



WESTERN ECHO

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

EDITION 24 NOVEMBER 10, 2023

WE MEANS COMMUNITY

FREE

The Western Echo is two years old!

The collage displays 24 front pages of the Western Echo newspaper, each with a unique headline and image. The headlines include: 'Juggling family and saving lives', 'Sarah Island, 200 years to the day', 'Racers descend on Queenstown', 'RSL's vital in reuniting veterans', 'Tasmania's adventure sports capital', 'They certainly bred em tough', 'Only on the West Coast', 'Strahan takes gold in Tassie's Top Tourist Town 2022 awards', 'Winter Warmer wet for some', 'Dr Karl visits Rosebery', 'So much more than just names', 'Mt Lyell remembrance', 'Your newspaper is one year old', 'Hobart to Queenstown - 90 years on', 'Zero to sixty and back to zero in 30 seconds', 'Jumping for joy at the Mt Lyell picnic', 'Snakes (and lizards) alive in the West', 'Locals up in arms about Rosebery skate park', 'West Coast a film makers paradise', 'From fish to fireworks at Tullah', 'Bay of Fires on the big screen', 'Railway collaboration picks up steam', 'Rockcliff on track on the west coast', and 'Zeehan is such a colourful place'. Each page also features the 'WESTERN ECHO' masthead and the 'WE MEANS COMMUNITY' slogan.

They say time flies when you're having fun and that is certainly the case here. It sure doesn't seem like two years since I started the Western Echo but here we are, 24 editions on. This is as much on you, the people of

the West Coast as it is on me as Editor/Publisher, and for that I give my deepest thanks. I am very proud of this paper; it has come a long way since the first edition. I have made a lot of friends since then and hope to make many more. I

won't be satisfied until every one of you has been in the Echo at least once. That means that you are stuck with me as I hope to be bringing you this newspaper for many years to come. Hell... I've only just started!

I really couldn't do it without you all though, from letters to the editor, to tips and hints, to stories and photos, you are the important ones here; I just help deliver the message, although if anybody wants to throw me a party...



HAVE YOU SEEN THIS BUS?

Travelling to and from the West Coast you may see our new advertising on the back of a Tassie Link Coach.

If spotted simply snap a picture, share and tag Harcourts West Coast on Facebook.

Photos shared will enter into the draw to win a **\$200 IGA Gift Card!**

*One entry per person accepted.
**Winning entry drawn at random Dec 1st 2023.

Harcourts
West Coast
19 Agnes St Rosebery

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

Dear Editor,

As many West Coasters are aware, in 1970, when Strahan ceased operations as the Port for the Mt Lyell Mining & Railway Company, the Union Steamship Company gifted their three-storey waterfront headquarters to the people of Strahan. The building was held by the Strahan Council for the people of Strahan, and I believe the people/electors of Strahan were explicitly listed on the title deed. In subsequent years the 'Union Company Flat' on the upper level has been home to many, the middle floor served as the Strahan Council Chambers for approximately 23 years, and the 3 retail premises on the ground floor have been/and remain home to a variety of local businesses. Despite a very small rate-base, the Strahan Council maintained the people's asset, benefiting from the additional income it provided.

Although in receipt of a 3-million-dollar grant for improvements to the waterfront precinct at Strahan, West Coast Council are 'negotiating' the sale of our building. Further, they intend to sell to a private entity of their own choosing, without prior consultation with the people of Strahan who appear to have had their ownership usurped. To add insult to injury, the terms and conditions around the sale of our building are being kept secret. West Coast Council were happy to take the income generated by the building, but rather than set aside a portion of that income for care and maintenance (in line with their own asset management policy) they appear to have utilised the bulk of that income elsewhere.

Strahan residents have indicated, via a petition, their desire to retain their asset, and a community proposal has been presented to Council. I trust Councillors will respect the Union Company's bequest and additionally, honour their own policy obligations to maintain assets. If Councillors ignore the people, then I trust they will not make a bad situation worse, by selling our property via secret deal rather than in an open and transparent manner.

Sharon Newett

To the Editor,

10 out of 10 to Grant Hodge for his recent letters to the editor, as former residents we couldn't agree more!

Not only are shipping containers and old buses an eyesore, as well as the disgraceful state of the swimming pool in Zeehan, but the sad and sorry state of the two remaining historic hotels in Main Street is beyond words. To see the Central Hotel and the Hotel Cecil (both circa 1900) in such states of obvious disrepair and neglect is shameful.

West Coast Council saw fit to demolish and dispose of an original Zeehan home, built in the 1890s, on an unused and isolated street and far from public view, due to the fact that it needed repairs. However, they appear to turn a blind eye to these rundown and unsightly pubs in full view of every resident, visitor and tourist passing by. If Council has this power when dealing with residential properties, surely they must be able to enforce the cleanup and repairs of these two major commercial properties which have contributed to the rich and colourful history of Zeehan for over 120 years. **C.Dunphy & V.Vance**

To the Editor

Congrats on a readworthy newspaper. I get it sent up to me by my brother and always interested in what goes on around the west coast being originally from there. A couple of things that stuck out for me recently was couple of articles from Edition 23

1. Grant Hodge highlighted the amount of dumped metal appliances on blocks of land in Zeehan and described it as the landfill capital of the West coast. I am asking as to why is the Mayor of the west coast allowing this to happen and why isn't it getting cleaned up?

2. Recent arguments have occurred regarding fish pen farming in Maquarie harbour. Premier Rockliff is claiming that there are 150 direct employees working on fish farms on the west coast and 350 indirect jobs. In the photo of edition 23 I count about 35 employees. where are the other 120 direct employees? Direct meaning that you actually work full time in the aquaculture fish industry in Strahan. **Patrick O'Boyle.**

Fuel coming to Tullah?

The proposed development of a new 24-hour, unmanned petrol and diesel outlet in Tullah, near Farrell Street, is eagerly anticipated by the locals and businesses in the area. The last fuel outlet in the town closed down in 2014, leaving residents and visitors without a convenient fuel option. This has been a source of frustration for both the community and tourists.

The proposed Bonney Energy outlet, if approved by the West Coast Council, would be built in a vacant car park near Tullah Hall, making it more accessible to those passing through the area. The development is expected to accommodate large b-double trucks and could serve up to 1500 vehicles a day.

The lack of a nearby fuel station has been a deterrent for vehicles passing through Tullah, as the closest fuel option is currently in Rosebery. This shortage of fuel options has not only inconvenienced travelers but has also made it challenging for the town to attract and retain tourists.

The recent addition of a distillery, a

popular cafe on the highway, and other attractions in Tullah has given new reasons for travelers to stop in the area. Having a reliable fuel outlet would further enhance the town's appeal to visitors and ensure that they have a more positive experience.

In the past, some Tullah businesses kept fuel cans on their premises in case visitors needed to top up their tanks urgently. Locals have also been known to make the trip to Rosebery to assist those who found themselves low on fuel. Additionally, residents have faced the anxiety of returning home with sick children after seeking medical attention in larger centers, knowing that a local fuel station was unavailable.

The proposed outlet would not only benefit the community but also contribute to the overall development and growth of the town's tourism industry. Many residents are hopeful that the development will be approved, and they encourage others to express their support for the proposal to ensure it moves forward.



Proposed site for the new Tullah fuel outlet. Photo supplied by Jenny Bowie

Future of local government review is in

The Local Government Board has today submitted its final report on the Future of Local Government Review to the Tasmanian Government.

The report outlines the substantial work the independent Board has undertaken since the review was announced in November 2021.

Minister for Local Government, Nic Street, said the report was fulsome, and thanked the independent Board for their hard work.

"I want to thank the Chair, Sue Smith, and all of the Board members for the consultative and constructive way they have conducted this review," Minister Street said.

"They have given every Tasmanian the chance to have their say, including all local councillors and council staff.

"I will take some time to read the report and discuss it with my Cabinet colleagues, before releasing it for community and council feedback in late November.

"It will be open for comment until the

end of February so everyone can have their say on the recommendations.

"Each council will be invited to review the final report and make a submission so their unique wants and needs are given the recognition they deserve.

"The Government has previously clearly stated that this review will not result in forced amalgamations of councils, and that position has not changed.

"Any group of councils that see boundary changes in their best interests will be encouraged to progress their plan with the Government, and then ensure it has community support to proceed. There will be no changes unless both the council and community want them.

"I look forward to councils from around the State engaging further in this important process because at its core, it will be councils and their communities who will decide their own future."

More information about the Future of Local Government Review is available from www.futurelocal.tas.gov.au.



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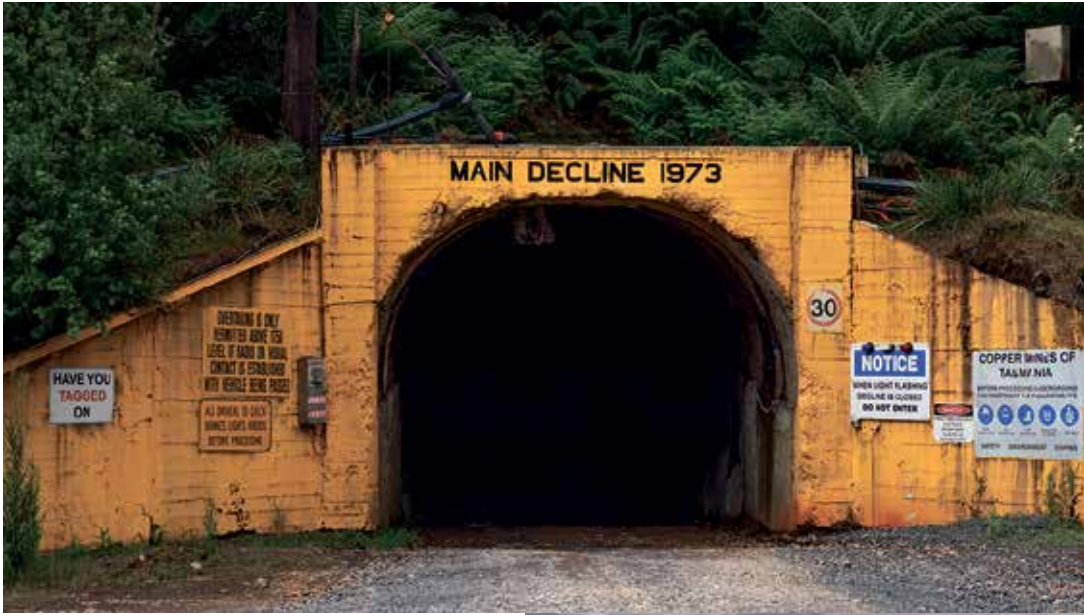
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The Western Echo is available from IGA's and newsagents (as well as some other outlets) in Queenstown, Strahan, Zeehan, Rosebery, Tullah, Burnie, Stanley, Wynyard, Somerset, Ridgley, Smithton, South Riana and Waratah.

127 Main Street, Zeehan, Tasmania 7469 www.westernecho.news

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

Mt Lyell mine opening looks promising



The Tasmanian Liberal Government welcomes the positive announcement that Sibanye Stillwater will exercise its option to acquire 100 per cent of Copper Mines of Tasmania Pty Ltd.

Mining and minerals processing is a key pillar of the Tasmanian economy which supports more than 5000 jobs in regional communities and is our biggest export product by value.

Mt Lyell Mine is an iconic part of our mining story since 1894 with the mine producing 1.4 million tonnes of copper, 50 tonnes of gold and 1500 tonnes of silver before it went into care and maintenance in 2014.

Sibanye-Stillwater has indicated it will make a decision about the future of the mine once the current feasibility study is completed.

Premier Jeremy Rockliff welcomed the announcement, saying that the potential reopening of the Mt Lyell Mine would create jobs and boost economic activity across the West Coast region.

"Copper has been identified as one of

the essential metals needed in the world's clean energy transition, of which Tasmania is a world leader by being 100 per cent self-sufficient in renewable electricity."

Minister for Resources, Felix Ellis, said the Tasmanian Liberal Government has provided support over a long period of time to help assist with the re-opening of the mine while the owners invested in care and maintenance.

"Our support has included a \$9.5 million package to undertake works supporting the recommencement of

mining operations as well as a \$25 million assistance package to be made available once mining operations recommence.

"This package remains on the table for a new owner, subject to appropriate due diligence," Minister Ellis.

The Tasmanian Liberal Government is delivering on its long-term plan to grow our economy and create more jobs, and should a re-start of Mt Lyell occur, it would bring hundreds of new jobs to the West Coast and surrounding areas.



Queenstown's new ambulance station opening

The new Queenstown Ambulance Station is nearing completion and set to open in the coming weeks.

Minister for Health, Guy Barnett, said the final works on the new \$2.67 million Queenstown Ambulance Station, built by local firm Stubbs Construction, are due to be completed next month.

"Our Government is delivering on our long-term plan to provide Tasmanians with the healthcare infrastructure and services they deserve, with the Queenstown Ambulance Station expected to be servicing the community by the end of the year," Minister Barnett said.

"The station is one of six new rural and regional ambulance stations we are delivering around the state, funded through our Statewide Rural Hospital and Ambulance Station Fund."

The new two-bay ambulance station at Queenstown boasts improved infection control measures, provides training room facilities for paramedics and volunteers to further advance their skills, will help Ambulance Tasmania's call-out response, and improve the general amenity for all users.

The new station will replace the exist-

ing site, which is located at a residential house in Queenstown.

Once complete, the new Queenstown station will be the third of six rural and regional ambulance stations to be delivered. Construction at the new Beaconsfield station was recently completed,

and the new Bridgewater station was completed in May 2023.

Tenders have also been called for the new Oatlands Ambulance Station, with construction on that project expected to begin in 2024. A development application for the Bicheno ambulance station

has recently been approved by the local council, with the Department of Health now conducting further consultation with key stakeholders over the next four weeks. Planning and design for the new Longford ambulance station is currently underway.



Photo by Warren Donnelly

“THE

Breathing
New Life
into
Macquarie
Harbour

WOMBAT”



MACQUARIE HARBOUR OXYGENATION PROJECT - MHOP

The Federal Government’s conservation report on the Maugean Skate identified that one of the impacts on the harbour that may affect the skate is low dissolved oxygen (DO) levels.

What is happening there at the moment, and what is dissolved oxygen?

There are a range of factors influencing the DO levels in the Harbour such as:

- High volume fresh water inputs from Hydro power generation.
- Treated wastewater from human activity.
- Rising oceanic water temperature.
- Mining runoff through river systems.
- Organic inputs from salmon farming.

So, what can be done about this?

For our part, the salmon industry has announced a partnership with the Australian Government’s Fisheries Research & Development Corporation (FRDC), in a major initiative to stimulate DO levels in Macquarie Harbour.

This initiative is called the Macquarie Harbour Oxygenation Program, or MHOP for short.

The Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) is involved as well and will lead the scientific evaluation program, to assess the efficacy and environmental response to the oxygenation trials.

So how will it work?

The research team will place a barge called ‘The Wombat’ on Macquarie Harbour with pumps that draw water from depth.

Highly concentrated micro and nano bubbles of oxygen will be injected into that water, before

releasing it back into the deeper, low DO sections of the Harbour, elevating its DO levels through passive diffusion and natural mixing.

You would think that the bubbles would simply rise to the surface, but they are so small that they stay in the water column, and slowly spread around the harbour with the natural flow of water currents, benefiting the whole waterway.

This technology is used successfully in marine and estuarine environments all over the world, including in a major project running over the past 20 years to support Perth’s Swan River estuary.

Our objective

Our objective is to trial this technology in Macquarie Harbour over the next two summers to test whether it could form part of a long-term strategy to improve the Harbour environment for the Maugean Skate, while responding to the challenge of warming waters and other climatic factors.

At a minimum, we aim to offset oxygen drawdown of our own salmon aquaculture activities in the Harbour, and further reduce the impact of our operations.

So, stay tuned as the results of the trial will be made available to the public and stakeholders as they are recorded.

Our investment

The project is expected to cost in excess of \$6 million over the next two years and represents the industry’s major contribution to the

Maugean Skate Conservation Recovery Plan as we take the lead to further offset the impact of our operations on the marine environment.

We can strike a balance between conservation outcomes, and the economic and social wellbeing of regional Tasmania, and our industry is determined to lead this path.



Bipartisan vote for Macquarie Harbour

Bipartisan support for a motion in state Parliament late yesterday backing salmon aquaculture in Macquarie Harbour sends a strong message to the Federal Government.

Salmon Tasmania CEO Luke Martin said the vote was a vote of confidence in the salmon industry's operations in Macquarie Harbour.

"This was a rare and incredibly powerful show of bipartisanship and sends a very loud and clear message to the Federal Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek about Tasmania's salmon industry" Mr Martin said.

"Pointedly, the motion 'rejected calls by activist groups to remove salmon farming in Macquarie Harbour as an unreasonable and unnecessary response to the effort to save the Port Davey/Maugean Skate'.

"The support will also mean a hell of a lot to the around 400 Tasmanians whose jobs and communities rely on aquaculture in Macquarie Harbour.

"Every single one of these workers is

currently painfully awaiting Minister Plibersek's decision on whether she will initiate a review into the 2012 decision to allow aquaculture in Macquarie Harbour.

"I hope Minister Plibersek pays as much attention to the bipartisan support as she does to the loud green groups as she considers the future of Macquarie Harbour and the Port Davey/Maugean skate.

"As I have said before, there is no evidence that taking the easy route and opting for a political quick-fix where salmon is blamed will help to save the skate.

"What it will do is cost jobs, devastate families, and shut down entire towns, services, schools, hospitals and services. That's why the industry will not concede one single job, or one single fish.

"I thank the Tasmanian Parliamentary Secretary for Small Business and Industry Dean Young for moving the motion, and all Liberal and Labor MPs for their support."



Photo courtesy of Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies

Salmon Industry calls on Hydro to step up

Tasmanian's salmon industry has officially signed off on a landmark \$6 million investment into the Macquarie Harbour Oxygenation Program (MHOP) and called on Hydro Tasmania to step up and play its part in the recovery of the Maugean Skate.

Salmon Tasmania CEO Luke Martin said the Macquarie Harbour Oxygenation Program aimed to improve the oxygenation of the harbour as part of a two-year trial.

"The salmon aquaculture industry has signed off on a landmark \$6 million investment in the MHOP trial, in partnership with the Australian Government's Fisheries Research and Development Corporation," Mr Martin said.

"The project will get underway this summer, as part of a Tasmanian first trial of engineering solutions to enhance oxygen levels in Macquarie Harbour.

"The project is being independently designed and overseen by the Institute

for Marine and Antarctic Studies, and implement collaboratively with the salmon industry on the West Coast.

"We now have the Federal Government, State Government and the salmon industry investing around \$11 million, but there is still one big missing piece: Hydro Tasmania.

"We know that hydro dams have been identified as one of the threats to the skate in Macquarie Harbour, yet Hydro has remained silent.

"It is high time for Hydro Tasmania to step up to the plate, and play its part in funding the recovery of the skate, especially having just posted a \$168 million profit.

"I call on Hydro CEO Ian Brooksbank and Shareholder Ministers Treasurer Michael Ferguson and Minister Nick Duigan to ensure that Hydro plays its part in this otherwise collaborative work to save the skate."

Breeding program for skate

The announcement of a \$2.1 million funding boost for the conservation of Tasmania's Maugean Skate is a positive step towards ensuring the survival of this endangered species.

The Maugean Skate, a unique species of ray, is found exclusively in Macquarie Harbour on Tasmania's west coast, with fewer than 1,000 of them remaining.

The funds will be used to support various conservation efforts, including captive breeding at the Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) facility in Taroona.

This captive breeding program is vital for increasing the population of Maugean Skates and protecting the species from further decline.

The involvement of experienced scientists in this initiative is essential for its success.

The goal of the conservation action plan is to minimise the impact on local communities and industries, particularly the aquaculture sector. This plan will likely include measures to ensure

that salmon farming and the Maugean Skate can coexist in Macquarie Harbour, allowing for the continued operation of aquaculture while protecting the skate's habitat.

The federal government has also contributed \$2.1 million to the conservation efforts, indicating a collaborative approach to saving this species.

The Maugean Skate is a part of the federal government's threatened species recovery plan, further highlighting its importance in the context of Australian biodiversity conservation.

This additional funding will help support the necessary actions identified by the Recovery Team and the Conservation Action Plan, including monitoring and modeling activities to inform decisions about sustaining the aquaculture sector and the skate's survival in the wild.

Overall, this funding injection and conservation effort represent a significant step toward safeguarding the Maugean Skate and its unique habitat in Macquarie Harbour.

Breeding centre at Strahan?

The state government's decision to ban net fishing at a popular spot has faced criticism from West Coast Mayor Shane Pitt.

He expressed his disappointment in a letter to Premier Jeremy Rockliff, stating that he and the council were not pleased with the government's actions and the limited consultation involved in implementing new rules.

Under the new regulations, recreational anglers are allowed to cast nets in the waters around Macquarie Harbour for only two hours at a time during daylight hours.

Mayor Pitt believes that these decisions have a significant impact on the lives of many on the West Coast, as well as those who visit the area, and he called for a more appropriate consultation process.

He also questioned the effectiveness of the net fishing ban in protecting the Maugean skate, as the species is rarely, if ever, caught in these nets and does not typically inhabit shallow waters.

Additionally, Mayor Pitt mentioned that the council is collaborating with the University of Tasmania to develop a proposal for a marine science facility in Strahan. He suggested that the government could provide funding to the

university or the Natural Resource and Environment (NRE) department to build this facility.

Such a facility could be used to establish a skate breeding program that may better contribute to maintaining the species population in the harbor. It would also serve as a base for further research on this important matter.

In conclusion, Mayor Pitt urged the government to consider providing funding for a marine science facility in Strahan and enhancing research and breeding programs based on the West Coast as a priority to protect the Maugean skate species.

This proposal seeks a more targeted and effective approach to safeguarding the species while also involving the local community and institutions in the conservation effort.



Photo courtesy of Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies

SLIPWAY, STRAHAN

TOILETS & SHOWERS

OPENING HOURS
MONDAY TO SATURDAY
8:00AM - 4:00PM

Tokens for the shower can be purchased at a cost of \$5 each from the Strahan Visitor Centre Monday-Friday 10.30am - 5.30pm and at Macquarie Heads caretakers residence when the caretaker is available.

For enquires, contact

West Coast Council
Works & Operation
P: (03) 6471 4700
E: wcc@westcoast.tas.gov.au

WEST COAST TAS .GOV .AU

Celebrations at the Study Hub

CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY WEST COAST GRADUATES – THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY!

It's confirmed – we have 24 wonderful West Coast Children's University graduates, building on last year's number of graduates by 10. West Coast children in the program have achieved an incredible 3,849 hours of extra-curricular learning this year!

The graduates will be gowned up, cap in hand and ready to receive their Children's University awards on 21 November in Burnie.

Congratulations to all West Coast School students who participated in the program in 2023. A fantastic effort once again and a big thank you to the teachers and staff at West Coast Schools who take on the School Co-ordinator role as part of the Children's University Program.

The Children's University program enables children to undertake extra-curricular activities outside of the school classroom which ultimately lead to experiences that can extend their life-long learning beyond the classroom. For further information regarding the program please contact [belinda.martin@](mailto:belinda.martin@utas.edu.au)

utas.edu.au

UNIVERSITY ROCKING GEOLOGICAL RESEARCH AT WEST COAST MINERAL FAIR – 11th and 12th November Zeehan!

The Centre for Ore Deposit and Earth Sciences (CODES) will be running a stall at the Mineral Fair, with rocks on display from our extensive collection and various promotional materials about studying geology at the University available. Come by and chat with us about our current project in western Tasmania on critical metals, which extends all the way from mineral characterisation to metallurgical processing and mine waste management, and of course hear about the latest exciting research at CODES.

HEALTHFEST – A FABULOUS NORTH WEST EVENT FOR ALL THE COMMUNITY - SATURDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2023 – UTAS CRADLE COAST CAMPUS – 10am to 3pm

The University of Tasmania welcomes all community members to its HealthFest community day, a unique event that will contribute to creating a better understanding of health issues in our communities. This event is an innovative way to learn about improving health and wellbeing for yourself, as a career,

or out in the community.

Health is more than physical; learn more about sustainable living, food security, how diet and exercise impacts on positive health and wellbeing, connecting with nature through storytelling and how marketing plays a role in our eating habits. This event will be packed with exciting hands-on activities, presentations from our research teams, and community members, interactive demonstrations for all the family to get involved in and the opportunity to explore and learn more about our courses and campus. HealthFest has something for everyone so don't miss out! Register to attend www.utas.edu.au/about/events/healthfest-2023

UNIVERSITY ACCOUNTING ROADSHOW – Cradle Coast Campus – Monday 27th November 5pm to 7.30pm

Do you want to know more about the world of sustainable and carbon accounting initiatives? The University is running an in-person, catered networking event – Accounting for Skills and a Sustainable Future: Northwest Accounting Roadshow. The event includes engaging presentations by University specialists and expert insights from representatives including Jessica Richmond from Sunday, professional bodies CPA and CA ANZ as well as a panel discussion: Charting the Path to Sustainability: Carbon Accounting Initiatives and Skills Requirements in the North West. Panel members include Grange Resources, ER Advisory and climate accounting expert Dr Leanne Morrison from the University.

This event offers a unique opportunity to foster collaboration between

ing Pathways program and facilitated by the team from the Tech Solutions Hub in Burnie, a number of drones were available for use and on display at the workshops, with participants able to take a look at an underwater drone.

Whilst the weather wasn't kind for outdoor drone flying, smaller drones that were able to be used safely indoors provided participants with practical experience around use and calibration.

The workshops were a huge success thanks to the support of the community, including Sandy and the team at the Queenstown Crows Football Club for a great venue (and a warm fire!), the Railway IGA Supermarket for fantastic platters, MIMSO Kitchen for absolutely amazing catering for lunch and dinner and West Coast Council for use of a projector screen.

To find out more about what's on offer by the Tech Solutions Hub offer visit www.utas.edu.au/community-and-partners/tech-solutions-hub

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE UPCOMING TIME MANAGEMENT, PLANNING AND ORGANISATION SHORT COURSE

Following the success of previous Professional Skills Short Course workshops this year, the Regional Learning Pathways program is offering another face-to-face workshop on the West Coast.

All aspects of our lives can benefit from effective time management, planning and organisation skills to reduce stress and increase productivity and West Coasters are invited to participate in a Time Management, Planning & Organisation workshop and short course.

The online course takes approximately 10 hours to complete, with people able

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the University, professional bodies and industry in the Northwest region. Don't miss out on the chance to connect with like-minded professionals and gain a deeper understanding of the evolving field of accounting for climate sustainability. For further information contact steven.burch@utas.edu.au or belinda.martin@utas.edu.au.

WEST COAST DRONE WORKSHOPS – AMAZING!

Two workshops were conducted in Queenstown on 31 October, with 10 participants across the day learning (or updating) skills around best practice drone use, along with current safety rules and regulations.

Hosted as part of the Regional Learn-

ing Pathways program. The workshop is complimentary to the online course content and participants will need to complete the online course content in addition to the workshop to receive the certificate of completion.

This will be the final Professional Skills Short Course offered on the West Coast for 2023 – don't miss out! Come along to the workshop at the Queenstown Library on Tuesday 21 November.

Please register with West Coast Project Officer Christine Gray by 14 November (email christine.gray@utas.edu.au). Christine can assist with course enrolment and answer any queries you may have. Registration for the workshop is essential!

Back on track



The reopening of the iconic West Coast Wilderness Railway is less than two weeks away with services recommencing on Saturday, 21 November 2023.

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Michael Ferguson, said services would initially operate from Queenstown five days a week, with services from Strahan to follow once bridge work is complete in the coming weeks.

"These services are resuming operations that had to be put on hold while urgent maintenance and upgrades were undertaken," Minister Ferguson said.

"With work still taking place on some sections of track, two shorter heritage rail adventures will be offered initially.

"Passengers will have a choice between the 1.5-hour Lynchford Express experience from Queenstown and the 2.5-hour Teepookana and the King experience from Regatta Point Station, once services commence from Strahan."

"Excitingly, the railway is also preparing to officially welcome the steam locomotive Abt No 2 back into service in the near future. This will be the first time since 1963.

"Once back, we expect rail enthusiasts will clamour to be among the first to experience the refurbished engine but it will add something special for every passenger's experience," he said.

The locomotive is the last of the four

remaining original Mt Lyell and Mining Railway Co steam locomotives to return to service on the railway.

Mr Ferguson said the section of line between Lynchford and Lower Landing, which includes the famous rack railway, will remain closed over summer while works continue.

"This has been a challenging period but with the re-opening on the horizon and new service offerings we see a very bright summer for the railway, and west coast," Mr Ferguson said.

"The railway is a key visitor attraction and we are delivering on our commitment to restore services as soon as possible.

"It is a credit to the West Coast Wilderness Railway team that these new services can get underway much sooner than expected," he said.

To book your West Coast Wilderness Railway heritage rail experience go to www.wcwr.com.au



Steam locomotive Abt No 2 returns to the WCWR after sixty years

Paving the way for student success

Mountain Heights School in Queenstown is partnering with one of the West Coast's largest employers to deliver lessons beyond the classroom.

Twelve Year 10 students will each spend a week undertaking work experience at the West Coast Wilderness Railway (WCWR) to gain a deeper understanding of how the business operates and imagine what future work opportunities in the region might look like.

Minister for Education, Children and Youth, Roger Jaensch, congratulated all those involved on the unique opportunity.

"The placements are as diverse as the business itself with students being exposed to roles in maintenance, fitting, kitchen operations, hospitality, reservations, retail, sales and marketing, and

social media," Minister Jaensch said.

"This experience will be invaluable for any students seeking holiday work ahead of the WCWR's busy summer period.

"It is also hoped that this program could develop into a longer-term partnership to support students into meaningful career pathways after school.

"This is a unique opportunity for young people living in Queenstown to experience work in their hometown and build local connections, and to also address some of the workforce shortages in our regional areas, through strategic planning and partnerships."

The first student placement started on 25 September, with the majority of placements to take place during term four.



Minister for Education, Children and Youth Roger Jaensch congratulates Mountain Heights School students Jaidin, Regan and Charlton as well as workshop supervisor Ken Fairbairn and rail operations manager Mark Robinson on the internship work being done with the West Coast Wilderness Railway.

Did you know? The West Coast Wilderness Railway is a reconstruction of the 1897 Mount Lyell Mining and Railway Company railway in Western Tasmania between Queenstown and Regatta Point, Strahan. The railway is significant because of its Abt rack system to conquer the mountainous terrain through rainforest, with original locomotives still operating on the railway today. The steepest gradient on the rack section was 1 in 12 (8.33%). The line includes the steepest gradient climbed by a regular train in the Southern Hemisphere, between Dubbil Barril and Rinadeena.

Visiting the West Coast on a regular basis

As your local Member, please contact me

if I can be of assistance: 64308400

or murchison@parliament.tas.gov.au

32 Goldie Street, Wynyard

www.ruthforrest.com.au



Hon.

Ruth Forrest MLC

Independent Member for Murchison





Rosebery Mine

Community Newsletter

November 2023



Image: MMG Rosebery Emergency Response Team

MMG Rosebery's Emergency Response Team does us proud

Congratulations to our Emergency Response Team (ERT) who finished 3rd at the annual Tasmanian Minerals Emergency Response Competition.

They were put through real life scenarios including first aid, firefighting, rope rescue, team skills, theory along with search and rescue.

We are very proud of our ERT which is made up of Team Manager Wendy Hodgetts, Captain Shane Youd, Vice-Captain James Sucic and team members Matthew Spilsbury, Marcus Cook, Craig Youd, Leigh Johnstone and reserve Henry Nel.

Mental health awareness

Rosebery Mine is continuing to build awareness of mental health issues in the workplace, through an ongoing program run by Industry Minds.

Fourteen employees took part in a 2-day mental health first aid course to help them to identify when their colleagues or family members are struggling.

The course is about giving them the confidence to identify the signs and symptoms of mental health issues and the tools to have a conversation.



Image: Rosebery employees and Industry Minds

Winners of high school photography competition announced

Students from Rosebery District School put their camera skills to the test for a chance to win a digital camera.

MMG was proud to sponsor the competition which showcased photos of what connects participants with their community.

Congratulations to Addison Murach and Deonte Dreamyand for winning the competition for their photos of Lake Rosebery at night and the Main St of Zeehan respectively.



Image: Lake Rosebery at night

Don rocks

Here are some fun facts this month about the main mineral we mine and concentrate here at MMG Rosebery, sphalerite.

Sphalerite is the zinc sulphide mineral (ZnS) and it used to be very hard to spot in the bush because it copies the crystal structure of other similar minerals.

We dig it out from underground, before it is crushed into a fine dirt and sent through the mill to wash out what we don't want. It's then dried and loaded onto a train to Burnie.



Image: sphalerite

1800 767 664

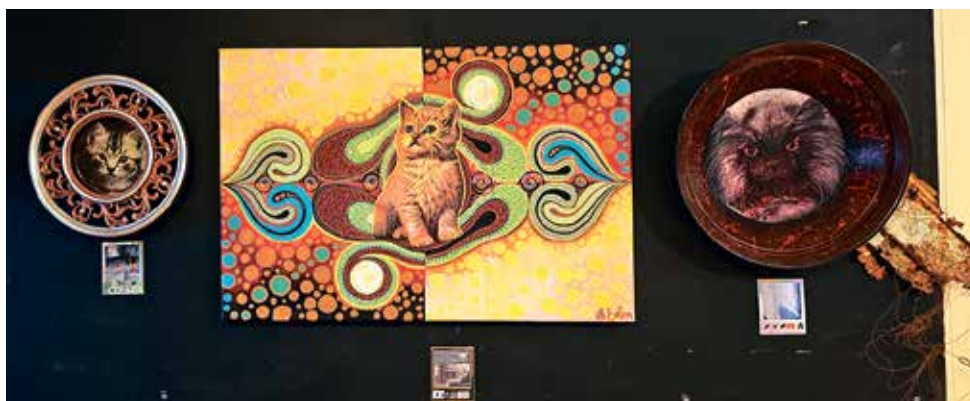
ROSCOMMUNITY@MMG.COM

MMG.COM/HOME/ROSEBERYFUTURE

MMG.COM/CAREERS

Unconformity Festival 2023 a hit

From walls covered in cats to giant batteries made from Conglomerate Creek water these was a bit of everything at the recent Unconformity Festival. Hundreds of people ate and drank at 'Crib Road' in Queenstown's main street and then went off searching the art trail and there really was heaps to see and do. The photos tell only part of the story.



Sarah Edens homage to the feral cats of Queenstown Photo by Alan Jennison



'Aeolian Dust' by Alicia King Photo by Alan Jennison



Jasmin, MacKenzie, Aaliyah and Anastasia collecting painted rocks Photo by Alan Jennison



'Crib Road' continued through the night Photo by Warran Donnelly



Annette Van Betlehem gazing upon her works at the Royal Hotel Linda Photo by Alan Jennison



'Crib Road' a great meeting and eating hangout. Photo by Warran Donnelly



One of many works on the Art Trail Photo by Warran Donnelly



Luke Jerram's 'Earthshine' Photo by Warran Donnelly



'Neorama' by Annette Van Betlehem - Annette's artwork projected onto the walls of the Royal Hotel at Linda Photo by Alan Jennison



'Blue Circuits' by David Haines and Joyce Hinterding Photo Alan Jennison

YOUR THOUGHTS, YOUR FUTURE

We are asking West Coast job seekers, along with business and industry to share your thoughts around employment, education and training.

We are looking to build and develop better support services for the West Coast and we need your voice to make that happen.

Survey closes 20th November 2023

*All survey responses are anonymous



BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

We encourage any small and large businesses to provide feedback



JOB SEEKERS

Tell us what would support you on your search for work and training opportunities



FIND US ON

@WNWORKING



QUESTIONS? Please email info@wnwworking.com.au or visit www.wnwworking.com.au/your-thoughts-your-future

Council to take ownership of the Strahan Wharf

Strahan and surrounding communities are set to benefit from the transfer of TasPorts' Strahan-based wharf assets to the West Coast Council.

TasPorts Chief Executive Officer Anthony Donald said by mutual agreement, the Council have been given ownership and management of the assets as a community hub, for the benefit of the entire West Coast community.

"This is a great outcome for both TasPorts and the West Coast Council," Mr Donald said.

"The Strahan Wharf is a regionally remote and isolated asset that predominantly services the local tourism industry and fishing fleet while TasPorts is a commercial entity set up to facilitate freight and logistics solutions to benefit the community and create value for customers," he said.

"The assets are not essential to TasPorts functions, but they are of considerable value to the community

and it's therefore great to be able to gift them to the Council for the future use of the West Coast community."

West Coast Mayor Shane Pitt said council is delighted to be taking control of this vital community asset.

"It is important for local communities to operate assets that have a significant impact on the local economy and the Strahan Wharf is a perfect example of this," Mayor Pitt said.

"Strahan Wharf is vital in supporting our tourism and aquaculture industries as well as general trade and traditional fisheries.

"This is key infrastructure which drives the local economy, so it is important we can now control our destiny support the jobs and industries are dependent on wharf for income.

Mayor Pitt said existing tenancy agreements will continue under the same terms and conditions as the current arrangements with TasPorts.

Mr Donald said the precinct includes

the passenger terminal, the wharf deck, marina berths, finger pier, little dock, fisherman's wharf, the slip yard and associated fixtures, plant and equipment.

"The proposed transfer also includes the adjoining seabed but will exclude navigational aids (including Entrance Island Lighthouse, Bonnet Island Lighthouse, Regatta Point and chan-

nel navigational aids and lead lights throughout Macquarie Harbour and the Gordon River)," he said.

"As part of this arrangement the TasPorts' West Coast wharf worker will transfer to the Council to continue overseeing the important work in this precinct."



Strahan waterfront from a time long ago

Book Review - 'The King Billy Story' by Patrick James Howard

Everyone has heard of Huon Pine, that famous timber that is found only in the west and south of Tasmania but what about its 'poor cousin' King William or King Billy Pine as it is called?

I have just finished reading a fascinating history about King Billy Pine and the harvesting that was undertaken on Tasmania's West Coast.

This is a brand-new book written by Patrick James Howard whose family have been harvesting the timber from this pine for three generations.

The book takes us from the 1890's

right through to the present and the names within read like a who's who of Tasmania's west.

I thoroughly enjoyed the read as I am very much into history, in particular concerning this part of the state I now call home.

The sheer amount of timber pulled out of these forests is staggering and King Billy Pine was a large part of that.

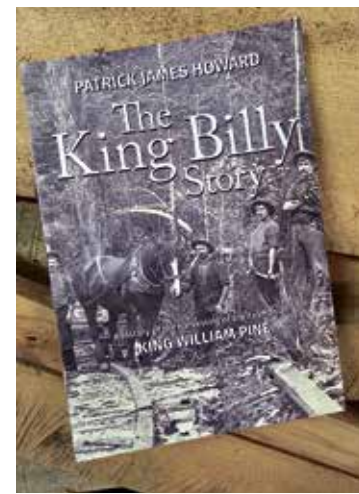
When you think that so many of the buildings and houses on the west coast were built, and many still stand using timber that was cut 130 years ago it is

a testament to not only the timber itself but that special breed who went out into this rugged country to collect it.

This book may not make it onto the New York Times best sellers list but for anyone with an interest in Tasmania's history it is an essential addition to the bookshelf.

The book will be available at the end of November (freight and customs willing) and will be in most bookstores around the state and in museums and galleries across the west coast.

Grab a copy for yourself!



We are an active supporter of Tasmania's apiary industry

Sustainable Timber Tasmania assists over **70 local beekeepers** to access flowering leatherwood and other flora across **300 apiary sites** in Tasmania's public production forests.

Working together with the apiary industry for mutually beneficial outcomes is an important part of our role as manager of production forests.



To learn more, read our annual report at sttas.com.au



Sustainable Timber Tasmania

A charming tale of two necklaces

I'm a jeweller: making beautiful things is my passion. I love the stories of jewellery, and of the people who made it, and wore it.

I came to Queenstown in 2021, when I became custodian of the former Uniting Church on Dixon St. I could sense the history everywhere. This curiosity led me to the Queenstown library.

There I saw something that seemed to have almost been waiting for me to discover it: a magnificent necklace that held a lifetime of collected charms. I was entranced.

The necklace was that of Marion Oak Stage, who arrived from Colorado in 1895. Marion was married to Robert Carl Sticht, the metallurgist who transformed the region when he became manager of the Mount Lyell mine, overseeing the transition to copper extraction.

The story of Marion and Robert is entwined with that of Queenstown's earliest days. They lived and raised a family in Pehghana, one of Queenstown's most magnificent and significant homes.

Robert gave Marion the necklace in 1905, as a tenth wedding anniversary gift. The necklace grew over years as charms were added to it.

Robert died in 1922. Marion was forced to vacate the fabulous Pehghana: it was to become the home of the

next mine manager. She carried the necklace with her; in a way it was all that remained of the life she and Robert shared. She endured a dramatic shift in life, ending up in a shack with a dirt floor in Balfour, with Ethel, the maid from Pehghana by her side. Marion became ill. A move to Melbourne could not save her: she died there in 1924.

The necklace vanished from history when Marion did; it may have been gifted to Ethel.

It resurfaced, bizarrely, in Atherton Antiques, Queensland. Frances Herriott and son Nicholas became its custodians, and she deduced its Queenstown origins. Frances and her husband Bruce visited Queenstown after keeping the necklace safe for 25 years.

Chance led them to the West Coast Wilderness Train, where the pater of the steward made the final connection needed: a pink enamel heart had borne the inscription MOS RCS.

Marion and Robert.

In 2018 the necklace came to Tasmania, purchased by the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.

Staring at it, an idea emerged. A new necklace, modelled upon this old one. Marion's necklace told of love and life on the West Coast a century ago; a new version would create a connection from then to now.

Working with The Unconformity, I

set about creating a new charm necklace, collecting stories about the town, slowly and reverently creating new charms.

I made twenty-seven in all; the twenty-eighth was constructed by resident Queenstown jeweller, Yvania Bartholomeusz.

The necklaces sat together, old and new, creating a bridge through time of

glittering stories and a strong community.

I felt humbled and fortunate to have done this work; it's a culmination of everything I believe jewellery can do and be. It's a great privilege to have created this homage to Queenstown, and to celebrate Marion once again.

Emma Bugg (pictured below at right)



Mount Lyell - Strahan Picnic sharing 125 Years of History

STRAHAN, TAS - The Mt. Lyell - Strahan Picnic Committee Inc. invites members of the public to two upcoming events focused on the 125-year history of the beloved Mount Lyell Strahan Picnic. This annual community gathering was first held in 1897 for employees of the Mount Lyell Mining and Railway Company and their families.

Historian Dr. Nic Haygarth will be the featured speaker at these events. Nic is an experienced author and researcher who has extensively studied the rural, industrial, and cultural heritage of Tasmania. His skills in archival research, storytelling, and capturing the 'big picture' themes make him perfectly suited to document the rich history of the Mount Lyell Strahan Picnic.

On Wednesday, November 29th at 6:00 PM, following the Committee's 5:30 PM Annual General Meeting at the West Coast Council Chambers in Queenstown, Nic will speak about his research into the Picnic's 125-year history.

Then, on Thursday, November 30th at 6:00 PM, he will speak again at the Strahan Fire Station Meeting Room.

At both events, Nic encourages locals to share their own memories, photographs, and stories of the Picnic over the decades. These accounts will assist greatly in documenting the Picnic's rich history. The Committee eagerly invites residents to bring along any photographs of the event which will be scanned on the spot and returned to

owners after only a few minutes.

Leigh Styles, Picnic Committee Secretary, said that "a crucial part of researching and recording the 125-year history of the Mount Lyell Strahan Picnic is capturing the memories, stories, photographs, and artefacts of previous Picnics through the recollections and perspectives of past attendees," and "I invite the West Coast community to start thinking about their Strahan Picnic memories, to gather up any memorabilia, and to come along to either the Queenstown or Strahan events."

While a separate event, research into the Mount Lyell Strahan Picnic has uncovered the history of the North Lyell Picnics, first held at Kelly Basin in 1904. West Coast residents with an interest in either Picnic are strongly encouraged to attend.

The Mt. Lyell - Strahan Picnic Committee Inc. is holding its AGM at 5:30 pm on

Wednesday 29 November, just before the Queenstown meeting with Nic Haygarth. The committee invites the public to both events to explore volunteer or committee member opportunities. New members are essential to keep this cherished event going.

The Mount Lyell Strahan Picnic 125-year History Project has been supported by the West Coast Council 'Innovation Fund', and the TasPort's 'Community Grants Program'. The

annual Mount Lyell Strahan Picnic is generously supported by the Tasmanian and West Coast business community.

The next Mount Lyell Strahan Picnic will take place on Friday, January 26, 2024, at West Strahan Beach. For details, visit www.facebook.com/StrahanPicnic or email committee@strahanpicnic.org.

Join us as we celebrate the enduring spirit of the Mount Lyell Strahan Picnic.



West Coast 'History in Miniature' now open in Zeehan

A lot has been happening behind the scenes but 'Western Echoes' (see what I did there?) is now open in Zeehan. This is a series of displays showcasing the history of our amazing west coast. Still very definitely a work in progress (and will be for a few years yet), Western Echoes will give a view into the

past like you have not seen before. Much of this will be interactive and you can already drop in and drive the train around the old Spray Mine and see the glow worms in the tunnel.

The circus scene for example will not only have all the sights and sounds of a real circus but scratch and sniff cards

that give off the smell of popcorn and hotdogs. Drop in and check us out directly across from the Heritage Centre museum in Zeehan's main street.

Entry is totally free but we are happy to receive donations if you enjoy and like what you see. This will enable us to make it even bigger and better!



THE VETERANS POST – Real Stories of Yesteryear

Every month we feature profiles of veterans from our community, honouring & respecting those men & women that have heeded the call of conflicts past, so that we as a nation can live as freely as we do today. If you have a story you'd like told, or an ancestor who contributed to war-time efforts, please email president-queenstown@outlook.com.

Second Lieutenant John James Dwyer VC, was born in Cygnet, on the 9th of March 1890, but spent most of his life on Bruny Island. John was a resident of Queenstown, at the time of enlistment, and thus forever linked to the west. In 1914, John James Dwyer, at the time 24 years of age, was employed as a first-rate axeman, back when trees were a thing in Queenstown!!



On the 8th of February 1915, John enlisted into the AIF, as a member of the 5th reinforcements to the 15th Battalion, leaving Tasmania

in May, bound for Gallipoli. While not an original ANZAC, John saw action in the trenches of Gallipoli up to the evacuation of that misadventure of WW1, on the 20th of December 1915.

As were every able-bodied man, that survived that hell hole, John was embroiled in something reportedly much worse, finding himself on the Western Front, where he became attached to the 4th Machine Gun Co, a posting that

eventually saw him awarded the greatest of all honours, the Victoria Cross.

John was the fifth Tasmanian to receive the Victoria Cross, ensuring the reputation that Tassie soldiers have always had, punching well above their weight.

His deeds are officially described as followed, when during the Battle of Polygon Wood, on the 26/7th of September 1917, John acted with the most

courageous Valor, with the citation to the VC reading-

Sgt Dwyer, in charge of a Vickers

machine gun, went forward with the first wave of the brigade. On reaching the final objective, this non-commissioned officer rushed his gun forward in advance of the captured position in order to obtain a commanding spot.

Whilst advancing, he noticed an enemy machine gun firing on the troops on our right flank and causing casualties. Un-hesitatingly, he rushed his gun forward to within 30 yards of the enemy gun and fired point-blank at it, putting it out of action and killing the gun crew. He then seized the gun and, totally ignoring the snipers from the rear of the enemy position, carried it back across the shell-swept ground to our front line, and established both it and his Vickers gun on the right flank of our brigade.

Sgt Dwyer commanded these guns with great coolness, and, when the enemy counter-attacked our positions, he rendered great assistance in repulsing them. On the following day, when the position was heavily shelled, this non-commissioned officer took up successive positions. On one occasion, his Vickers gun was blown up by shell fire, but he conducted his gun team back to Headquarters through the enemy barrage, secured one of the reserve guns, and rushed it back to our position in the

shortest possible time.

During the whole of the attack, his contempt of danger, cheerfulness, and courage, raised the spirit of all who were in his sector of the line.

John James Dwyer VC, was subsequently promoted to 2nd Lieutenant in May of 1918, and returned to Australia 5 months later.

Back in Tasmania, John started a sawmill in New Norfolk, and became active in local affairs and politics & in 1931 he entered state parliament and eventually held several important offices, including that of deputy premier. A lifetime of service, from a proud son of Tasmania.... Lest we Forget

Queenstown RSL, Open Friday & Saturday nights from 4pm till late, meals on Saturday, rotating menu. Available for functions, community AGMs ect, by arrangement. Ph- 03)6471 1209.

By Linton 'Harry' Harris



STUDY HUB HAPPENINGS

Spring has sprung!!! Daylights Savings are here and there's nothing better than the smell of freshly mown grass and sunshine.

On the 26th of October, the Honourable Roger Jaensch (at left in photo), Minister for Education, Children and Youth presented the Year 10 HASS students from Mountain Heights School with their well-earned trophy for the Anzac Day Schools' Awards. The initiative from Study Hub West Coast was a huge success and we say a big thankyou to Mr Bob Cartledge, our Vietnam Veteran who participated and Mr Linton 'Harry' Harris from Queenstown RSL who helped the students stay focused.

Study Hub West Coast recently organised Mental Health First Aid Training in Queenstown, facilitated by Mr John Clark from Industry Minds. All the participants were educated on early intervention for mental health for adults in the workplace. They were able to gain a lot of information, increase health literacy and be taught some practical skills to support a co-worker or another adult experiencing a mental health problem. Our Outreach program

allows us to provide student support and training right across the West Coast and means that we can reach more people. Thanks John, your course was great and it means more people have mental health first aid strategies, tips and techniques to support our community.

During November 2023 a number of courses will be held at the Study Hub in Zeehan. Finishing off the year we have Whitecard, Leadership Essentials

and Wilderness First Aid. There are several spots available in each course but get in quickly because they are almost full! If you would like to participate or know of someone, please feel free to share amongst your networks, or contact the Study Hub for further information or bookings: yolande@studyhubwestcoast.com.au or nicky@studyhubwestcoast.com.au

With Christmas around the corner, the Study Hub is gearing up to celebrate another great year! Our annual barbeque with Study Hub students and

family will be held on December 15. Always popular, we will celebrate the joys, hard work, achievements, graduations and the year that was! To Study Hub students, keep an eye out for your invitation coming your way soon.

As always, we thank our wider West Coast community for your continued support. We are so proud of our students' accomplishments this year and congratulate those of you who have made the commitment to further your education and commence study in 2024.



West Coast Ladies retreat a resounding success

Strahan, October 15, 2023 – The West Coast Ladies Retreat, an event celebrating the resilience of women living and working along the rugged and resource-rich West Coast, was a resounding success. Hosted by the Country Women's Association (CWA) in collaboration with dedicated local community volunteers, the retreat took place on Saturday, October 14, from 10 am to 4 pm at the Senior Citizen's Club in Strahan.

This empowering and capacity-building event was made possible through the generous sponsorship of the West Coast Council and MMG, reaffirming the community's commitment to the wellbeing and self-care of its women.

The retreat aimed to acknowledge the incredible strength and determination exhibited by the women in this region, especially those who contribute significantly to the mining industry along the West Coast. Their commitment to their families and careers often comes at a personal cost, making it crucial to focus on self-care and overall wellbeing.

The program's central theme was "Wellbeing & Self-Care." The retreat provided attendees with a valuable opportunity to rejuvenate, connect with other like-minded women, and learn about self-care techniques. Workshops,

discussions, and activities focused on physical and mental health, mindfulness, and strategies to manage stress were the highlights of the day.

Moreover, attendees were treated to exceptional catering provided by the talented and generous ladies of the CWA. Their culinary skills were on full display, delighting the attendees with a delectable spread.

The success of the West Coast Ladies Retreat would not have been

possible without the unwavering support of various community partners. Rural Health Tasmania, Rosebery Neighbourhood House, and the CWA Strahan played pivotal roles in organising and executing the event. Their dedication to the wellbeing of the community was evident throughout the retreat.

A special thank you goes out to the West Coast Council and MMG, whose significant sponsorship made this event

a reality. Their commitment to recognising and supporting the women of the West Coast is commendable and deeply appreciated by the entire community.

The West Coast Ladies Retreat was a day filled with camaraderie, personal growth, and a celebration of the remarkable women who call this unique region home. It reinforced the importance of self-care, fostering resilience, and building a strong support network, ensuring that the women of the West

Coast continue to thrive in both their personal and professional lives.

As we reflect on the success of this retreat, we look forward to future events that continue to uplift and empower the women of the West Coast, nurturing their mental and physical wellbeing while celebrating their remarkable contributions to the community and economy.



West Coast District Hospital upgrade



Photo by Warren Donnelly

The West Coast District Hospital Upgrade has reached a significant milestone with the construction of the \$2.75 million upgrade beginning in November.

Minister for Health, Guy Barnett, visited the hospital this week ahead of construction commencing.

"This upgrade will help provide Coasters with the healthcare infrastructure they need and deserve," Minister Barnett said.

"It was wonderful to catch up with health workers and community members on the West Coast."

This project is jointly funded by the Tasmanian and Australian Governments.

The West Coast District Hospital redevelopment includes increasing the capacity of emergency care to three beds with a negative pressure room and increased access to the Emergency First Response Unit.

It will also add an additional aged care bed with ensuite, providing a

greater level of aged care service to the region.

Minister Barnett said this important upgrade also provides a greater level of emergency service to the West Coast of Tasmania through upgrades to the emergency department and patient flow from the ambulance bay.

"To further support the emergency department, the project also delivers new telehealth services as a pilot program to the more isolated regions of Tasmania," Minister Barnett said.

The Rockliff Liberal Government is doing what matters for Tasmanians including by investing \$8 million into the health system every day.

"We are investing more on health per capita than any other state in Australia* because our Government is delivering on our long-term plan to improve health services across the State," Minister Barnett said.

Construction at the West Coast District Hospital is expected to be completed in 2024.

Scary monsters seen on the coast



I saw these these scary monsters running around Zeehan a short time back. Anyone would think it was Halloween or something!



Permaculture book launch



For my second book I've written a bit of a beefcake to help get folks growing their own edible garden – in any climate across Australia! Join me for a wondrous book launch – with a twist. Before launching the book, come do some gardening with me and the Queenstown community to breath life back into their community garden!

What people are saying about the book...

“Utterly practical, achievable and has the recipe for a healthy life in a mindful environment.” Dr Norman Swan

“An informative and joyous insight into how you can grow fruit and veg anywhere in Australia. For a gardening novice or an experienced grower. This is a must-have reference book to have by your side.” Costa Georgiadis, host of Gardening Australia

“Delightful, enthusiastic and informative, celebrating people, food and place across Australia.” Leonie Norrington, author of Tropical Food Gardens

“There's not a thing that I could recommend to add,” Jane Edmanson, Gardening Australia presenter and author.

Edible Garden Work Bee: 10am – 4pm

I couldn't launch an edible gardening book without helping to build or contribute to one! So join me and the Queenstown community to give some love to their community garden. BYO garden gloves, a shovel, hand tools and a garden fork, plus any seedlings you'd like to donate!

Venue: 2 Dixon St Community Garden, Queenstown

Book Launch: 4:30pm – 5:30pm

Come listen to Hannah in conversation with Nick Mahre – we'll be talking all things food growing. There'll be some good time to ask your garden questions with books for sale with a book signing afterwards. Plus local entertainment by The Cone Smashers – fun!

Venue: 2 Dixon St Community Garden, Queenstown

Keen to come for both events and spend the day together?

Rad. To book for both events (the whole day), you'll need to select the tickets one by one. When you head to “view your cart” you'll see two tickets listed – one will be \$10 (the book launch) and the working bee (free). <https://goodlifepermaculture.com.au/product/book-launch-queenstown-25th-nov/>

Stunning timber artwork



Anyone that knows me knows I can neither draw nor paint but another thing I lack is the skill to sculpt (I have tried).

This gentleman on the other hand is a master of the art.

I visited Strahan recently and dropped into the Huon Pine Shop & Gallery where I caught up with artist Darren Wakefield (pictured above).

I was blown away by the works he has created and very nearly brought out my wallet for some of his art. This man oozes timber carving and woodworking skills through his fingertips.

Using Huon Pine and other equally rare Tasmanian timbers, Darren, who describes himself as an old-fashioned joiner creates the most exquisite works, not only carvings but inlays of birds, platypuses and even the Maugean Skate. All done the old-fashioned way; by hand!

Darren's Exhibition is on at the Huon Pine Shop & Gallery on Strahan's waterfront until the 25th of November.

You can meet the artist himself on the 16th and 23rd of November 5pm - 6.30 pm.

Do yourself a favour - don't miss it!

Tales from the Tramway

Although The Granville Tramway has been Highlighted and promoted as a walking and cycling track, it also makes for a great little ride for small A.T.Vs. And E scooters.

We recently received a visit from two of our members who have travelled as far away as from seven mile beach . They have dedicated a lot of their spare time helping with the clean up of the tramway and like to get out there and explore these hidden treasures and learn more about the history of the west coast.

There are people out there that are dedicating their spare time and they're prepared to travel from so far away.

The group would like to see more small A.T.Vs and E scooters using the tramway formations because the extra traffic flow will help stop the regrowth and make for a better and safer experience.

This is a multi purpose track and will provide people with an alternative to mountain biking .



West Coast Learning Centre

Do you know about the West Coast Child and Family Learning Centre? It's a place for West Coast children from birth to age 5 and their families to grow, learn and play together. Families can access support services, connect with other parents in the community and help their children to develop into confident, curious learners in a safe purpose-built environment for very young children. The centre features a fully enclosed outdoor play area, an undercover play space with sandpit, water play area and lots of educational toys to inspire creative play, and hands-on activities coordinated by Educators (like Messy Play, Baby & Kids Yoga, Storytime).

There are lots of special events organised with the most recent being a Halloween Party which featured crafts, games and treat bags. The centre also celebrated Children's Week with the help of a grant from Playgroup Tasmania. The week featured theme days – Superhero Day, Dinosaur Day, Pirate Day and Disco Day – with the children and adults enjoying special activities and having lots of fun! During The Unconformity, children and families took an excursion to get a behind-the-scenes look at one of the exhibits that featured a giant moon. Coming up is the annual Christmas party which will be held on Friday 8 December and will include a visit from Santa. There's always something going on!

The West Coast Child and Family Learning Centre is located at 9-13 Driffield Street, Queenstown inside the same building that houses the library and Service Tas. The centre's Playspace is open from Monday to Friday 8.30am to 2.30pm with staff on-site to welcome newcomers. Access is FREE

with parents or carers required to accompany their children and stay with them while they explore and play.

You can call 6495 1534 or email Queenstown.cflc@decyp.tas.gov.au for more information. The centre also has a Facebook page that is kept updated with all of the latest happenings including upcoming events and service provider visits.

Scan the QR code for more information.



Good clean fun at the CFLC

West Coast deserves a fair go

Tasmanians on the West Coast are used to facing tough times. However, while there are exciting times ahead for the West Coast community, there remain certain challenges to overcome. The fight for better access to crucial healthcare continues, and now the uncertainty around jobs in the salmon industry loom.

Tasmanian Labor Leader Rebecca White (pictured below) has hailed now is the time for the West Coast to get a fair go.



"People on the West Coast are resilient and hardworking and they deserve a Government that will give them the fair go they deserve," Ms White said.

"As a mum with a young family living in rural Tasmania, I understand the importance of all Tasmanians having access to quality and timely health care close to where they live.

"I was joined by the West Coast Mayor Shane Pitt who knows the difficulties faced by the community here in Queenstown and on the wider West Coast in accessing health services.

Whether it's a long wait to see a GP or for an ambulance, it is vital that all Tasmanians have peace of mind that health services are available when and where they need them.

"That's why a Tasmanian Labor

government will expand and upgrade services at the West Coast District Hospital at Queenstown and employ more paramedics in the region."

Labor Member for Braddon and Shadow Health Minister Anita Dow added, "A Labor Government will urgently get to work on repairing our broken health system, helping to rebuild healthcare in rural and regional Tasmania."

"Under Labor's plan, \$14.9 million per year will be invested to employ 90 nurse practitioners, 36 nurses, five clinical nurse educators, and an additional rural generalist for each rural health facility, guaranteeing that Tasmanians can receive care closer to where they live.

"These nurses will be part a multi-disciplinary team, working collaboratively with General Practice across our regional and rural communities.

"We will also cover the HECS-HELP debt for 150 health professionals including nurse practitioners who spend three years working in our district hospitals."

Rebecca White went on to reaffirm State Labor's support for the crucial salmon industry on the West Coast.

"Protecting and supporting workers is in Labor's DNA," Ms White said.

"Tasmania's salmon industry can't be taken for granted."

Labor Member for Braddon Shane Broad went on to add, "Reducing or removing salmon farming in Macquarie Harbour will affect workers and their families, small businesses, industry suppliers, processors, transporters and local medical and educational services on the West Coast."



Zeehan Golf Course progress

It's been another busy month at the Zeehan Golf Club. The greens are again playable thanks to Jamie Mackenzie and his skill on the greens mower with the weather helping as well.

After two months we now have the Tyro up and running at the bar, a big thank you to Adriana. Plumbing problems are sorted out thanks to Eddie with water flowing freely and no leaks.

Thanks to Shane Youd for his help with some minor electrical issues.

The trivia night went well, with over \$1,000 raised.

Chicken runs begin on the first Friday in November, with the main game starting around five o'clock. Cards to be put in the box during the day.

Eighteen hole comps to start at 10 o'clock on Sundays.

Looking forward to seeing golf being played once again

Keep it on the fairway.

Shayne Douglas

Open day success a tribute to Tasmania's hydro history



After being suspended during the pandemic, Hydro Tasmania is thrilled to officially restart its power station open days for the public.

A capacity crowd of over 170 people attended yesterday's (Saturday) Tribute Power Station open day and saw firsthand how water from Tasmania's west is turned into clean electricity.

Rachel Johnson, Hydro Tasmania's Acting Executive General Manager of People, Culture and Engagement, said the open day would be the first of many.

"The success of this weekend's open day shows how passionate and proud Tasmanians are of their hydro history," she said.

"We had to suspend open days during the pandemic, but now they've officially restarted, we'll look to do more, in different locations around the state."

Christopher Walker, who attended the open day at Tribute power station, said he'd been waiting for the open days to start up again and described the experience as "gobsmacking".

"Unless you get down there and have a look, you don't realise the scope and the amount of work that goes in there. I think everyone has got a big kid inside them. We just love big machines and tunnels and stuff like that," Mr Walker said.

Power station tours are also important to the people who power Hydro Tasmania, who take great pride in their work.

"Tasmanians are our owners and our most important customers. It's fantastic to show them how we're helping to provide clean, reliable energy for the state," Ms Johnson said.

The Tribute Power Station was commissioned in 1994 and named in honour of the thousands of workers who sacrificed so much to build Tasmania's hydropower system.

Open day tickets are free, but spaces are limited. Subscribe to The Spill to get all the information about upcoming Hydro Tasmania open days: www.hydro.com.au/the-spill/subscribe.





Strahan Primary School Echo

End of Term 3 and start of Term 4 at SPS

SPS Athletics Carnival

On Thursday 26th of October SPS held their Athletics Carnival. All students displayed beautiful sportsmanship and helped others. Here are some of the students' favourite events from the day:

Abbie- Long Jump

Cadence - 75m sprint

Hudson - Tug of war

Jobe - 200m sprint

Connor - Running

Adele, Sophie, Kiya Gr 5/6



State Chess Finals

On the 29th–30th of October, 8 students from SPS ventured to Launceston for the State Chess Finals at Scotch Oakburn School. They stayed at the Pod Inn on Sunday night. Everyone who went there enjoyed the tournament. Congratulations to Jace for placing top 10 in the state. - Macy, Logan Gr 5



Clarence High School Band

On Tuesday 24 of October all of Strahan Primary went to see the Clarence High School Band play a lot of good songs. Here are some opinions from the 5/6 class about the band:

"It was good. I liked Sophies singing."- Macy

"I thought it was amazing."- Logan

"I really liked the trumpet. I'm sad there was no recorder," - Ivy

Jessie Gr 5



Freestyle Dance Ministry

The freestyle dance was very 'Noice'! All the grooves were very fun and enjoyable to dance to. 2-6 people learnt lots of moves and stages to more dance moves and chants, some moves like open the door and more. - Tyler Gr 5



The Big Freeze and Footy Colours Day

At the end of term three our SRC held Footy Colours Day along with The Big Freeze. As a community we raised \$2503 for MND which is an amazing effort. - Charlie Gr 5



Nature Pedagogy with Kara

On the 17th and 18th of Oct we walked down to West Strahan Beach to participate in nature pedagogy with Kara. On the 17th Jessie, Azarla and I made a team to stay off the ground; we succeeded. On the 18th Macy was added to the team and we had to stay dry. We made a stable fort to keep us dry. Azarla, Macy and I stayed dry; unfortunately Jessie got a little wet. - Ivy Gr 5



Hello From St Joseph's Queenstown

St Joseph's Catholic School



<<Meeting the Governor

We were fortunate to be invited along to Government House in Hobart to share our whole school artwork as part of the 'Youth Speak Out Program'. Our student representatives shared the inspiration behind the piece with Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, along with several other schools on the day.

^ 3/4 Unconformity Excursion

The Arts >>

Students enjoying a little theatre with Terrapin Puppets.



<< Leading

Year 5 students participating in the Just Leadership Day at Stella Maris.



Soccer Clinic>>

Students putting their skills to the test in the World Game!



Term 3 Cultural Day



Hello From St Joseph's Rosebery



'Let's Get This Show On The Road'

St Joseph's students loved the performances from Meerkat Productions and Terrapin Puppet Shows at the end of last term. Both shows had students on the edge of their seats joining in and feeling every word and song on stage.

Coding with BITLINK

Our students and staff have had many wonderful opportunities with their STEM learning this year. It was great to have hands on and learn where coding can take you.

Outdoor Classroom Day

Our students never need an excuse to get outside when the sun shines, so we took advantage of the global campaign to get outside to learn and play.

WEST COAST-DIRECTORY-WHERE TO EAT?

Welcome to the NEW Western Echo Directory!

This will eventually consist of five 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 here at bottom of the page

but you can extend your ad 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.

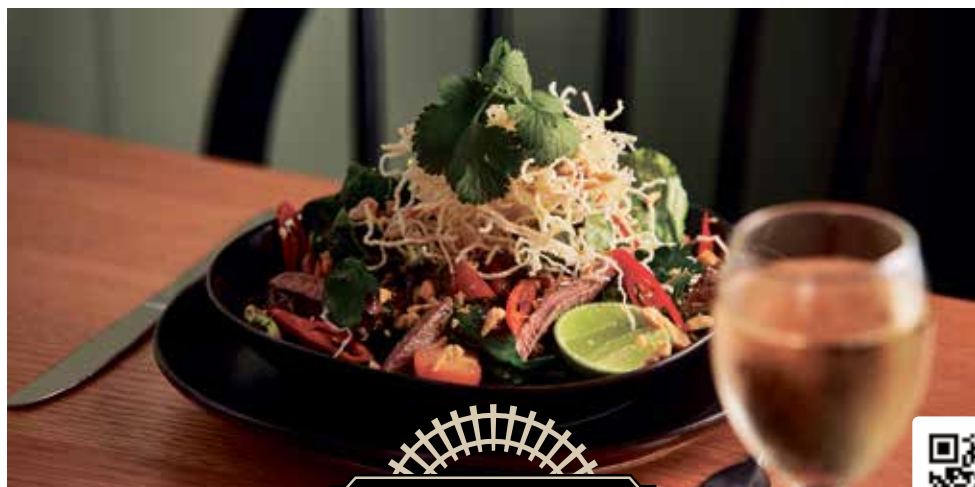


Opening Hours

Ph: 0432 082 631

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Thursday	8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Friday	8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Saturday	8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Sunday	8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

LINDA CAFE • 23422 Lyell Hwy, Gormanston TAS 7466



QUEENSTOWN

TRACKS CAFE



OPENING HOURS & MENU

OPEN 7 DAYS
Driffield Street
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LICENSED



TRACKS ON POINT CAFE

STRAHAN

Serving a selection of burgers, shakes and pancakes
68 Esplanade | Strahan | 6471 7499

LICENSED

The Confluence Hotel

Open 11 am 7 days week.
Meals served 11am till 8.30pm
Bar open 11am till late
Buffet breakfast \$15p/p
4.30am till 8.30am

Mt Lyell Motor Inn
6453 5000
1-5 Orr St,
Queenstown

WILDZ TAKE-AWAY CAFE PIZZA

Wildz Take Away & Catering

Don't feel like cooking?

We can sort you!

Pizza, pies, chips, burgers,
steak sandwiches
and desserts...

We also have frozen crib meals

Come say G'day

We can also cater
for your events

Open daily from 9am to 7 pm
125 Main Street, Zeehan
0459 230 458



GET TER BURGERS



Rotating menu

(and Mum's Apple Pie)

Available Saturday
from 5pm

QUEENSTOWN RSL

Cnr Cutten & McNamara Streets
Sub Branch 4 - 10pm Fri & Sat

Real food, real people, and always a smile at Molly's Cafe Strahan



Dine in or Takeaway,
just a snack or a
complete meal, and a
range of grocery items
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Ph: (03) 6471 7253

WEST COAST-DIRECTORY-WHERE TO SHOP & WHAT TO DO

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& SUPPORT OUR
COMMUNITY**



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Serving the West Coast communities of Tasmania. Strahan, Zeehan & Queenstown with quality pet feed and supplies

0407 586 687

The Esplanade, Strahan
Stormhavenspetsupply@gmail.com

**STANLEY
SEAFOOD**

Delivering FRESH FISH to the West Coast every 2nd Thursday

16th & 30th November
14th December & special delivery Friday 22nd December

Pickup locations & times

Waratah - 9 - 9.30am Opposite Roadhouse
Tullah 10 - 10.30am Opposite Tullah Cottage
Rosebery 11am - 12pm Opposite Top Pub
Zeehan 12.30 - 1.30pm
In front of Heemskirk Motor Lodge
Queenstown 2 - 3pm Train Station Carpark
Strahan 4 - 5pm Carpark - Strahan Woodworks

Orders welcome by text to:
0419 271 136
Follow us on facebook



BOOK A LOOK
We'll open just for you!

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

Or you can always catch us open 12-3pm Wednesday to Friday. 19 Orr Street, Queenstown TAS
Email missingtiger@outlook.com

WEST COAST TAS



THE WAY IT SHOULD BE PRESTON RIDGE

Amazing FREE RANGE Pork to the West Coast - right to your doorstep every fortnight!

Porker packs available. Orders for Full/Half Pork & Lamb are essential

15th & 29th November and 13th & 20th December.

Pickup locations & times

Queenstown 10-11am 7XS Radio Station
Strahan 12-1pm Carpark - opposite Post Office
Zeehan 1.30 - 2pm Carpark Heemskirk Hotel
Rosebery 2.30-3pm opposite Top Pub
Tullah 3.30-4pm opposite Post Office

Email: prestonridgepork@gmail.com
Mobile: 0492 171 373

Facebook: Preston Ridge Free Range Pork



**RAILWAY EXPRESS
Queenstown**



We work very hard to put our customers first, providing quality on focus. As a community-driven business, we pride ourselves on supporting the local community and it's events.

We look forward to assisting you on your next visit!

30 Orr Street, Queenstown,
6471 1025

Huon Pine Gallery and Shop - Strahan - Handcrafted Huon Pine Wares



**Huon Pine
Shop & Gallery**

12 Esplanade, Strahan
Tasmania 7468

M: (03) 6471 7244
E: sales@huonpineshop.com.au
W: huonpineshop.com.au

When you walk into the gallery and workshop at Huon Pine Gallery and Shop in Strahan, you will be greeted by the distinctive smell of Tasmania's famous Huon Pine and the aromatic oil finishes that are used on the timber work.

Then you will begin to look closer at the displays of beautiful woodwork, admiring the many pieces created from Tasmania's rainforest timbers.

As your eye wanders further, you may see some of the in-house craftspeople at work or talking, laughing, creating, dreaming or imagining.

There is always something happening and there are more ideas for pieces than we have time to create them!

Not all ideas become reality, but we have fun designing and dreaming.



WEST COAST-DIRECTORY-WHO CAN HELP?



19 Goldie Street, Wynyard
www.gloverlegal.com.au

LAWYERS & CONVEYANCERS

- Conveyancing Specialists assisting with the sale and purchase of homes, vacant land, farms, businesses and commercial properties
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Call 0428761831



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admin@gdvirtualbusinessservices.com.au

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE COAST?

Musician wanted to accompany Singer/Songwriter for local gigs
Call Gina Diprose on 0428 761 831

Now open in Zeehan!

The West Coast history in miniature display 'Western Echoes' is still a work in progress but now open. Come along and see the dioramas, play with the trains and discover the West Coast's history like you have never seen it before
Opposite the Heritage Centre museum in Zeehan
Entry is FREE

Prepare to Work **Safely** in the Construction Industry - Whitecard

TASMSS0229-V01

TasTAFE RTO ID 60142

DATE: 22 November 2023
TIME: 8am-4pm
VENUE: Study Hub West Coast, Zeehan

FEE FREE
12 SPOTS AVAILABLE

Contact Yolande for registration link
yolande@studyhubwestcoast.com.au

STUDY HUB WEST COAST

Becoming Eco POP-UP SHOP

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SAT & SUN
HERITAGE AND MINERAL FAIR WEEKEND



10am - 4pm



OLD ZEEHAN ROCK SHOP
MAIN STREET

11TH + 12TH NOVEMBER

www.becomingeco.au

ROSEBERY ATHLETICS CARNIVAL 2023



BOOK THE DATE

SATURDAY 16TH DECEMBER AT ROSEBERY PARK OVAL



WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE COAST?

The Central Hotel, Zeehan is open Tuesdays from 4.30pm and is opening for the weekend of the Gem Fair
 Friday 10th November - 4.30 till late
 Saturday 11th November 2pm till late
 Sunday 12th November from 2pm
 Drop in for a drink or two!

Rosebery Tasmania 7470

Community Op Shop opening hours

as from Wednesday the 8th November 2023

Wednesdays: 11am to 3pm

Saturdays: 11am to 3pm

Sundays: 11am to 3pm

11 Karlson st, Rosebery



Phone: 0421 735 693

- Drop in your second hand items (clean & in good condition)
- Staff will assess the suitability of your items
- We can sell items on your behalf at your set price



Time Management, Planning & Organisation

SHORT COURSE & WORKSHOP

All aspects of our lives can benefit from effective time management, planning and organisation skills to reduce stress and increase productivity.

THE COURSE

- takes approx. 10 hours to complete online
- work at your own pace, up to six months to complete
- FREE for West Coasters not working full time (can be working as a casual or part-time) or \$149 for others

THE WORKSHOP

- Tuesday 21 November, 9.30am-2pm, Queenstown Library
- face-to-face to build on the online course content
- FREE, with morning tea & lunch provided

OUTCOMES

- develop strategies and use tools to manage your time for home, work, study & volunteering
- apply techniques to reduce stress
- manage procrastination
- gain skills and knowledge to manage deadlines, meet targets, increase productivity and improve performance

HOW TO ENROL

- registration by 14 November is essential!
- email christine.gray@utas.edu.au or call 0437 841 327



Regional Learning Pathways Program - West Coast
CommunityTasterCoursesTasmania



Rosebery Athletics Carnival 2023 - Rosebery Park Oval
Saturday 16th December 2023

CAR SHOW and shine

\$1200.00 IN CASH PRIZES

HOW TO REGISTER YOUR CAR

SMS 0407 306 820 and enter the following...
 Your Name, make of car, year & model, colour, rego number

ENTRIES CLOSE BY DECEMBER 12TH BY 6.00PM
 *On Saturday 16th December arrive at Rosebery Park Oval by 9.30am
 Your entry cost to the 'car show and shine' competition is a gate ticket Family \$15 - Adult \$8 - Pensioner/concession \$5 - Students \$2 Children \$2

*You receive a number for your car dash; a car ID for the judges
 Keep your ticket and present your ticket to collect any prizes awarded to you... prizes announced at 3pm on the day.*

THE TWO PRIZE CATEGORIES

Pre 1980 and Post 1980
 Each category has three prizes....
 \$300.00 Judges choice
 \$200.00 Best presented car
 \$100.00 Peoples choice

*There are three independent Judges with a range of motor industry experience who will be looking for the winning cars.
 Come and join a fun family event, and contribute to the Athletics Carnival
 enquiries to 0439 785 006

"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, REV UP YOUR ENGINES"

Celebrating Our Salmon Industry

FAMILY DAY

Tuesday 14 November 2023
Strahan Golf Club - 3pm - 7pm

RIDES FACEPAINTING BBQ ICECREAM DRINKS ENTERTAINMENT - ALL FREE

Salmon Tasmania invites our workers, suppliers and the broader Strahan community to a FREE community celebration day.

Scan QR code for free tickets

The Unconformity 2023 festival



Image: Earthshine photographed by Rémi Chauvin

Celebrating the very best of the West, The Unconformity 2023 festival welcomed audiences back to the West Coast for the first festival in five years.

From 19–22 October, more than 100 artists showcased their work to local audiences and visitors travelling from around the state, mainland Australia, and overseas. The impact of the festival was felt throughout the region, with the West Coast receiving an economic boost through accommodation bookings, flow-on travel throughout the region, and hospitality businesses seeing significant activity across the festival dates.

Highlights included Crib Road, the festival centre featuring live music, food and activities for kids, and The Unconformity Art Trail which saw hundreds of people witness exhibitions and artwork by West Coast artists. Heritage projects *Gilded Memories* and *Shift Change* shared West Coast history and stories with audiences from near and far.

An event of this scale in a remote environment like the West Coast doesn't happen without the support of many hands. Thank you to the local community, council, businesses, sponsors, funding partners, artists, volunteers and crew who made the festival possible. And thank you to our audiences – both new and returning – for sharing this special place and festival with us.

Tell us your thoughts

If you attended The Unconformity 2023 festival, we'd like to hear from you about your experience.

We invite you to share your thoughts through our post-event survey. Your feedback will help improve future events, and all respondents will go in the draw to win a merchandise prize pack and \$150 Mastercard voucher.

Complete the survey here: www.theunconformity.com.au/survey ■



Image: Oslo Davis photographed by James HH Morgan

Artists in Residence: Bridget Baskerville & Oslo Davis

In the next month, The Unconformity will host two residency artists in Queenstown. The Unconformity Artist in Residence Program provides artists with time and support to research, build relationships and focus on their practice in the provocative West Coast environment.

Bridget Baskerville is an emerging visual artist examining regional socio-environmental issues, particularly human impact and relationships between place and community. Bridget's residency will take place from 13–30 November.

Oslo Davis is an illustrator and artist who creates lively, witty work for both his own amusement and for publications and projects worldwide. Oslo's residency will take place from 4–17 December.

The Unconformity invites you to meet each of the artists at an informal meet and greet event at The Unconformity Hall. Refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP by emailing carl@theunconformity.com.au

Bridget Baskerville Meet and Greet

6pm, Thursday 16 November 2023
The Unconformity Hall
35 Cutten Street, Queenstown

Oslo Davis Meet and Greet

6pm, Thursday 7 December 2023
The Unconformity Hall
35 Cutten Street, Queenstown

The Unconformity Artist in Residence Program is supported through Arts Tasmania by the Minister for the Arts.



Image: The Unconformity Cup photographed by Rémi Chauvin

Rewatch The Unconformity Cup online

On Sunday 22 October, The Rest took on The West in the ultimate grudge match on Queenstown's iconic gravel football oval. The Unconformity Cup has been the closing ceremony of the festival since 2016, and this year reigning champions The West were beaten by visiting team The Rest for the first time.

The match was live-streamed online through UNTV Station with expert commentary from Peter Gee and Ange Burdon thanks to the support of AFL Tasmania.

You can rewatch the match online via our website: theunconformity.com.au/thecup ■

WE PLAY UNCONFORMITY CUP

The Unconformity Cup marks the end of the Unconformity Festival and pits the west against the rest. The west lost this match 62 - 103
Photos by Alan Jennison





Can you help?

Animal Welfare Centre inc (AWCI) is a not for profit organisation that is renovating a house in Zeehan for use as a new domestic/farm animal and wildlife shelter.

This will also incorporate an op shop, an adoption area and kennels, an aviary and pens for rehabilitation of native wildlife.

Trouble is the house is a bit of a mess and it is hard for one person to do it herself.

Can you volunteer some time, some materials, some skills, some muscle, use of a trailer etc?

A working bee will be held on the weekend of 18th & 19th November, it would be greatly appreciated if you could be there to lend a hand. (we will have a sausage sizzle as well so you don't go hungry).

We also need a few tradespeople (builders, plumbers, electricians, painters, etc to help if possible over the next few weeks/months. (you will get a FREE advertising package in the Western Echo for your trouble as well).

Contact Alan on 0488 2782 99 if you can help.

In the last twelve months, AWCI has helped:
 43 finches, 4 owls, 3 currawongs, 2 ravens, 3 baby rosellas, 2 cockatiels, 86 wallabies, 17 possums, 9 wombats, 5 Tasmanian devils, 6 quolls, 9 rabbits, 3 guinea pigs, 2 sheep, 42 cows, rehomed 119 cats, desexed 174 cats and organised house pet sitters and dog training sessions.

Do it for the animals

