



WESTERN ECHO

Queenstown, Strahan, Zeehan, Rosebery, Tullah and Waratah - The West's own newspaper

EDITION 36 NOVEMBER 14TH, 2024

WE MEANS COMMUNITY

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7 & 8 December

14 & 15 December

2025

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25 - 27 January

8 & 9 February

22 & 23 February

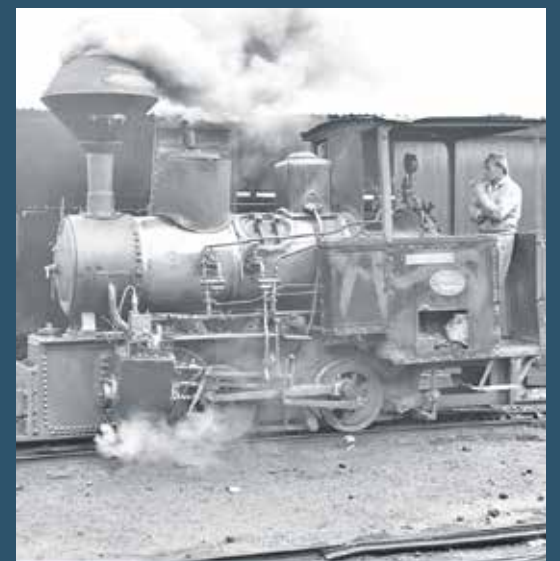
8 & 9 March

22 & 23 March

12 & 13 April

25 April, ANZAC Day

26 & 27 April 2025





WESTERN ECHO

Queenstown, Strahan, Zeehan, Tullah, Rosebery Waratah - The West's own newspaper

WE MEANS COMMUNITY

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

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

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All published material is published in good faith. 3000 copies printed monthly.

Letters to the editor...

Here at the Western Echo we love a good debate. If you have a concern, grievance, pet hate or even wish to congratulate someone for doing the RIGHT thing, then this is the place for it. Please note though, that everyone has the right to reply to your letter and we at the Western Echo are under no obligation to publish if things look like they are getting out of hand. We do reserve the right to edit letters for reasons such as clarity and length. Other than that, feel free to have YOUR say.

These views in this newspaper, political or otherwise, are not necessarily those held by the editor or anyone professionally associated with the Western Echo.

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

Dear editor,

I'd like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to Ms Nickie Bolt for all her help, assistance with courses and friendship for animal welfare centre volunteers.

We would love to wish her well on her new ventures even though our heart breaks losing such a treasure from the west coast.

Thankyou Nikki xxxx

Kerrie G Laffer

You are not the only one Kerrie, that will miss Nicky's presence on the West Coast, she has helped so many people through the Study Hub (and outside that). These are just a few messages from the Study Hub Facebook page. *Ed.*

You will always be missed Nicky. Thank you for your friendship, everything that you've done for the study hub, students and wider community. All the best in your future undertak-

ings. What an achievement you've left behind, a legacy that shall continue for many years to come. Keep those vibrant vibes going, you're a superstar!

Pauline

Thankyou for your help and support and encouragement and guidance and advice xxx you have always given great energy and dedication. You have achieved so much for education and our community definitely will not be the same without you around. Wishing you the very best in the future whatever the universe has in store for you I truly hope it is wonderful.

Alisha

Dear Nicky! Thank you so much what you have done for the community. Sad to see you leaving the study hub. Your name and smile gonna be always there.

All the very best in your next chapter.

God bless you

Mal

Dear Editor,

Labor MP for Braddon Anita Dow recently visited Zeehan, during her visit she was shown the Gorse Infestation and pine trees that have inundated the town. The main area of concern is the entrance to west Zeehan and Frank Long Memorial Park. As like all residents she was very concerned about the situation and the possibility of another large fire like what we had experienced before. The

Gorse needs to be stripped and cleaned A.S.A.P its not only an eyesore but its also a fire hazard. This issue has been highlighted on many occasions over many years and still nothing done. The W.C.C and all other stakeholders have continuously ignored the problem. It's not good enough we pay exorbitant rates so we shouldn't have to worry about being burnt out every summer.

Grant Hodge

It's our birthday!

This November edition of the Western Echo makes number 36. That means it is our birthday! The cover of this edition features some of my favourite photos from previous edition front pages. I hope you enjoy it.

Having been a newspaper photographer across Australia I would have to say that taking photos is the best part of the job. Actually, after almost falling off the top of Mt Owen, being drenched photographing four wheels drives, breaking bones in a billy kart, nearly run over by a misguided mountain bike, seemingly targeted by an errant targa car and getting a bit too close to a bushfire, I will bring you the Echo as long as the body holds out. haha.

I love the West Coast, the land, the people, the remoteness... I have found my place and have found my tribe (that's you lot). I really enjoy putting the paper together and would like to say a big thank you to all of you. Our readers, advertisers, sponsors and well wishers, you are what this paper is all about.

I hope you are all enjoying it and if the paper can or does help you then I can sleep with a smile on my face.

We just might have some amazing news regarding the Western Echo coming your way soon, stay tuned for that, but rest assured I will do my best to continue bringing you the Western Echo for many years to come.

How could I not when I get compliments like 'It's a great toilet read mate' (from one elderly gentleman)?

Thanks all. Alan - Editor

Time for another birthday



Noreen Boden turns 90!

Family and friends travelled from as far as Western Australia and Brisbane to attend the family reunion for Noreen's 90th Birthday.

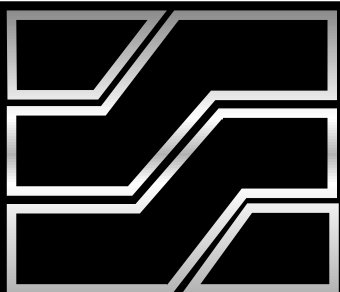
She enjoyed two days of celebrations with her family in Latrobe, where the family birthday was held at the Lucas Hotel.

Noreen appreciated a second birthday that was held on her birthday Monday 13th October at the Rosebery Men's Shed in Rosebery where she enjoyed the fellowship of her close friends and community members who came to celebrate her day.

She would like to thank everyone for making her feel so special on her extra special day.

The following numbers may be useful

Emergency	000		
SES	132500	TasNetworks	132004
Trees across local roads		(West Coast Council)	6471 4700
Trees across main roads			1300 139 933
Tas Police - non emergency			131444



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Salmon farmers rescue whales



This is Wayne McDermott's story. **'Well that was a stressful four hours stuck between a rock and a hard whale.'**

A pod of around 25 pilot whales were pushed into the harbour in last night's severe weather. Luckily the Petuna boys were quick on the scene after the cruise vessels spotted them. Myself and Brayden Triffett herded them off the sand as they were in around 2.5m of water which is exactly what the boat we were on draws, so the props may be well polished.

Thankfully Riley Grining skippering the World Heritage Cruises vessel 'Harbour Master 2', stuck around to assist in keeping them from running aground til another Petuna vessel with Leighton Koontz and Jhi Triffett aboard arrived to assist. Then the parks vessel 'Yula' joined in on the action and assisted as well. We then spent the long four hours trying to navigate them through the narrow channel and out hells gates which was far more trickier than I'd hoped.

As we rounded Bonnet Island they decided to start diving and moving about and made it very hard to keep them heading in the right direction.

They then decided to push me into the rocks and with the tide roaring out they were drawn to the rocks and I had to back away and give them space before I grounded the boat. They decide then to beach themselves on the shallower rocks but better then the opposing side on the sand.

Thankfully all but one made it off the rocks and we managed to squeeze them through the narrow entrance of hells gates and out to freedom. Sadly that one died as he'd cut himself pretty bad on the jagged rocks. Another crisis averted and just another good thing that all three fish farms in Macquarie Harbour would gladly do anytime.

It's not just whales we quite often save, it's also people. I know of five people that Petuna staff alone have saved from a very strong possibility of drowning and not to mention the countless boats we've rescued and assisted people over my nineteen years here at Petuna. I'm sure Tassal and Huon have saved their fair share as well.

More about this in the next edition of the Western Echo. Ed.

'We are over-due for some positive things being said about fish farming, we are not who we are made out to be and care more for Macquarie harbour than anyone as it's where our kids fish and swim.'



Photo courtesy of Lisa Redman



Five people from Petuna involved. Left to right, Jhi Triffett, Nathan Blake, Wayne McDermott, Leighton Koontz and Brayden Triffett.

Spring Clean your chemical collections

Households across the North West can safely clean out old and unwanted laundry, hobby, home and garden chemicals and bring them for safe disposal at a series of Waste Transfer Station events this November.

This year's event will also include used vape collection. These hard to recycle items have been causing havoc at landfills and recycling facilities, so the Cradle Coast Waste Management Group (CCWMG) has come up with a safe way for people to dispose of these too.

Chair of the CCWMG, Matthew Atkins, said that residents from anywhere within the eight council areas of West Coast, Waratah Wynyard, Circular Head, Burnie, Central Coast, Devonport, Latrobe and Kentish were welcome to attend any of the events running on Friday through Sunday between 15th and 30th November.

"Unused chemicals and used vapes pose a risk in landfill and are not permitted in kerbside recycling," said Mr Atkins.

"For storage safety reasons, no early or late drop-offs of chemicals can be accepted at any site, but vape bins will be rolled out in the lead up to the event and these items will be accepted prior to the collection date.

Residents are encouraged to look at the range of dates and times across the Coast to find an event at a suitable time or talk with family, neighbours or friends to arrange shared delivery if anyone is unable to attend at the scheduled times."

Funded by the Tasmanian Government

State-wide Waste Levy, the CCWMG has organised 9 drop-off events as a free service for residents.

Events will be hosted at Waste Transfer Stations in Queenstown, Waratah, Smithton, Wynyard, Burnie, Ulverstone, Devonport, Port Sorell and Sheffield.

The full event schedule is available from the Rethink Waste Tasmania website at rethinkwaste.com.au or by contacting your local council.

Items accepted at the events include vapes, solvents and household cleaners; floor care products; ammonia-based cleaners; pesticides and herbicides; poisons; pool chemicals; hobby chemicals; acids and alkalis.

Individual items brought for disposal must be no larger than 20 kilograms or 20 litres each.

The material collected is handled and transported under the supervision of a specialist chemist and anything that has potential for energy recovery will be recycled into fuel for industrial use (approx. 50%).

Material that is unable to be converted/neutralised/stabilised/treated or is considered toxic is incinerated at approved facilities specifically designed to prevent emissions to the environment.

For more local collection dates and times



Bring your **HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS** for **FREE & SAFE DISPOSAL** **HERE!**

OVER 2.7 Tonnes collected in 2023!

Queenstown Waste Transfer Station

FRI 15 November 2024

12.00pm – 4.00pm

For safety reasons no early or late drop-offs will be accepted.

Dispose of old and unwanted household and garden chemicals from your home

- Solvents and household cleaners
- Floor care products
- Ammonia-based cleaners
- Pesticides and herbicides
- Poisons
- Pool chemicals
- Hobby chemicals
- Acids and alkalis
- Vapes

NOT permitted are: motor oil, asbestos, pharmaceuticals, farm vet chemicals, fire extinguishers, ammunition and explosives, and chemicals from commercial businesses.



For more local collection dates and times





Strahan Christmas Decoration Committee
PRESENTS

2024 STRAHAN *Christmas Family Night*



5.30pm - Saturday 14 December
Strahan Golf Club

**BBQ - RIDES - MEET SANTA - CHRISTMAS CAROLS - BURNIE
BRASS BAND - STRAHAN PRIMARY SCHOOL CHOIR -
FAIRY FLOSS KING & SNOW CONE QUEEN - \$5 SHOWBAGS
- RAFFLE - CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION WINNER
ANNOUNCED - PLUS HEAPS MORE...**



Locals First Job Ready Program Launches

The Locals First Job Ready Program is set to empower the West Coast community, thanks to a collaboration between West North West Working and West Coast Council. Co-designed with input from local community members, businesses, and support services, this initiative aims to tackle employment challenges while equipping locals with the skills and confidence needed to thrive in various industries.

In its inaugural round, the program will focus on opportunities in Hospitality. We are excited to announce that the West Coast Wilderness Railway is on board, providing participants with insights into the diverse career paths available in this sector. Participants will have access to roles such as café front of house and kitchen staff, paving the way for careers in café services or advancing towards culinary roles right in the heart of Queenstown.

"We are thrilled to support the Locals First Job Ready Program as it opens doors to career diversity in our region. This initiative aligns perfectly with our commitment to nurturing local talent and fostering growth in the hospitality sector. We look forward to seeing the positive impact this program will have on our community and are excited about what the future holds," said Ian Robertson, General Manager of West Coast Wilderness Railway.

The West Coast Council also expressed its support for the program. "This initiative not only enhances local employment opportunities but also strengthens our community's economic

resilience" said Ciara Spencer, General Manager.

The Locals First Job Ready Program provides participants with a supportive and safe environment, equipping them with essential skills for the hospitality industry. The program will be delivered over a 3 to 4-week period, covering crucial training such as First Aid, Workplace skills, RSA and Barista Skills. Participants will also receive industry-specific exposure, including site tours, "a day in the life" experiences with current employees, and opportunities to meet staff from their prospective fields. The program includes intensive training tailored to the hospitality industry, ensuring participants gain the necessary qualifications and certificates to start their careers.

Jade, the Local Engagement Officer for West North West Working and program lead, expressed her enthusiasm: "I am keen to support locals and help businesses thrive on the West Coast. This program is open to anyone in the community, and I believe it can lead to positive outcomes for both individuals and local industries."

The first round pilot of the program is designed to be completed ahead of the peak tourism season for hospitality. A second pilot round, focusing on education, fisheries and mining, is expected to launch in early 2025. This program is free for West Coast locals, with information sessions being held across the region. For more information, please visit the website: <https://localsfirstwestcoast.my.canva.site/>

Awards for the Unconformity

Last week, The Unconformity won the Chair of Judges' Award for Positive Impact Tourism at the Tasmanian Tourism Awards. This award recognises The Unconformity's drive and pride in positively impacting our communities, audiences and environment.

The 2023 festival also won silver in the Festivals and Events category. Thank you to everyone who made this event a success: our artists, staff, volunteers, board, partners, funding bodies, audiences and the West Coast community.

Congratulations to all of the finalists and winners from the evening.

The Unconformity returns to the West Coast in 2025

The festival program will be released in August 2025.

Subscribe for updates: theunconformity.com.au/subscribe

Joseph Brown gets his view back

A massive thankyou to the Braddon 4wd club..for the amazing work they all did on Joseph Brown's grave..its been a long time coming...we very much appreciated it..thankyou.

The Joseph Brown memorial working Bee tidy up today, down Trial Harbour.

Thank you to Kelvin Walsh for your eagerness to keep this bit of history alive and for organising the working Bee.

Thank you also to everyone who turned up to pitch in and help tidy up his grave site.

He's got his view back!



WEST COAST 2035

COMMUNITY PLAN

READ THE DRAFT PLAN

Visit the website to view the plan online or visit Council to view a printed copy.

TAKE THE ONLINE SURVEY

Jump online to take the survey, or contact the project team for a paper copy.

CHAT TO US AT A POP-UP

West Coast Heritage & Minerals Fair Zeehan
Saturday 9th November | 11:30am-1:30pm

Rosebery Market

Saturday 16th November | 11:00am-1:00pm

Strahan Twilight Market

Friday 29th November | 4:30-6:30pm

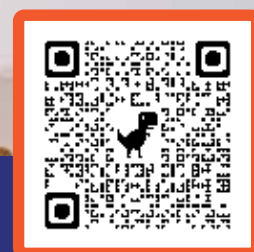
Queenstown Market

Sunday 8th December | 11:00am-1:00pm



HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE DRAFT PLAN

Visit westcoast2035.com.au for more information



Community Newsletter

November 2024



Image (L-R): Shane Youd, Stephanie Whittle, Tess Simpson, Samuel Johnstone, Marcus Cook, Matthew Spilsbury, Craig Youd.

MMG Rosebery's Emergency Response Team wins prestigious competition

Congratulations to MMG Rosebery's Emergency Response Team (ERT) for winning the 2024 Tasmanian Minerals Emergency Response Competition at Queenstown.

Led by Captain Shane Youd, the team of Craig Youd, Tess Simpson, Matthew Spilsbury, Marcus Cook, Sam Johnstone and Steph Whittle (Reserve), competed across the areas of First Aid, Fire Fighting, Rope Rescue, Team Skills, Theory and Search and Rescue.

MMG Rosebery finished in first place in Theory, First Aid, Fire and won the overall team Safety Award with minor placings in Team Skills and UG Search and Rescue.

Marcus Cook was named the Outstanding First Aider.



Image (L-R): Local, Kevin Matthewson, Rosebery Heritage Centre Volunteer, Kirsten Walsh and MMG Community Liaison, Jill Richardson.

Geof Jay resources shipped back to Rosebery

We recently worked closely with author Geof Jay to organise the return of heritage items to the community from South Australia. Thank you to De Bruyns Transport for its support.

Geof taught at Rosebery District School and was the curator of the Eric Reece Collection. His collection of items includes photos, magazines, books, negative reels and research items.

Research materials will be housed in the West Coast Heritage Centre library. The Rosebery Heritage Centre will ensure the materials are catalogued, distributed as required and stored appropriately. The Heritage Centre is now open daily from 10am-2pm.



Image: School students enjoying a hot lunch sponsored by MMG Rosebery.

United Nations – Sustainable Development Goal 2; Zero Hunger

MMG Rosebery works to support and achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 1-6 + 8.

In our community we support this goal through the delivery of various programs within the schools and supporting local community groups through in-kind volunteering and event sponsorship. Ensuring access to fresh fruit on a daily basis and the opportunity for a hot lunch each week, means that students are ready to learn.

Sponsorship Assessment Meeting

The Rosebery Community Consultative Committee (RCCC) met last month to review and assess Round 2 applications for sponsorships. We thank all those who submitted applications. The RCCC has clear assessment guidelines, which are aligned to MMG Rosebery Values. Notification of outcomes will be made this month, with successful applicants published in the December edition of the Western Echo.

Eagle's Patrol hike to Fraser Creek hut

I've never heard about the hut before. I felt worried and scared but beneath all that, I felt happy and excited to go on my first hike to the hut.

We decided at the scout meeting we were making spaghetti bolognese for dinner, chocolate mouse for dessert and pancakes for breakfast.

Before leaving I had to get my bag out and lay my clothes out to pack the next day. On the day I filled my water bladder up.

It was sunny for a little bit before we started the walk, then it started to rain.

We drove to Dundas and started the walk from the river. There was a little foot bridge that we crossed. The river was raging. After we crossed the river, we walked up a road for about 30 minutes. The road was steep at the start then levelled out. I felt



tired because it was my first hike ever.

Once we were half an hour into our walk the road stopped, and we had to walk up this little walking track. The track was muddy, there were trees overhanging the canopy.

Our first stop was called the "Corner". The packs came off and we had a quick snack and drink. When we stopped, my scout leader Liz and I swapped packs because my pack was aching, and I wasn't used to carrying my pack.

We kept walking up and seen about three big trees down across the track. I ended up getting stuck under one of the trees. I shuffled my way out.

My scout leader Liz showed us a horse skull that has been there for a long time. It was covered in moss.

We reached the top of the climb, which was called the "Chocolate Stop".

There was a wooden box which was filled with jars with chocolate in them.

Up at the Chocolate Stop there was reception, so I could call mum.

Once we left the Chocolate Stop, we

saw many pandani's. Mr Deans favourite. Nasty cutty grass, and wood stacks drying for winter 2025.

We made it to the hut in three hours.

It was not what I expected. It was made of wood and had a tin roof. A small path to the toilet, which was a drop toilet.

Inside, the hut was slightly tilted. There were two bunks and a leader's bed in the corner.

In total there were six of us but only five beds, so Craig had to sleep on the floor. There was a wood fire. We all took turns tending to it.

I cooked spaghetti bolognese which tasted like dirt for some reason. Isabella cut the strawberries and made chocolate mousse, which didn't set. We cooked popcorn in a billy can and put it on the fire, but they didn't pop. So, we ended up throwing them near the coals and grabbed them out when they popped.

After tea we went up across the creek to an old cutting to see the glow worms. They were like little stars in the sky. I was scared of the cave spiders.

We played UNO and went to bed after that.

I was tired and sore from the hike.

For breakfast Halle cooked pancakes. After breakfast Craig, Shane and I went and fetched some wood. We tidied up the hut and headed home.

Overall, I really enjoyed my first hike and can't wait to visit the hut again.

Montanna Rose Kerr

Eagles Patrol

1st Queenstown Scout Group

Queenstown cubs reaching lofty heights



Today I hiked to the top of Mount Zeehan.

We all met up at the carpark at the bottom of Mount Zeehan.

There was Adrian, my mum, Keely, Xavier, Lucas, Leo, Mr Dean and Mr Smyth, who also joined us. Me and Keely talked about safety, and then we left.

The weather cleared up even though the forecast said it was going to rain.

We walked up through the old mine sight and then we walked up a rocky and grass road.

That was pretty easy. The road stopped then a track started. The track was steep. It was getting a bit hard. I was scared I was going to fall.

We stopped at a big rock for our first snack. We left and started walking through prickly bushes, it hurt a lot.

We see some wedged tailed eagles. We all slipped through puddles.

We climbed up muddy rocks. I sat in a puddle on a rock. I was wet.

There was a misty cloud that covered the mountain, but it didn't stay for long.

We made it to the top. We see the whole town from the top.

We went through a bit of a prickly again to find a place to cook lunch.

Lucas and Xavier cooked pancakes on the Trangia, and I cooked sausages on

the Trangia. Everybody loved my sausages. They kept wanting more.

Mr Dean was disappointed because he didn't see any pandanis.

Mr Dean also brought his drone and flew it around in the sky.

I loved the big white rocks they were very pretty.

Walking through the prickly bushes were the hardest. Overall, I loved my fifth hike up Mount Zeehan.

Written by Isabella Rose Youd

Red Patrol Leader

1st Queenstown Cubs.



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**TULLAH / ROSEBERY / ZEEHAN
QUEENSTOWN / STRAHAN**

Zeehan Men's Shed news Queenstown RSL update

What is Zeehan Men's shed? The Zeehan Mens Shed is an updated version of the shed in the backyard that has long been part of Australian culture. Men's Sheds are now found in many cities and towns around Australia and continue to spring up internationally.

What makes our Shed special, most men have learned from our culture that they don't talk about feelings and emotions many do not take an interest in their own health and wellbeing.

Unlike women, most men are reluctant to talk about their emotions and that means they usually don't ask for help. Probably because of this, many men are less healthy than women, we tend to drink more, take more risks than our

partners, and suffer more from isolation, loneliness and depression. And men are more likely to commit suicide than women as we tend to be better at it.

So, what the Zeehan Men's Shed provides is a Mental Health First Aid officer to help our members, provide insight to where to get help for health issues and where they can sit down have a cuppa play cards, crib or just sit and talk.

Our President Stephen Youd, Sect/Treasurer Clive Starkey, Social Member Peter Cullen and Publicity Officer Peter Scott are willing to sit and talk and help you in anyway they can as we don't force members to do work in our shed, we also teach our members new skills.



Zeehan Men's Shed members (left to right), Michael Nash, Stephen Youd, Peter Scott, Clive Starkey, Graeme (Hilty) Bennett, Eddie Sladden, Simon Wyatt, Bob Stone and Peter Cullen

Sunday the third of November the Queenstown RSL held an Art Auction to raise funds for West Coast veterans welfare. We would like to thank committee member Bob Cartledge for his work to put the event together. Rob Fitzpatrick for kindly being our MC & auctioneer. A massive thank you to all the West Coast Artists who generously donated artworks in a vast array of mediums that helped to raise a wonderful \$2770.

Thank you to all who attended & to all the successful bidders. Enjoy your marvellous new art works.

This Remembrance day, we invited the community to get creative & make their own floral tributes to place at the Queenstown Cenotaph (see photo below), . Artist Bob Cartledge made a ceramic wreath for the Queenstown RSL which was placed on the Cenotaph by our Vice President Mr. John Halton. With a crowd of 60 or so spread out around the area the weather stayed fine as Mrs. Shirley Scolyer led our service with technical assistance & the Ode recited by Australian Army's Mark 'Doc' Doran. We wish to thank them both for providing a lovely & respectful service.

Thank you to students & teachers from

Queenstown St Joseph's & Mountain Heights Schools for taking time out from their lessons to attend & lay wreaths.

Thank you to Scotty & West Coast Council staff for all of your assistance.

This Friday the 15th the Queenstown RSL will be open from 4 pm. Visiting over the weekend is our Life Member Mr. Barry Butler. Barry is looking forward to catching up with old mates at the RSL & spinning a few yarns.

Barry, a Vietnam Veteran, recently trekked the Kokoda trail along with Jo Brodie & Bianca Jubb from RSL Tasmania who will also be at the RSL. Bianca is a Compensation Advocate & who can assist veterans with a range of issues. For more information or to make an appointment to chat with Bianca phone (03) 6242 8900 or email Bianca.jubb@rsltas.org.au. Working is taking place in West Coast cemetery's this week by members of the Headstone Project to place headstones on unmarked graves of veterans of the First World War.

A public Headstone Dedication Ceremony will be held at the Queenstown Cemetery on Saturday the 16th at 11 am. Followed by a light luncheon at the Queenstown RSL.



Rosebery Heritage Centre renovated

The Opening of the newly renovated Rosebery Heritage Centre ready to receive visitors coming to the west coast, and array of new displays will be on offer which will be changing throughout the year, a gold coin donation on entry.

Many thanks go to MMG for repairing the centre and Miner's hut after the 2022 fires damage both a lot of work has gone into both and they are look fantastic. Also, many thanks to the members of the Rosebery Development Association which have put a lot of hours to decorating the centre and designing new souvenirs which will be on offer to suit young and old.

We are open at the moment Monday to Friday 10am – 2pm Come in and have a look around or ask our volunteer to make you a drink and sit and have a read in our cosy reading nook.



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UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA CONGRATULATES ITS CHILDREN'S UNIVERISTY GRADUATES 2024

The excitement is building once again as West Coast schools have 29 children graduating from the Children's University program this year. Children's University Tasmania is delivered through schools, with school-based Children's University coordinators and school principals playing a pivotal role.

Graduation ceremonies are a special celebration of these achievements, as West Coast graduates and their families who have attended the ceremonies in Burnie before would know.

Students from West Coast Schools will soon be donning gowns, caps and stoles for a formal ceremony at the Burnie Arts and Function Centre to a fanfare of highland pipes played by the resident Children's University Piper from the Burnie Highland Pipes band. The ceremony will take place in Burnie on Tuesday 26th November at 1pm.

In addition, this year there will also be one local graduation ceremony in Zeehan on Tuesday 17 December 2024 at 10am, where children from Zeehan Primary will do a town and gown walk

from West Coast Heritage Museum to Study Hub West Coast, where their formal ceremony and celebration will take place. This is the first time a smaller regional graduation ceremony has been conducted and Zeehan Primary is very excited to be the pilot for us.

Formal ceremonies really help to affirm the achievements of the children and, after the presentations, children and their families celebrate with food, refreshments, gifts and professional photographs.

The Children's University program sees school students undertaking a range of extra-curricular learning experiences that inspire students to increase their lifelong learning through activities and experiences outside of school.

If you would like to know more about the Children's University Program on the West Coast contact University of Tasmania Regional Learning Officer Belinda Martin – belinda.martin@utas.edu.au or by appointment at Study Hub West Coast (Zeehan).

Hydro Tasmania delivers \$122m dividend to Tasmanians, supports West Coast communities



Hydro Tasmania will return a dividend of \$122 million to be spent on vital infrastructure and services for Tasmanians, after delivering a pre-tax profit of \$193.7 million in the 2023-24 financial year.

Following publication of Hydro Tasmania's annual report, Acting CEO Erin van Maanen said the company delivered a great result, performing beyond targets despite recording the lowest inflows in 90 years.

"Our revenue is highly dependent on how much energy we can generate and that depends on how much it rains, so it was a tough year from that perspective," Ms van Maanen said.

"But thanks to careful management and planning, we maintained reliable generation and healthy dam levels and ensured we delivered good returns for every drop of water."

Over the financial year, Hydro Tasmania invested to upgrade infrastructure on the West Coast including:

- \$9.68 million to upgrade Murchison Dam to improve flood capacity and preparation for extreme rainfall events.

- \$2.88 million on machine upgrades at Mackintosh Power Station.

Hydro Tasmania also contributed more than \$500,000 to support West Coast businesses and organisations including:

- \$290,585 on staff meals and accommodation

- \$200,000 towards backhaul optic fibre connection in Tullah

- \$5,000 to The Unconformity

- \$5,000 to the Charles Woodley Memorial Fishing Competition

- \$3,378 to Rosebery Neighbourhood House for games and activities

- \$2,500 to the Tullah Progress Association's Tullah Children's Christmas Party

- \$2,250 to the Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania conference

- \$1,300 to Zeehan's inaugural Parkrun

- Food donations from Hydro Tasmania staff to the Rosebery Neighbourhood House Community Pantry



Each month we'll be introducing you to some of the wonderful volunteers from the Galley Museum in Queenstown.

CHRIS WILSON

Chris came to the West Coast in the 1970s and fell in love with the region. Chris has been a teacher, geologist, worked in the mining industry and is also an artist. She has raised her children on the West Coast and has lived in Strahan, Zeehan and now Queenstown and has volunteered at the Galley for six years. "I love all the old photos and meeting people and helping people with information," Chris said.



MAUREEN BENNETTS

Maureen has volunteered at the Galley for over five years, recently she has completed cataloguing the museum's book library and is now working towards cataloguing other collections. Maureen has a real interest in history, "It's important for the younger generation to know about where they live," she said. Photographs and documentation of the early days of the West Coast are of particular interest to Maureen.



Tullah and its Tramways

Tullah and its Tramways, by Ross Mainwaring is published by the LRRSA. Hard cover, 160 pages on art paper, A4 size, 190 photographs, 14 maps and diagrams, references, and index.

For over fifty years the small mining town of Tullah, in the rugged mountains of western Tasmania, had only one connection with the outside world – a lightly built 2 ft gauge tramway worked by small four-wheel steam locomotives. The most famous of these was Wee Georgie Wood, which often featured as a curiosity in the mainland media.

This book not only gives a very comprehensive history of the tramway and its rolling stock, but it also gives many fascinating insights into the lives of Tullah's residents, both at work and at play.

As well as describing the Tullah tramway, the book also describes the building of the Emu Bay Railway from Guildford to Zeehan. This was another vital link providing Tullah's connection to the outside world. The methods used to get to Tullah before this railway was built were ingenious, and are described in detail.

Tullah's isolation ended in December 1961 with the opening of a road to Rosebery. Wee Georgie Wood continued

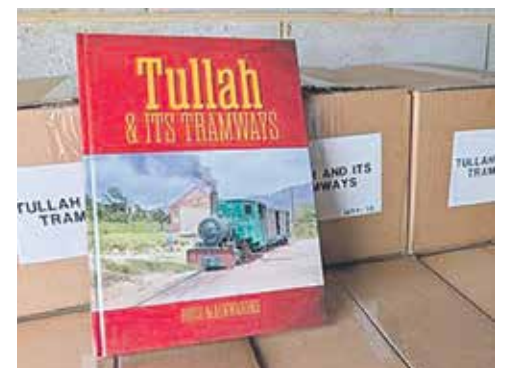
to work on tramways around the mine at Tullah for about four more years. But this was not the end. Its operation was later taken over by volunteers, and it still operates, carrying passengers within the township of Tullah.

The history extends to several other tramways in the Tullah area, and is complemented by many maps and historic photographs.

Orders can be placed at shop.lrrsa.org.au/ and the book is available at the Missing Tiger bookshop in Queenstown among other places.

A video preview of the book can be seen here: <https://youtu.be/E5ILgkbaTo8>

This is a great read and a fabulous reference book for anyone with an interest in the West Coast railways. Ed.



Congratulations to all the winners at this year's Charles Woodley Memorial Fishing Competition!

Men's heaviest. Jayden Everett-Hall
 Women's heaviest. Brooke Stephens
 Junior girl. Hayley Woods
 Junior boy. Decan Widger
 Lucky entry. Darrell Stephens
 Good Samaritan. Rob Towns
 Most fish individual. Cody Sheean
 Most fish club. Launceston Anglers Club
 Egg on face award. Max Quinn
 Secret weight men's. Josh Sheean
 Secret weight Women's. Tammi Crosswell
 Secret weight boys. Dustin Rigby
 Secret weight Girls. Alice Stevens
 Charles Woodley Memorial. Percy Gardner
 Heaviest Rainbow. Justin Dennis



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ROSEBERY DISTRICT SCHOOL

Chess Tournament

On the 20th of September, we went to chess. At the start of the day, we marked the roll and went on our way. During the tournament there were so many people there, it was not funny. We played six rounds of chess, there were six people that were undefeated. I thought it was the best first excursion I have probably ever had.

Bradlee



Sports Colour Day

Sports colors day was on the last day of term and people dressed up as their favourite sport. Many people did it. But the class with the most dressed up people earns bragging rights! Everyone had a spectacular time.

Cayden



Tool Skool

The K-6 students had the opportunity to build stuff as Tool Skool came to visit us. The K-2 students built spinning tops, and the 3-6 students made windmills. We had to glue, drill, cut and screw materials together. I really enjoyed tool skool because we learned new skills.

Sam

3-6 Sports Day

Sports day was very exciting and everyone was ready. When we got off the bus and we waited in the hall and then we did two rotations and then we had a free sausage sizzle, and it tasted very well. After lunch we did another two rotations before going back to the hall to wait to go on the bus and when we got off the bus people were tired.

Cayden

Tales from a Zeehan graveyard

TALES FROM THE ZEEHAN GENERAL (PIONEER) CEMETERY. MURDER MOST FOUL. MAN KILLED AT HEEMSKIRK. MYSTERY NEVER SOLVED

As far as it is known, there is only one person who was murdered who is buried in the Cemetery. The victim was Edward Tame, also known as Edward Phillips, aged about 60, who was killed on or about Saturday, the 24th of October 1908, near his hut at the Heemskirk tin mining field. His remains were buried on Saturday afternoon 21 November. His burial place is known but there are no visible remains.

Tame was well known around Zeehan, having lived on the West Coast since about 1891. In addition to mining, he also sold fruit and vegetables, which he grew in the garden of his home on the Oonah Road. He was somewhat eccentric in his ways.

On the evening of Saturday, October 31, 1908, word was received in Zeehan that Tame was missing. On the following Wednesday Tame's wheelbarrow and hat were found. The next day his body was discovered nearby by William McNeice and Richard Burke. It was immediately obvious that death was not from natural causes, as his skull had been smashed in.

On 7 November, a coronial enquiry was opened for the purpose of identification, and then adjourned twice while evidence was being gathered. It finally recommenced on 23 November, 1908.

The court heard from twelve witnesses during a hearing which lasted two days and two evenings before a packed public gallery, there being an immense amount of interest

in the proceedings.

The facts presented showed that on Friday, 23rd of October, Tame, Herbert H. Vincent, and young Edward Marshall left Zeehan for Heemskirk. The three travelled together till the old Cliff section at Heemskirk was



The Cliff Hut. The track to Tame's camp can be seen on the right. The spot where the wheelbarrow was found is within view of this hut. (Tasmanian Mail, 14 November 1908.)

reached, when Vincent and Marshall went over to the Cliff hut, and Marshall continued on to Ben Thornes' camp, about half a mile away. After delivering goods there, Marshall returned to the Cliff hut, where he and Vincent spent the night. Tame had left previously to go to his new camp, a quarter of a mile further on.

In the early evening Tame went to Ben Thornes' camp, where he stayed till midnight, and then left, taking a bag of oatmeal and a lantern. Prior to Tame leaving, the two men agreed to meet the next morning so they could inspect a new find Thornes had made, but Tame said he would not be over until he had been to his old camp at the Cliff hut for a pair of bellows which he wanted. He was never seen alive again. It is evident Tame got safely back to his camp, as the lantern

and oatmeal were found there, and the next morning as he went to collect the bellows with his wheelbarrow he was murdered.

Dr. Butler stated that almost in the centre of Tame's forehead was a circular hole with three small fractures radiating out from that, which had been caused by a blow from a blunt instrument. The right side of the head and face had been hit by repeated blows. The body was in a very advanced state of decomposition.

Herbert Vincent, who was a mining partner of the deceased, gave his evidence in a contradictory manner at times, and stated again and again that Edward Marshall was a liar, and other witnesses as well. There was also some discrepancy regarding a horse which may or may not have been ill. Other witnesses later testified that he had told them he would be returning to Zeehan on the Tuesday, instead of when he actually returned on the Saturday, the day Tame was killed. Yet more witnesses stated he had told them that

night Tame was upset with Vincent and mentioned that Vincent had overcharged him for some food, and used some of his money dishonestly. On the Saturday afternoon about 1 p.m. he spoke to Vincent who seemed to be in a hurry to get away, and kept looking over towards the Cliff hut.

Edward Marshall said Tame had told him several times that Vincent was taking his tin. Alice, mother of Edward Marshall, said that Vincent had told her that Tame would not work, and that he had to keep him in food. He also said that "someone would be blowing Tame's brains out before long."

Several witnesses stated that they had not seen any strangers in the area about the time that Tame was murdered.

After hearing all the evidence the jury decided that the fatal injuries were inflicted by Herbert Vincent. Vincent declared to the Coroner that he was "as innocent as you are, Your Honour."

He was put on trial in December 1908 at

Hobart. The case against him broke down for lack of evidence and the charges were withdrawn. No one else was ever charged with the murder.

This is an abridged excerpt taken from books edited by Malcolm



A view of the rugged coastline at Heemskirk. Edward Tame's hut is marked with a cross. (Tasmanian Mail, 14 November 1908.)

"Ben Thornes had done for Tame."

Ben Thornes stated that on the Friday

Ready, Burials at the Zeehan (Pioneer) Cemetery.

West Coast Wilderness Railway 125th anniversary celebrations on November 1st

Celebrations were held for the 125th anniversary of the final section of line being opened between Teepookana and the Regatta Point station and many turned up for this momentous occasion.

Nick Shackleton, WCWR Rail Division Manager said on the day. "We gather here at Regatta Point, just as Marion Sticht did 125 years ago, when she drove the final dog spike into the ground to complete this railway. That moment wasn't just about finishing a track, it was about connecting communities, fostering growth, and fueling the resilience that defines the West Coast."

The railway became a lifeline for Queenstown and Strahan, transporting copper and people, and shaping the region's history. That history continues today. We may not carry copper anymore, but what we do carry is just as valuable, our stories, our pride, and shared heritage. This railway has endured through challenges and time, and we are proud to be an anchor for tourism on the West Coast. More importantly, we are proud that this railway belongs to all of you—the community who has supported it from the very beginning."



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Welcome to the Western Echo Directory!

This will eventually consist of a series of pages, 'Where to Eat', 'What to Do', 'Where to Stay', 'Where to Shop' and 'Who can Help' and be THE guide to the West Coast.

If you would like to place YOUR message on here it is only \$100 per month (six month contract but invoiced monthly) for the standard size ad seen at right but you can extend your ad size if you wish.

We can also design your ad for you at no extra charge.

Please send an email to alan@westernecho.news if interested in being a part of this directory.

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**Dine in or Takeaway,
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What has four trains, slot cars and trucks
and two big mountain peaks?
'Echoville' of course - come and check it
out in Zeehan.

Opposite the Heritage Centre museum

Entry is FREE

Still a work in progress but open most days



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We'll open
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If the bookshop is closed and you're keen to browse, please call Rick on 0499 848 893.

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WEST COAST TAS

**Rosebery
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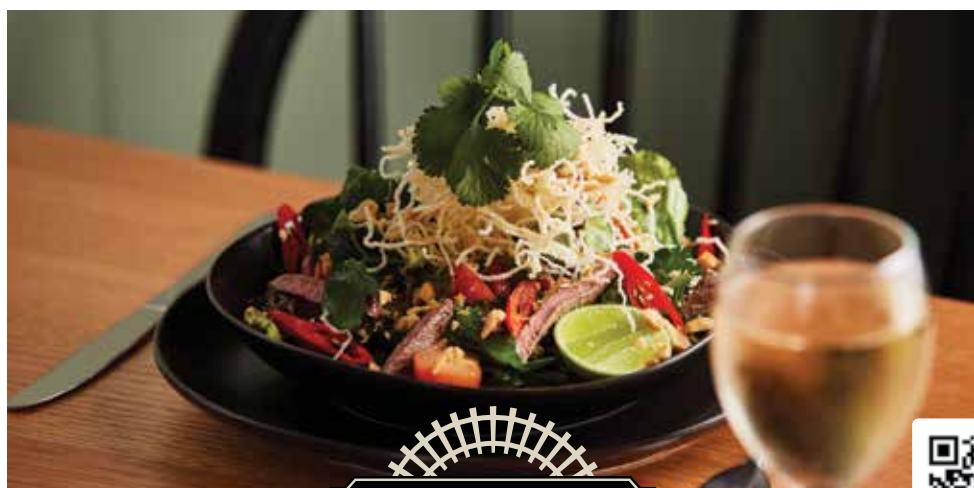
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WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE COAST?

STRAHAN VILLAGE TWILIGHT MARKET

Strahan Village and the Strahan CWA are holding a Twilight Market on the 29th November 2024.

The market will be held on the street in front of Hamers Bar & Bistro the Kitchen Café and Gordon River Cruises. There is also some spaces available on the grass area in front of the Cottages. The market will be held between 4pm and 8pm.

There will be limited spaces on the street in front of Hamers Bar & Bistro, the Kitchen Café and Gordon River Cruises. Anyone who would like a stall on the grass will need to provide their own gazebo. The gazebo will need to be a maximum of 3m x 3m

Food vans/vendors must provide their own Council permit. Permits or proof of exemption must be provided when booking your stall.

Cost for each table will be \$10.

All proceeds will go to the Strahan CWA.

There will be a limit of two tables per vendor. To register your interest please email lyndy.smith@strahanvillage.com.au

West Coast documentary after new star

A new SBS documentary series will be filming on Tasmania's West Coast this December. Putting the call out for someone with an engaging presence who is confident on camera, and a great storyteller! SBS is specifically looking for a multicultural story - someone born outside of Australia who now lives and works in Tasmania's West Coast. This can include but is not limited to, tourism business, food business, activity offerings, tours.

Please contact Pariss Leonardos-Fenwick for further information: pariss@mintpictures.com.au

SUMMER HOURS

Rosebery Market

November 16th

10am - 2pm

Memorial Hall

SUPPORTED BY WEST COAST COUNCIL AND THE ROSEBERY LIONS CLUB

ROSEBERY ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

**SATURDAY
21st
DECEMBER
2024**



AT ROSEBERY PARK OVAL

BOOK THE DATE



IN A MINER'S HOUSE

THE BARDS OF BOCO PRESENT:



With the semaphore singers!

Songs, poems, and stories from Tasmania's West Coast performed live in the iconic Penghana ballroom, Queenstown Tasmania.



Tickets \$27.50
available online only

**2PM
23 NOV
2024**

OCTOBER 2024

Early Learning for Three Year Olds - West Coast Update

The West Coast has been selected as one of five locations to trial EL3. The trial will explore the provision of up to 15 hours per week of early learning/childcare for three year olds - an exciting opportunity for our community!

Learning Together Opportunities

LEG members recently participated in Aboriginal Cultural Understanding learning, led by Kylie Dickson, Aboriginal Knowledge and Learning Leader.

We discussed what this means for EL3 on the West Coast and what steps we can take to apply this Aboriginal cultural understanding.

The engaged, respectful discussions and sharing of insights was great, with positive feedback received about the session.

As part of EL3, planning has occurred during LEG meetings for more learning together opportunities

EL3 Subgroup

The LEG have been working together to look at ways to share information about the Early Childhood Education & Care sector and career opportunities. A subgroup has been established to focus on this, holding its first meeting on 23 October 2024.

Attendees discussed programs and initiatives running in the region, gained more understanding around barriers to employment and discussed the objective of the subgroup.

The subgroup will meet again in November, please let Christine know if you would like to attend.

Local Enabling Group (LEG)

The LEG is helping with planning for the delivery of the EL3 trial. The next LEG meeting will be held: **Thursday 14 November from 10.45am-12pm** in the **meeting room at Rosebery District School**, or **online via Teams**. Contact Christine to RSVP or if you'd like to be part of the group.

Department for Education, Children and Young People | [Contact West Coast Community Inclusion Worker for EL3 Christine Gray: christine.gray@decyp.tas.gov.au](mailto:christine.gray@decyp.tas.gov.au)



FRIENDS OF RAW

Friends of RAW network has been created in consultation with key industry stakeholders, to address an unmet need from frontline workers experiencing individuals sharing the harsh impact of situational stressors and mental health challenges.

Friends of RAW aims to help individuals navigate the day-to-day situations they find themselves in by equipping them with the skills to understand and set boundaries, have safe conversations and know how to **Recognise** the signs, **Ask** the questions and **Work** together.

The network is designed to empower individuals to bridge the gap and be a conduit to connecting people to RAW's support services.

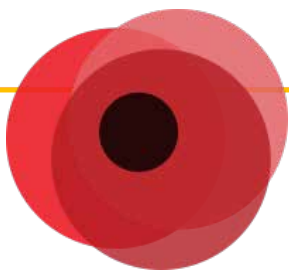
Friends of RAW is aimed at front line works, business owners, live stock agents, cropping contractors, farmers, local community and groups who are impacted by or will come in contact with others who are directly affected by drought and need support to navigate their way through it.

To kick start involvement, we have an practical and tangible training session designed to up skill individuals to better navigate unexpected conversations and situations.

Ready to Join the Network?

Find & Register for a Session Near You at www.ruralaliveandwell.com.au/friendsofraw

Recognise. Ask. Work together.



If you visited the Queenstown Cemetery recently you would have perhaps noticed some work taking place amongst some of the older sections. This is President of the Headstone Project, Andrea Gerrard & her team of hard working volunteers striving to honor first world war veterans, whom in some cases have laid in their unmarked graves for decades.

Thanks to the Headstone Project's hard work these men will now have headstones.

Join us at the Queenstown Cemetery this Saturday the 16th at 11 am for the headstone dedication ceremony. Followed by a light luncheon at the Queenstown RSL.

*Here is a list of West Coast First World War veterans who's graves will have headstones placed on them. **Queenstown:** Frank Atkins Amiguet. James Banks. Francis Augustine Cashman. Cyril William Thomas Flood. Harry Frimley. James Smith McDonald-British Army. James Poysden-British Navy. Lawrence Price. Michael Frederick Sarich. Norman Norris Timothy. **Roseberry General Cemetery:** Michael Henry Coleman. David Oscar Taggart. **Strahan General Cemetery:** William Henry Anderson. William Andrew Doherty. John Denny Hamill-NZ Forces. Charles George Dalgrin. **Zeehan General Cemetery:** Alfred George Cairnduff. Cyril George Dunkley. William Hamilton Evans.*



<p>West Coast E. S. & D. Foursomes 2024 16TH NOV 2024 SPONSORED BY</p>	<p>37th West Coast WILLIAM ADAMS CAT Singles 2024 <small>est 1977</small> 30TH NOV 2024 SPONSORED BY</p>	<p>21st West Coast EPIROC Mining Classic 2024 <small>est 1996</small> 14TH DEC 2024 SPONSORED BY</p>
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Hole in One \$200-\$600

SEE GUIDELINES FOR MORE INFORMATION.
NOMINATIONS CLOSE 5PM WEDNESDAY B4 EVENT.
NOMINATIONS TO WESTCOASTGOLF@OUTLOOK.COM OR
TEXT 0416 231 630 FOR ROSTER PURPOSES.
WHEN SENDING NOMINATION INCLUDE FULL NAME, CLUB & GA NUMBER.
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QUEENSTOWN 2024	ZEEHAN 2024	ROSEBERY 2024
STRAHAN 2025	QUEENSTOWN 2025	WARATAH 2026
WARATAH 2026	STRAHAN 2026	ZEEHAN 2027
ROSEBERY 2027	WARATAH 2027	QUEENSTOWN 2028
ZEEHAN 2028	ROSEBERY 2028	STRAHAN 2029

\$10 ENTRY FEE EACH EVENT/PLAYER PAY ON THE DAY.

15th December 2024
ROSEBERY COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

3-9pm
Christmas Parade Market
 Childrens Entertainment
 Face Painting
 Santa Photo Tent
 Food Vans
 Carols / Music
 Street Lights
 House Lights Competition
 Winner Announced

SAVE THE DATE

Roseberry Development Association, Roseberry Top Pub, Fabulous Beauty for You, Roseberry Op-Shop & Salvage Yard
 Brought to you by the Roseberry Community Christmas Working Group

Zeehan Christmas Light Competition

Please register your address with the ZNC.

Judging will take place on the 18th of December and the winner announced on the 19th.

All registered addresses will also go into the draw for the random prize.

Good luck everyone and Merry Christmas!

Please contact the ZNC for further information 64716108

WE PLAY ROSEBERY DISTRICT NETBALL

Photos of semi-final by Alan Jennison

Rosebery District Netball Association
After being in recess for a year, a new committee with new members was formed (some previous members, including life members) bringing fresh ideas to the table and we have had witnessed a season different to any other. Players expressed their interest in playing and each participant was divided into three teams consisting of junior and senior participants to align with shift work and other commitments.

By doing this, it has resulted in a great season and the teams have been extremely consistent and competitive throughout the fixture showing great sportsmanship and has resulted in close scoring games each week.

Green Machines have been dominating throughout and have held the number one position on the leader board and are straight through to the Grand Final which will be held in Rosebery on Saturday 9th November at 2pm.

The Semi-Final was on Tuesday 5th November with teams Pink Panthers and Buzz competing for their spot in the grand final and both teams went in going strong in hope of securing the win.

Both teams showed great teamwork throughout the entire game with Buzz coming out on top by 30 goals. The final score was 50-20. Buzz will go head-to-head against Green Machines in the Grand Final.

Without the dedication of our community members and giving up their time to step up and volunteer the association would be nonexistent. Tireless hours are spent from drawing up rosters, umpiring each week, overseeing the financials and many other tasks that are unseen in the background to ensure great outcomes for the benefit of our participants.

To our wonderful sponsors, MMG Rosebery, Ochre Health and Batchelor Construction Group, thank you for your monetary contributions and enabling small sporting groups such as ours to allow us to continue to thrive.

We look forward to the upcoming years for Rosebery Netball, in particular the junior talent that we have witnessed this season - they are our future!!!

Liz Youd (Kubiak)
President



WE PLAY QUEENSTOWN BOXING CLUB

Photos by Alan Jennison

I dropped in to check out the Boxing Club at the Queenstown PCYC the other night and found ten very fit boxers working out, sparring and skipping all over the place. This was a very well run boxing gym and is open on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings at 5pm.

Whether it's fitness, a competitive spirit or just for the enjoyment, I urge people of all ages to get along and take part. The club is run by Matt Williscroft and Coach Steve Blizzerd and welcomes new members of any age. The club is also after sponsorships so if anyone would like to put their hand up this is a great program that will benefit so many youngsters. Contact Matt Williscroft, 0437106279, message the Facebook page Queenstown boxing club or email Qtownboxing@outlook.com

Ed.

