out on top by just 3 shots. We managed to claim 2 rinks so the score at the end of the day was Bicheno 10 and St Marys 4. This weekend we took on Swansea, again at home on a very quick rink, where again we were in the hunt on all rinks, but lost narrowly again, two of those rinks going down on the very last end of the day. Just a side note on how nice the rink looks with the shade cloth all around, we certainly needed it this week as the temperature rose into the high twenties for the first time in ages. Congratulations also to Sue and Graham Bean and Garry Laycock for making the finals of the East Coast Triples, the finals are on this coming Sunday at Swansea. The club has just completed discussions with Council about a 5-year plan for the Centre, to again be on the same page, this time including the whole sporting area as well as the club house. After some very fruitful discussion, both parties went away satisfied with the result, and we are sure you will see the benefits very soon. Then there is the much-awaited new mower that we are sure will be here this week for our hard-working course crew to use, a great asset as the 4WD aspect will come into its own on a sodden course

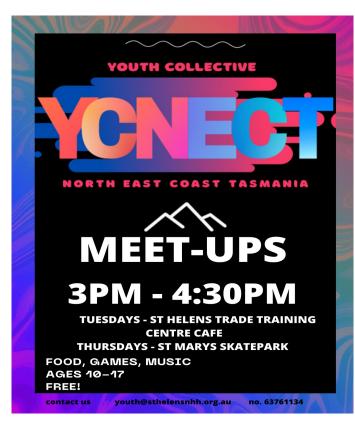
Golf Wednesday Chicken Run - Peter Sorrenson 15 points, Jason Gledhill 14, Rodney McGiveron and new player Brendan Beresford 12 points, Judy and Jimmy Freiboth 11 points. Nearest the pin, Jason Gledhill. Well done on your fowl play, chook in the freezer for you.

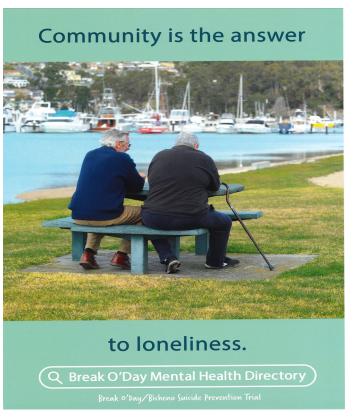
Member Draw: Last week Brendan Beresford and this week an unlucky Blackie Faulkner, who had one his rare Friday nights away from the club. Fuel at Ampol St Marys jackpots to \$100, so if you are a member, make sure you are there around 8.00pm to collect the prize.

Opening Hours:

Thursday - 5.30pm. Friday - 5.30pm, Happy Hour 6.30pm till 7.30pm, Members Draw 8.00pm. Saturday - 1.30pm after golf. Sunday - 2.30pm.

Until next issue, good hitting, rolling and socializing.





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- ♦ St Helens Newsagency
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- ♦ Mouth Café Scamander
- ♦The Farm Shed Bicheno

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CROSSWORD ISSUE 54.21

Across: 1. Bless, 7. Dietrich, 8. Nevis, 10. Twickenham, 12. Redgrave, 14. Zany, 16. Brew, 17. Exponent, 20. Witchcraft, 23. Fever, 24. Eastwood, 25. Glory. Down: 1. Bunker, 2. Suit, 3. Zinc, 4. Strew, 5. Pig-headed, 6. Shimmy, 9. Sworn, 11. Advertise, 13. Vex, 15. Go off, 16. Bowler, 18. Thorny, 19. Shown, 21. Rook, 22. Teal.