



WESTERN ECHO

Wynyard, Sister's Beach, Stanley, Smithton, Marrawah, Waratah, Tullah, Rosebery, Zeehan, Strahan and Queenstown - The West's own newspaper

EDITION 40 MARCH 13TH, 2025

WE MEANS COMMUNITY

FREE

Western Echo fills Chronicle gap

The type was set, rollers were loaded with black ink, paper was fed in and the heavy wheel turned.

Whish, swish, swish, the first pages of the Circular Head Chronicle came rolling off the press on July 18th, 1906, in the town of Stanley.

It might be 118 years ago, but that early start has left a legacy that will not be forgotten by the people of the Northwest.

The founder of the Chronicle, William Wilson Young was a Scot who came out from Great Britain at the age of

five. By the age of 25 he had a string of newspapers in Victoria to his name.

His marriage to Catherine Stanley in 1874 may have had something to do with it but 'Stanley' was obviously etched in his mind and in the early 1900's he arrived in that town with his sons to set up his printing press in Church Street.

Mr. Young said in a 1939 interview, "After living in Leangatha, Victoria for 16 years I was asked to start a newspaper in Stanley, Tasmania.

After much consideration we sailed to Tasmania on the small steamer 'Flora' and arrived in the shadow of 'The Nut' in the early morning hours.

I rented an office, purchased a small printing plant and proceeded to publish 'The Circular Head Chronicle'.

Many of the residents were not at all enthusiastic about our advent and one old resident said the town did not need a newspaper and would be better off without it completely."

Mr. Young sold 'The Circular Head Chronicle' in 1912, having had enough of Stanley, returned to Victoria and took over 'The Frankston Standard'.

On Mr. Young's departure from Stanley,

'The Chronicle' was purchased by Mr. Penrose and Mr. Williams with a Mr. Robert Campbell joined the firm in 1918. An extremely capable craftsman, Campbell was to continue his work with the paper for the next thirty years.

In 1923, Penrose and Campbell had installed the first type-setting machine to be used in Circular Head, obtained a flatbed press and increased production to produce a six-page newspaper.

There had been steady growth in the paper's circulation and popularity; 'The Chronicle was looking very healthy indeed.

Not so the population, owing to a pneumatic influenza outbreak, looked like an edition of 'The Chronicle' was going to be missed.

Only one of the staff of five had been left to 'get the paper out' but a very junior compositor, Mr. Bert Steel of Stanley produced, unaided, a small sheet which later became known as 'the influenza issue'.

In 1944 the newspaper was again sold and 1952 saw a move to Smithton as this was fast becoming the main centre for the region. It quickly became apparent that this was a clever move, as circulation and demand for advertising space had continued to expand at a healthy rate. In 1924 the printing process was upgraded to the latest type-setting plant and a Chandler & Price printer (seen in the front-page photo and on display in the Smithton Museum).

From 1954 to 1975, The Circular Head Chronicle' was published from premises in the old Masonic Hall in Smithton.

The paper had several owners over the

STANLEY (Tas.) is establishing a paper, the 'Circular Head Chronicle.' We trust it will be no small beer, and that it will get few Government advertisements, i.e.; that it will wield the pen of the people.



Continued on page 5

ADVERTISEMENT



Anne Urquhart

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Authorised by Jarryd Moore, Australian Labor Party, Level 2/63 Salamanca Pl, Hobart TAS 7000





WESTERN ECHO

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

WE MEANS COMMUNITY

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

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

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

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

Letters to the editor..

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

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

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

A Heartfelt Thank you!

I am writing this letter to the editor, as I would like to send a big shout out to all the fire fighters and pilots who have been working their butts off for weeks to keep our communities safe from the fires that have been raging across the West Coast in recent times. I would also like to thank West Coast Council, the many people who made up support staff, for the way in which they managed to set up evacuation centres in Zeehan and Queenstown in such a timely and efficient manner. I actually visited the evacuees from Corinna while they were staying at the Zeehan Study Hub, as I am a Social Work student and I thought I would offer a friendly ear to those affected by the evacuation. The irony is, however, that just days later I found myself evacuating with my family. I must admit that I was afraid of the potential outcome for our community. My experience with the evacuation centre and the outpouring of generosity by the community at Queenstown was amazing and totally surreal. Silver Hills Motel donated a mountain of meals to be enjoyed by those taking shelter, the drop-offs of blankets and bedding, pet care items, that quickly arrived from people

with-in the community, and people simply opening their homes to others. What was a very stressful and scary time, was, thanks to the community made so much more bearable and comfortable. So, thank you! To every single person and business who has helped with supporting the fire fighting efforts, whether you made food or changed beds for fire fighters or dropped blankets or food to evacuees, thank you!! It is people like you who make our community such a wonderful place to call home!

Alisha Goodfellow

To Alan and the Western Echo

I would like to offer a huge congratulations on your expansion to Wynyard and Circular Head! In a time when so many local papers are closing, it's fantastic to see the Western Echo growing and continuing to serve our communities.

Local newspapers are more than just news—they help keep us connected, celebrate local achievements, and make sure important stories get told. With the loss of the Circular Head Chronicle and Wynyard Pulse, your work is more important than ever.

Expanding your coverage west from

Wynyard to Marrawah and throughout the West Coast means more people will have access to local news.

It is also exciting to learn about the 'Turn Right' campaign and the availability of the Echo on the TT Line's Spirits. This is a great way to showcase this incredible region to visitors.

Thank you for your dedication to keeping locals informed and engaged. Wishing you every success in this next chapter!

Hon. Ruth Forrest MLC
Independent Member for Murchison

To Alan and the Western Echo

It is a real pleasure for me to write to you via these pages as exciting things are happening at the Western Echo.

For starters, more local people will be reading this, with the Echo now being distributed in the North-West as well as the West Coast.

A community newspaper expanding its reach is always worth celebrating, especially in this part of Tasmania and I congratulate editor Alan Jennison, and everyone involved for their commitment to local news.

Now the Echo is stepping up to connect locals and businesses all the way from the West Coast to Wynyard, which will help fill the gap left by the closure of the Circular Head Chronicle after 118 years.

The West Coast and the North-West is one of the best places in the world to live, and also the engine room of Tasmania's economy.

The Echo's expansion is a welcome show of confidence in our region and its potential.

As your local Labor Member for Braddon, and also the Shadow Minister for Industry & Regional Development, I'm committed to standing up for this region through thick and thin.

Tasmanian Labor stands for safe, secure, well-paid jobs. Whether its supporting salmon workers on the West Coast or backing in our mining and forestry sectors, Labor will always be on the side of workers.

It's been an honour to work with Tasmanian Labor Leader Dean Winter and Senator Anne Urquhart over the past few months to help secure the future of salmon farming in Macquarie Harbour thanks to a commitment from Prime Minister Anthony Albanese.

In addition to our traditional agricultural and energy sectors, there is a lot going on here, from fabulous food and visitor experiences to exciting new industries.

The tourism potential for this region is huge, and we want to see it grow in a sensible and sustainable way which maintains the West Coast's charm.

One of the keys to this is getting more people here by car and caravan to support local businesses. The new Spirits of Tasmania should be doing that by now, but unfortunately they are stuck on the other side of the world instead of crossing the Bass Strait.

Tasmanian Labor has been busy this past year holding the government to account for their failure to build Berth 3 at Devonport, and we will continue to place pressure on the government until they've built the wharf because its vital for regional tourism in areas like the west.

I look forward to continuing to represent this region, and continuing to read local news stories in the Echo for many years to come.

Anita Dow MP
Labor Member for Braddon

To the Editor

I am a tourist from Melbourne and happened to pick up an edition of Western Echo (February 13, 2025) from the Queenstown IGA. I read it from cover to cover as I feel reading local newspapers gives one an insight into life in the West. It was a delightful read from the quality of the paper, the size of the font, beautiful photos. You had information on municipal, social and economic articles as well as historical events. I especially enjoyed coverage of the Mount Lyell Strahan Picnic. It indicated to me that community is alive and well and fun can be had for all ages. Keep up the good work Western Echo and I look forward to visiting your beautiful State again.

Helen Freeman

Photos in the Western Echo, and many more that didn't make it into print are available on our new website www.westernecho.zenfoliosite.com



WE Photo Sales

Thank you to emergency services for keeping the West Coast community safe during recent bushfires.

Image credit: Alan Jennison



Increased capacity for Murchison Dam

A Western Echo **EXCLUSIVE**

Hydro Tasmania has increased the flood capacity of Murchison Dam following the recent completion of its \$31million upgrade project.

The two-stage project focused on future proofing Hydro Tasmania's critical infrastructure to ensure it is prepared to handle extreme rainfall events on Tasmania's west coast.

Stage one of the works involved raising the crest wall by three metres and was completed in 2020, and stage two of the works, completed in February 2025, focused on a spillway upgrade that saw the right chute wall raised by up to five metres to improve containment of spillway flows.

Project Manager Yossi Levkovitch said the upgrade significantly increases the dam's flood capacity and represents Hydro Tasmania's long-term commitment to keeping our Tasmanian communities safe.

"We understand extreme weather events are occurring more frequently, and there exists the need to optimise and modernise our hydropower network to provide the best service today and into the future," Mr Levkovitch said.

The successful completion of the project was not without its challenges.

Teams battled the wet and windy weather known along the west coast of Tasmania, as well as natural hazards, live spillway, and a tricky location that required logistical changes.

"The dam is wedged into Murchison Gorge in a remote location. It is subject to the wild weather of Tasmania's north-west coast and is prone to spill on an annual basis," Mr Levkovitch said.

"There is high risk of rockfall and treefall onsite, and above all, there is also the challenge of placing 1,600 cubic metres of concrete on an area that is difficult to access, at great heights and on a steep slope. These challenges made this project so unique and interesting. "Thankfully we had a fantastic team of experienced individuals working on the project with up to 100 internal and ex-

ternal people across the full project life-cycle, who worked collaboratively and were able to implement smart solutions for the challenges we faced.

"It has been a huge undertaking, but the end result is a piece of infrastructure

that has significantly improved flood capacity, reliability and safety."

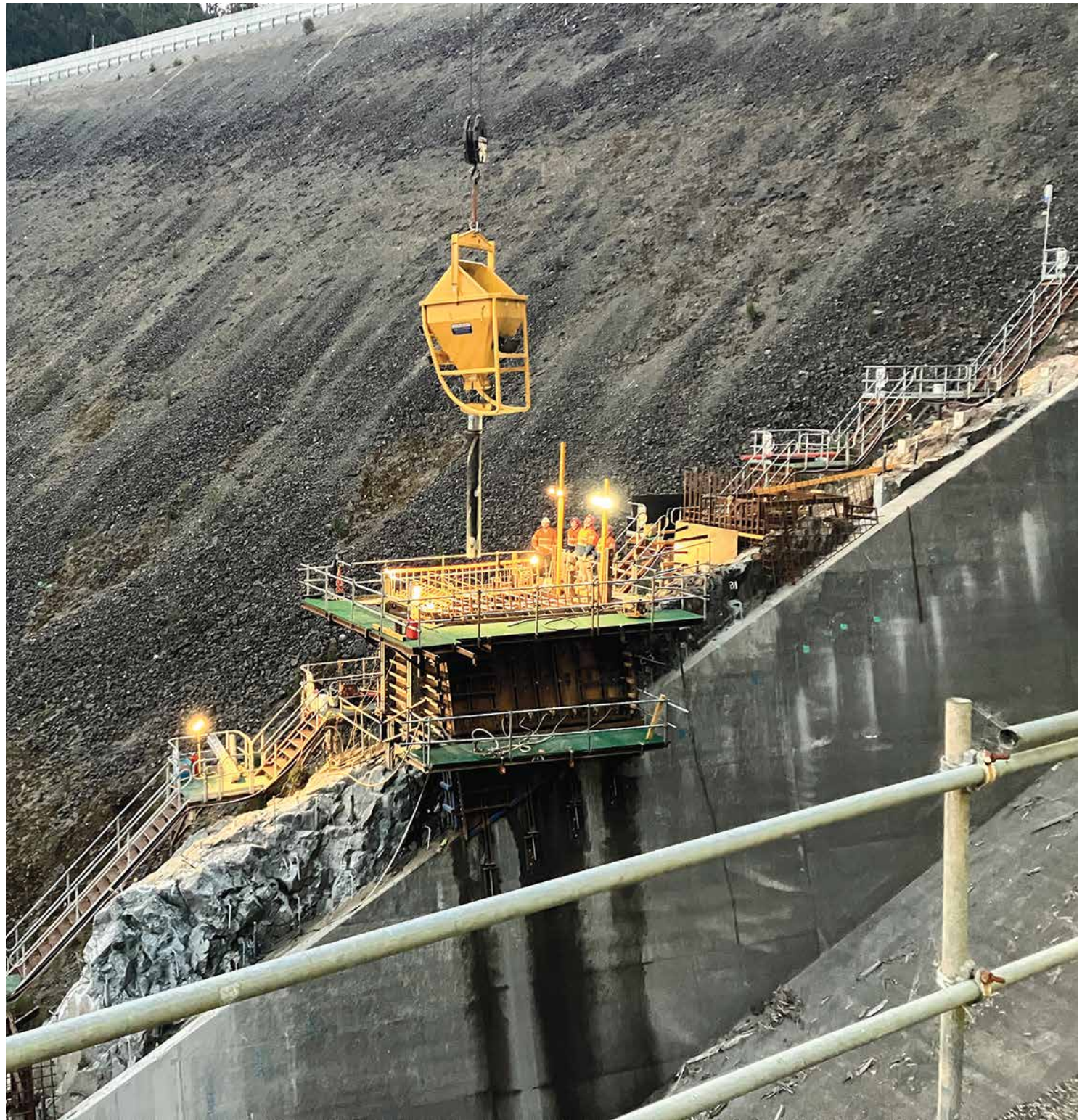
Quick facts:

Murchison Dam was completed in 1982.

It is located 5km from the township of

Tullah on the west coast of Tasmania.

The dam rises 93 metres above the valley floor, is 200 metres long and is wedged into the chasm of Murchison Gorge.



Visiting the West Coast on Thursday, 17th April

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

Huon Pines still standing



A 3,000-year-old Huon pine and several high-conservation stands of ancient trees have been confirmed to be intact and undamaged by the bushfires impacting Tasmania's rugged West Coast.

"We were pretty excited after flying through the burnt landscape to come to this island of intact forest and see these magnificent old trees," NRE Tas senior ecologist Dr Steve Leonard said.

"These Huon pine forests have immense conservation significance, so

their survival through this bushfire is a great outcome."

Targeted water bombing was deployed by PWS fires crews to protect the trees.

"Planned burns in the West Coast area over recent years have proven effective at containing the edges and slowing the spread of a number of the current fires," PWS State Fire Manager Katy Edward said. "Our winch crews have also been invaluable in getting into more remote fires quickly to contain their spread."

Launceston to Melbourne in just three hours!

How many people know the he first flight across Bass Strait by Lieutenant Arthur Long left from Stanley in December 1919. Find out more in the April Western Echo

Wendover, March 8, 1931 WEEKLY COURIER Page 7

TO MELBOURNE IN 3 HOURS!

A New Epoch in Tasmanian History!

Melbourne is now only three hours from Launceston! To-day, deciding sea travel is no longer necessary. The luxurious, safe three-engined airliners of Australian National Airways Ltd. now operate a regular service from Launceston to Melbourne and Melbourne to Launceston.

These giant air liners have proved their perfect safety and wonderful comfort throughout years of regular running between Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. The Tasmanian service has been inaugurated and now definitely established in response to an overwhelming demand.

SAFETY - COMFORT - SPEED - ECONOMY

LUXURY AND CONVENIENCE
All the facilities of Australia's greatest air service, controlled by Kingfisher Smith and Ulan, are now at the disposal of the people of Tasmania. Air travel in its most luxurious sense, in saving of time, success of comfort, and cost economy, the new service builds a bridge between Tasmania and Melbourne—a bridge so efficient and reliable that it becomes a real public utility.

TIME TABLE

Monday—Leave Launceston	2.45 p.m.
Arrive Melbourne	5.45 p.m.
Tuesday—Leave Melbourne	1.30 p.m.
Arrive Launceston	4.30 p.m.
Wednesday—Leave Launceston	2.45 p.m.
Arrive Melbourne	5.45 p.m.
Thursday—Leave Melbourne	1.30 p.m.
Arrive Launceston	4.30 p.m.
Friday—Leave Launceston	2.45 p.m.
Arrive Melbourne	5.45 p.m.
Saturday—Leave Melbourne	8.0 a.m.
Arrive Launceston	12 noon

(This Service will shortly be extended to Hobart when a new time table will be issued.)
(Including comfortable transportation to and from Aerodrome)

Launceston to Melbourne: £5/10/- (Return Fare, £10/10/-)
Including Comfortable Transportation to and from Aerodromes.

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Cleaning up Rosebery



Sunday March 2nd saw the Rosebery Development Association host a Clean Up Australia Day event. 18 community members turned up to clean up and covered the entire main area of town, the oval and the roads leading in and out of town. West Coast Council carted away the giant pile of rubbish and the Rosebery Lions Club put on a delicious sausage sizzle at the BBQ area in the main street. The Development Association would like to thank the community for their involvement and support.

Small business expo is here

Tasmanian Small Business Expo 2025 – Connect, Learn and Grow
Small business owners, entrepreneurs and aspiring business professionals from across the state are invited to the Tasmanian Small Business Expo 2025. This free expo provides practical resources, expert-led discussions and connections that can help businesses navigate challenges and discover new opportunities. Participants will have the chance to engage with fellow business owners, industry experts and service providers who can assist their business.

Lunchtime and evening sessions will be held in Launceston on Tuesday, April 8 and in Hobart on Wednesday, 9 April.

For more information and to register, visit www.tasbusinessexpo.com.au

Searching for injured wildlife



Animal Welfare Centre Incorporated would like to give a huge thanks to MMG at Rosebery for providing AWCI volunteers with hard hats and hi-vis vests to keep us safe whilst we are searching the burnt bush for injured or displaced wildlife.

Pictured along the road to Granville Harbour are some of the volunteers resplendent in their new fluoro gear and helmets.

If you fly, they can't fly!

Firefighting aircraft are currently working on the West Coast complex of fires and there have been reports of unauthorised drones in the area.

While it might be tempting to record footage, flying a drone or other unmanned aircraft poses a major safety risk to firefighting personnel in the air and on the ground.

Firefighters on the ground depend on aerial support to help suppress and contain fires and by flying your drone, you not only put their lives in danger but also the lives of the people and property they're trying to protect.

Aircraft - both manned and unmanned - that are not coordinated through the Tasmania Fire Service Air Desk are requested to remain clear of aerial firefighting operations.



Western Echo fills Chronicle gap

next few decades but in 219 'The Circular Head Chronicle' was sold to Robert Yeates, a fourth-generation newspaperman who has several papers in Victoria and the Huon district of Tasmania.

Unfortunately, Robert decided to close the paper in 2024 and that was the end of 'The Circular Head Chronicle'.

I am sure the Northwest community will join me in giving a huge thank you to the previous staff of the 'Chronicle' and the great job they did.

Along comes Alan Jennison and the 'Western Echo' to hopefully fill the gap.

A photographer by profession, Alan (that's me) worked for newspapers across Australia, taking photos of everything from weddings to sports

I published a number of community papers, including the 'South East Bulletin' and 'Southern Times' in Tasmania's South over twenty years ago and worked for several other Tassie papers.

I ran 'Tasmanian Living' magazine

and app for a couple of years before Covid came along and flattened the tourism industry (and Tasmanian Living).

A friend in Queenstown rang me soon after and mentioned the West Coast had not had a newspaper for many years. A trip west was called for to check it out. I spoke to 300 people or so and asked if they wanted a newspaper. The answer was a definite yes and over three years ago the 'Western Echo' was born.

Originally a 'paid' newspaper, the Echo was made free as an experiment; one which paid off nicely, and the paper was distributed in the Northwest to reach the many people that had links to the West Coast.

With the closure of 'The Circular Head Chronicle' and, by association the 'Wynyard Pulse' I decided to extend the 'Western Echo's' coverage area to the Northwest of the state from Wynyard west and south, so here we are.

This is the first edition to cover the whole region and, as we are all part of the 'West', there was no need to change the newspaper's name.

There is a lot planned for the 'Western Echo'. Community groups and clubs are welcome to have regular columns in the paper, so many different sports to cover and photograph,

many more people to meet and stories to chase.

It is certainly going to be an exciting and busy time for this editor/publisher/photographer/graphic designer/salesperson and general dogs body.

I will eventually be after a 'right-hand person' to help in the Northwest so if anyone is interested in having a chat please send me an email.

From the April edition onwards, the 'Western Echo' will be sailing backwards and forwards across Bass Strait on the TT Line's Spirit ferries and in hire cars from selected companies statewide.

To the best of my knowledge, we will be the first (and only) community newspaper to reach people as they travel to Tasmania in this way and we are very excited.

To that end we are starting a 'Turn right at Tasmania' campaign to suggest that people coming to Tasmania from the big island to the North do just that... Turn right and head West.

This will truly be a game-changer for not

only the Western Echo, but businesses that rely on interstate tourists and visitors to our amazing state.

So, if you have a business or promotion that would benefit from this increased reach and coverage, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us at the Western Echo newspaper.

This is huge news and will be very effective in reaching people in a way that no newspaper has ever done before.

The Western Echo is a monthly, FREE print newspaper that is available to read or download from our website

www.westernecho.news

We will be increasing print numbers from 3000 to an anticipated 8-9000 papers monthly and our new coverage area is west from

Wynyard to Marrawah, including Smithton, Stanley, Sisters Beach, Forest. Boat Harbour etc. and the West Coast towns

of Waratah, Queenstown, Strahan, Zeehan, Rosebery and Tullah.

The paper comes out on the second Thursday of every month with a material deadline being the first Friday of that month.

With almost 40% of the West Coast and similar numbers in the Northwest either not using a computer or not having any form of social media, a community newspaper is vital to reaching those people and let them know what is going on and coming up in the future. In the three plus years that the Western Echo has been running many people have come to rely on it and the contents within.

We hope you enjoy the new 'Western Echo' - we are there for YOU, the community.

Alan - Editor

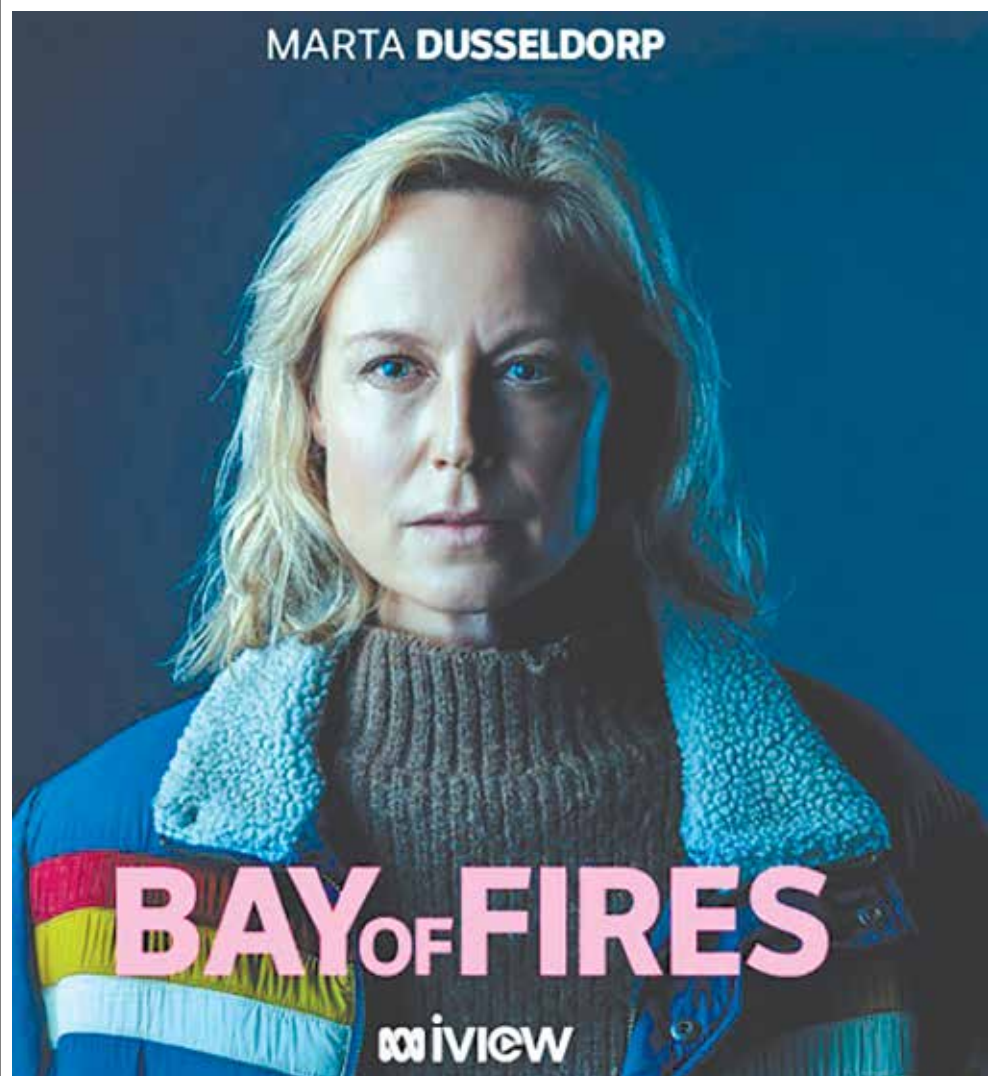


The very first edition of 'The Circular Head Chronicle' - 1906. Not much call for a photographer back then.



The 1980's saw a complete change to the masthead and style of the paper

BAY OF FIRES SEASON 2 coming soon



BAY OF FIRES SEASON 2 screening at the Gaiety Theatre

We are thrilled to announce a screening of episode one and two of the hit ABC TV series Bay of Fires, Season 2 will be held at the Gaiety Theatre on Friday 6th June, 2025.

Set against the backdrop of Tasmania's picturesque landscape, Bay of Fires has garnered a loyal audience eager to see what's next in the series. The Gaiety Theatre, itself a feature in the series, provides the perfect venue for this premiere.

A light supper will be provided.

Drinks available for purchase.

Also in Queenstown - See the first 2 episodes at The Paragon Theatre on Saturday June 7, 2025.



The story above was put together with the help of Circular Head Heritage Centre volunteer Elayne Blake (pictured above) who went above and beyond to open the building up for me to take some photos. Thank you Elayne. Ed.

On May 6th 2022 the Circular Head Heritage Centre was relocated from its aging building in King Street to a modern building on the Agritas site in Nelson Street.

The new Museum houses a large archives room, increased technology, better access to records and an open style of historical displays allowing ease of access to view items. One thing that has not changed is our reliance on dedicated volunteers and our commitment to ensuring the culture and history of Circular Head is not lost to future generations and is presented in as vibrant and engaging a manner as possible. The Circular Head Heritage Centre will be having a regular feature in the Western Echo newspaper so keep an eye out, there is so much history to share.



Rosebery Mine

Community Newsletter

March 2025

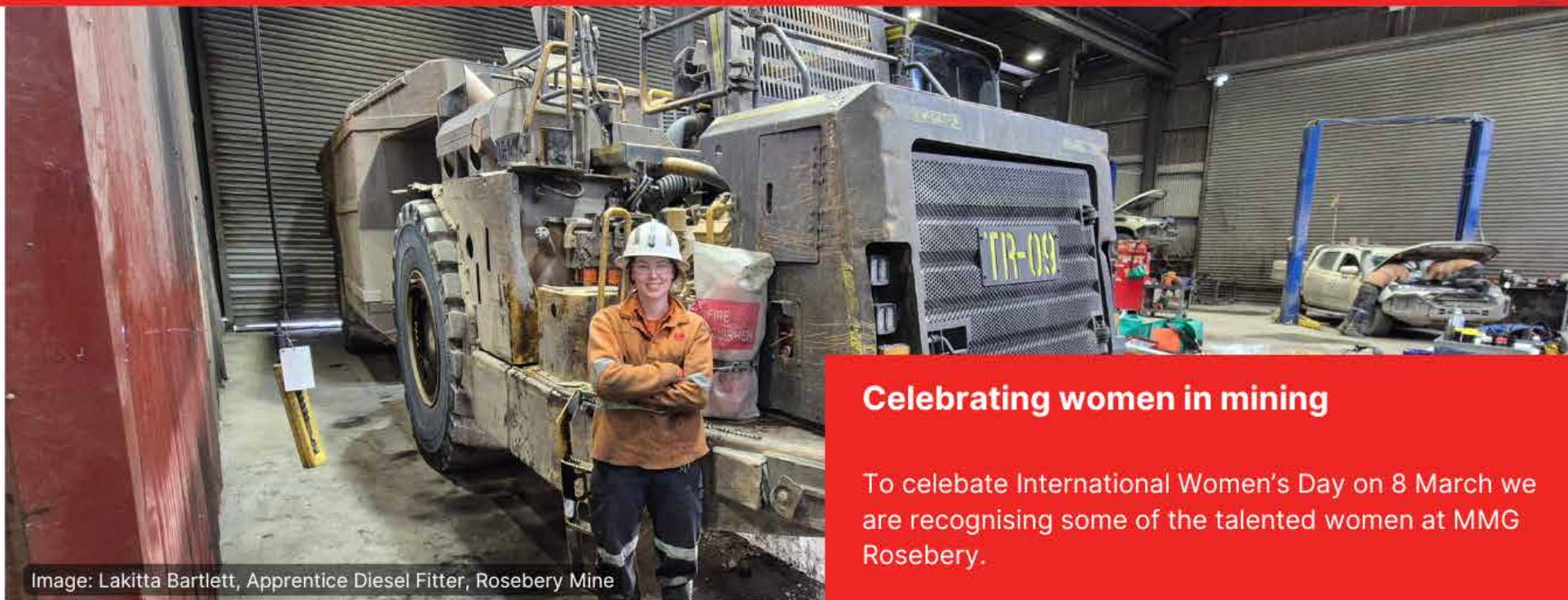


Image: Lakitta Bartlett, Apprentice Diesel Fitter, Rosebery Mine

Celebrating women in mining

To celebrate International Women's Day on 8 March we are recognising some of the talented women at MMG Rosebery.

Lakitta Bartlett is a 2nd year Apprentice Diesel Fitter kicking goals as the only female in underground maintenance.

We asked Lakitta what the day means to her.

"MMG Rosebery has welcomed me into the workforce as the only female in underground mobile maintenance. From day one, I was made to feel part of the crew and accepted as an equal. They are guiding me through the apprenticeship as I learn the skillset required for the trade I am undertaking. I am proud to be challenging myself and want to show women that opportunities exist to achieve your goals with companies like MMG."

Listening to our local community

Thank you to members of the local community who visited us at our pop-up shop in Rosebery last month.

We had a steady flow of people through the door to engage with our people and learn more about our operation.

They asked for an update on our plans for a long-term tailings storage solution, how the exploration program is tracking and information on our emergency response plan.

MMG branded hats and drink bottles were a popular item for locals to take with them.

We appreciate the Rosebery community's support and ongoing positive engagement with us.



Image: L-R Hugh Buchanan and Paul Masters

Celebrating a significant milestone

Congratulations to MMG Rosebery's Craig Lawler who has chalked up 25 years in the Emergency Response Team (ERT).

Craig's commitment to the Rosebery ERT has been immense and we look forward to his continuing contribution in the future.



Image: Craig Lawler

It will still be service with a smile in Smithton



There aren't many supermarkets with their own butchery but the IGA supermarket in Smithton has just that.

Narrow that down even further and you would be hard pressed to find a supermarket butchery with one of the butchers celebrating 25 years of service. Darren 'Smiley' Donohue is one of those butchers. Unfortunately, after quarter of a century 'Smiley' (pictured above), is sheathing the knives and hanging up his apron to take time out and relax a little.

He says that he has enjoyed helping grow the meat department. "We are very fortunate to have developed almost a full butchery here in the IGA. People are getting service that they wouldn't get in the bigger stores, if someone wants a spit roast or special sausages we have been able to do that."

Smiley continued, saying "A lot of it is about supporting the customers. They support us because we support them. We're a local team, looking after locals. We like to help customers get what they want."

The Meat department in the Smithton IGA has been running since 1979 and four years ago took out the IGA Meat Department of the Year award.

Having met 'Smiley' twice now, I have no doubt that he will be very much missed by many of the locals who have grown up on a diet of fresh meat, friendly service and lots of laughter from the butchery. 'Smiley' is one of those 'larger than life' characters and it was a pleasure chatting with him.

Even though 'Smiley' may be (semi) retiring you will still see him around and the Smithton IGA will still be full of smiles.

MAL HINGSTON
LIBERAL FOR BRADDON

Authorised by C McQuestin, Liberal Party 185 Invermay Rd, Invermay, TAS 7248

Zeehan playground getting closer



The park and playground in Zeehan's main street is certainly getting closer and coming along nicely. A lot of locals are eagerly awaiting so see what it looks like.

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Trial Harbour Coastal Collaboration

The Unconformity is pleased to launch a new artistic initiative to be delivered in Trial Harbour in 2025. This unique residency program will deepen collaborations between visiting artists, local artists and organisations by bringing them together to create site-responsive work in both Trial Harbour and Queenstown.

Past artists in residence were invited to identify a West Coast creative collaborator and 2–3 local organisations to engage with through the creative process.

The residencies will unfold across two weeks: one week in Queenstown, working from The Unconformity Hall, and one week in Trial Harbour, working in a spacious, coastal gallery/studio and staying in onsite accommodation.

Trial Harbour artist and studio owner Jenny Groves will host the two residencies, with the artistic collaborators returning to Queenstown to present an Open Hall event at the end of their residency.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

Visiting artists Bridie Hooper (QLD) and Jen Large (VIC/TAS) will collaborate with local artist David “Fitzy” Fitzpatrick to research *Exploitation of Effort*: a new performance experience intersecting circus, sculpture and performance art that explores humans’ relationships to effort and its role in society.

Visiting artist Polly Stanton (VIC) will collaborate with local artist Jade Elford, drawing from Polly’s experience in video and sound and Jade’s practice in analogue photography and filmmaking to capture the shifting sites of Queenstown and Trial Harbour through layered visual and sonic narratives.

This project was assisted through Arts Tasmania. ■

Image above: Trial Harbour Residency Artist Polly Stanton’s previous work *Thresholds*, developed on the West Coast and presented at The Unconformity 2023 festival photographed by Jesse Hunniford.



Tony Yap (left) and collaborator Jack Riley in residency in Queenstown in 2024 photographed by Jade Elford.

Open Halls

Open Halls are new experimental monthly happenings at The Unconformity Hall designed to explore ideas that resonate with our collaborators. Open Halls may take the form of an artist talk, workshop, gathering or discussion.

In February, local artist David “Fitzy” Fitzpatrick hosted our first Open Hall of the year. Join us at our March Open Hall to meet visiting artist Tony Yap when he returns to Queenstown.

Tony is an accomplished dancer, director, choreographer and visual artist. His practice is grounded in Asian philosophies and intercultural and multi-disciplinary approaches.

All are welcome to come along and learn more about Tony and his practice at an Open Hall event on Saturday 15 March. This event will also include the opportunity to meet current members of The Unconformity’s Board of Directors.

6pm, Saturday 15 March 2025
The Unconformity Hall
35 Cutten Street, Queenstown

For catering purposes, please RSVP by sending your full name and contact details to info@theunconformity.com.au

Tony’s residency is supported through Regional // Regional, an initiative of Asialink Arts at the University of Melbourne with support from The Yulgibar Foundation, Circle 5 Foundation, and Konfir Kabo and Monica Lim.

SAVE THE DATE: Our April Open Hall event on Thursday 3 April at 6pm will be an opportunity for local venues and artists to learn more about being involved in The Unconformity Art Trail. If you are an artist or venue interested in participating, please join us. ■



Image above: Artistic Director Loren Kronemyer

Artistic Director’s Festival Update

The ongoing experiment known as The Unconformity festival returns to the West Coast from 16–19 October 2025. This news brings with it a chain reaction of events, dispersing many seeds that will emerge as green shoots over one weekend in spring.

The festival represents a great collision of energy, harnessing the fundamental human need to come together. This year, we will continue many of the beloved traditions of The Unconformity while also exploring new facets yet to be carved into shape. This process will match the imaginations of our artists, from both the West Coast and the wider world, with the places and people who are excited to collaborate, towards making new and rare experiences together. ■

EQUIPMENT HIRE

The Unconformity has production, hospitality and event equipment available for hire in Western Lutruwita/Tasmania at corporate, community and partner rates. If you are planning an event this year, book equipment for your dates on our website: theunconformity.com.au/equipment-hire ■

Subscribe for updates

To keep updated on opportunities to meet Trial Harbour collaborators, invitations to Open Hall events, employment opportunities and other festival updates, subscribe to our mailing list by visiting our website: theunconformity.com.au/subscribe

East meets West: A new exhibition by Jo-Anne Bateman

Brought to you by the 'Soggy Brolly'

Local painter Jo-Anne Bateman is set to open her latest exhibition, East Meets

West, at Soggy Brolly in Queenstown. After over a year of preparation, this exhibition reflects her deep connection to Tasmania's unique landscapes and her ongoing artistic journey.

The exhibition's title, East Meets West, is inspired by Jo-Anne's long history of traveling between Hobart and the West Coast. Having owned a property in Gormanston for nearly two decades, she has often found herself drawn to the contrasting beauty of both regions.

"I've always been enchanted by the reflections of light on the wet streets of Hobart, especially in the early morning," she says. "The sky, the clouds, and the first light of day have a way of transforming the

city in ways that are magical to witness."

In her exploration of Hobart, Jo-Anne spent many predawn hours walking around the docklands near Salamanca Place and the iconic Tasman Bridge, capturing the delicate interplay of light, color, and water. Her work also extends to the city's rooftops, where she sought bird's-eye views of Hobart's urban landscape.

The West Coast, where Jo-Anne has previously focused on Queenstown's striking buildings and the surrounding wilderness, also plays a key role in this exhibition. "I wanted a different take on the west coast," she explains. "Traveling to Mt. Jukes' abandoned mine with RoamWild as part of a PressWEST workshop gave me a fresh perspective, and it sparked the creation of Middle Earth Painting."

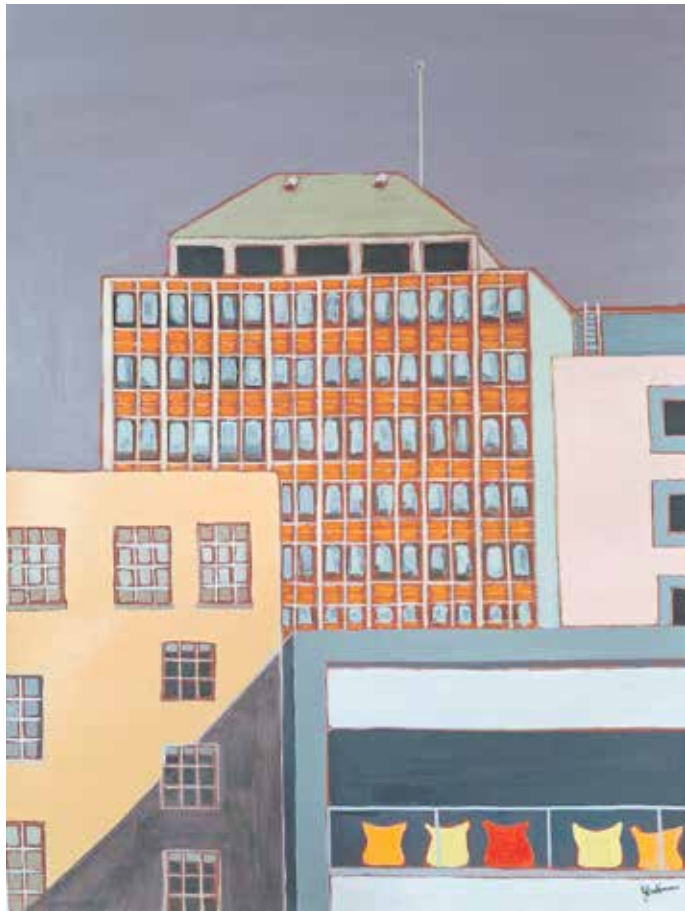
The exhibition also includes a painted collage of Hunters Hotel, a significant Queenstown landmark. The hotel's depiction underscores her continued engagement with the stories and landmarks of the West Coast.

Throughout the creative process, Jo-

Anne has embraced the challenges that come with capturing the beauty and diversity of Tasmania. "It's been a rewarding journey," she reflects. "I hope visitors will experience the same joy I've felt in creating these pieces."

With East Meets West, Jo-Anne invites viewers into a world where landscapes, reflections, and personal connections converge, offering a unique visual journey through these contrasting environments.

Soggy Brolly and Jo-Anne warmly invite you to attend the opening 5-7pm on Friday 14 March at Soggy Brolly, 20 Orr Street Queenstown. The exhibition continues until 11 April 2025.



SOGGY
BROLLY

Stanley Discovery Museum showcasing Tassie's flying pioneers

The Stanley Discovery Museum was established in April 1973 in the Anglican Parish Hall, adjacent to St Paul's Anglican Church, by Mrs Marguerite Eldridge OAM.

The purpose was to house a permanent exhibition of items of local historical interest and to utilise proceeds to assist in the maintenance of the Church buildings and grounds.

It was initially run by the St Paul's Ladies Guild who later became known as the Friends of St Paul's until the volunteers were from all denominations and community members.

The name progressed from the Discovery Centre (and Genealogy Centre) until the current Stanley Discovery Museum.

Volunteers have run the Museum continually during this time, closing only over the winter months.

The Museum's collection of artefacts and items of interest have gradually increased over the years with a vast photographic record being held with an emphasis on family histories.

Publications only available at the Museum are on the history of Public Education in Stanley 1854-2014 and Owners and Occupiers of Stanley Allotments from 1843-1922 both researched by Betty Jones.

In 2021, the Museum property including St Paul's Church, was purchased for the community with funding provided by the Tasmanian Government. Funding was also provided to refurbish the Museum Hall.

Currently the Tasmanian Aviation Historical Society have a very interesting pioneer aviation display from 1919-1939 on exhibition until the end of March.

This fits in well with the local aviation history, in particular, the first flight across Bass Strait by Lieutenant Arthur Long which left from Stanley in December 1919.

Contact Details: Email:

stanleydiscoverymuseum@gmail.com

Phone 0428 581285

Open Monday to Saturday,

11 until 3, September until May



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Boat Harbour Beach Construction Well Underway

Boat Harbour Beach Tasmania

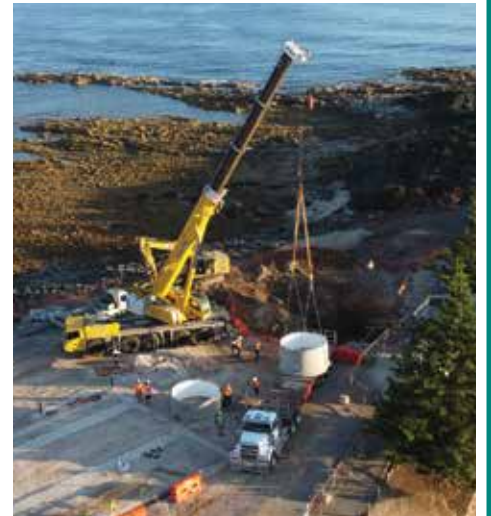
Significant progress has been made on the Boat Harbour Beach Master Plan as earthworks near completion and kerb channelling has been installed along the foreshore. These developments are key to enhancing access and drainage, setting a solid foundation for the upcoming phases of the project.

In parallel, major sewerage upgrades are currently underway, marking an important step in modernising the infrastructure to support future growth. The improvements are designed to relocate existing services and increase capacity while preserving the natural beauty of the coastline.

Officials indicate that a detailed update on the project timeline will be available soon. With these milestones, the plan is steadily enhancing Boat



Left: Drone image of the work side at Boat Harbour Beach in February 2025. Right: Crane lowers sewerage pump station section into place. Picture Waratah-Wynyard Council.



Harbour Beach as a vibrant coastal destination that caters to both residents and visitors.

Council has also completed the realignment of Coopers Lane and

Anderson Rd in Wynyard. Meanwhile, works have commenced on upgrading walkways at Camp Creek and Cam River, further enhancing connectivity in the area.

Additionally, the Wynyard Yacht Club car park is being expanded, with the adjacent walkway realigned to provide a better connection to the coastal pathway.



Various recipients of the Waratah-Wynyard Council Community Activation Grants Pictures Waratah-Wynyard Council.

Local Groups Thrive with New Community Grants

Waratah-Wynyard Tasmania

The local community is set to benefit from a new round of Community Activation Grants, with 13 eligible applications approved for funding totaling \$22,790.81.

The program is designed to support initiatives that boost social and cultural wellbeing, spur economic development, and encourage educational pursuits.

Awarded projects span a wide range of community activities. The Boat Harbour Surf Life Saving Club will introduce foam training paddle boards for its periwinkle program, allowing young participants to safely interact with the ocean while learning essential skills.

Meanwhile, Kentish Regional Clinic is set to deliver free full-day suicide prevention and self-care workshops in Wynyard, Leading Rein has secured funding for a course aimed at building

emotional resilience and empathy.

Other successful projects include infrastructural upgrades at Somerset Football Club's canteen, new lighting and scenic enhancements for Squid Inc. Theatre, a community garden revival at Vinnie's Community Garden, updated woodworking tools for Waratah Men's Shed, and improved archival equipment for the Waratah Museum's roving curator.

Additional awards will help Wynyard Baptist Church produce carol booklets and manage sound at the annual carols by candlelight, enable the Wynyard Basketball Association to upgrade training tech, support coaching and first aid training with Wynyard BMX, and enhance historical preservation efforts for the Wynyard Historical Society and Municipal Band.

For more info on Council's community activation grants, visit our website.

Mosaic Art Chair Celebrates Maritime Heritage

Wynyard Tasmania



A striking new addition to the coastal pathway has captured the attention of art lovers and locals alike. The latest mosaic art chair, created by artist Christianne Goss, is not merely a seat but a vibrant narrative of the town's rich maritime past.

Inspired by the chair's round form, Goss envisioned a unique design that mimics a compass, complete with a nautical theme that pays homage to Wynyard's historical role as a bustling port during early colonisation. In those

formative years, timber and cargo were vital exports, shaping the economic and cultural landscape of the area.

The chair features a dazzling array of colours that bring to life an assortment of sea creatures, native birds, and marine life, symbolising the local inhabitants of Wynyard's beautiful natural environment. These images serve as a reminder to appreciate and protect the region's unique ecosystems.

A subtle yet significant detail is found within the design—a MHP tile embedded in the compass. This is a nod to Merry Holm Pottery, the studio where Goss creates her work, and adds a personal touch to the piece.

Christianne Goss expressed her pride in the creation, stating that the project was a labour of love. "I loved creating this piece," she shared, adding that the final outcome exceeded her expectations.

Residents and visitors are invited to experience this breathtaking work of art in person. The mosaic art chair is located at Nurses Retreat, also known as Nurses Pines, along the Old Bass Highway—a perfect spot to enjoy both art and the scenic coastal setting.

Roving Curators to Assist Waratah Museum

Waratah Tasmania

The Waratah Museum Society Inc. has been granted 16 days of professional support through Arts Tasmania's Roving Curators program. This initiative offers museums, galleries, and collections

access to museum professionals for up to 25 days annually.

The allocated time will be utilised to enhance collections management practices within the museum.

The Roving Curators are a team of skilled museum and cultural heritage professionals based statewide.

The program aims to support cultural heritage organisations in preserving and managing their collections effectively.



Waratah-Wynyard Mayor Mary Duniam, Jemima Bourne, Deputy Mayor Celisa Edwards and Burnie City Mayor Teeny Brumby at the morning tea. Picture Waratah-Wynyard Council.

Morning Tea Celebrates International Women’s Day

Wynyard Tasmania

A warm celebration of International Women’s Day took place at the Council Chambers on Tuesday, 4th March 2025, drawing together around 50 community members for a morning tea dedicated to

recognising women’s achievements and contributions. Waratah-Wynyard Mayor Mary Duniam set a positive tone for the gathering with an empowering address on the importance of unity and progress for women in leadership.

Deputy Mayor Celisa Edwards, who

also spoke, emphasised the significance of supporting and inspiring future generations of women in the region.

Guest speaker Jemima Bourne shared her personal journey and insights, highlighting the power of resilience and community in fostering women’s success.

Attendees included Burnie City Mayor Teeny Brumby, along with members from the Accessibility Working Group, Live Well Tasmania, Wynyard Community Garden, Multicap, and the Wynyard Historical Society—further reflecting the event’s inclusive spirit.

International Women’s Day is celebrated globally as a reminder of the long-standing struggle for gender equality and social justice. In Australia, the day is marked by events and activities that honour the achievements of women while also recognising the work that still needs to be done.

This annual celebration not only pays tribute to past successes but also galvanises communities to work together for a fairer future.

Organisers expressed gratitude for the broad community support, noting how the diverse range of voices present enriched the day’s discussions.

Your Voice Matters: Shaping the 2025–2030 Community Wellbeing Plan

Circular Head and Waratah-Wynyard Councils are calling on community members to help shape their new Community Wellbeing Plan 2025–2030.

Building on the success the 2019–2024 plan, the joint initiative aims to enhance health, safety, and overall quality of life across both municipalities.

The comprehensive roadmap will address five priority areas, including improved access and mobility, more connected and active communities, enhanced education and employment opportunities, better public health and diversity support, and safer neighborhoods.

Residents, local businesses, and community groups are invited to share their views via a short online survey—or by picking up a paper copy at any Council office.

The survey closes at 5pm on Friday, March 21, 2025. Council offices are available to provide assistance or answer any questions.

Connecting Communities Through Reconciliation Action Plan

Wynyard Tasmania

Waratah-Wynyard Council recently adopted a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) in December 2024 with the guidance of Reconciliation Tasmania.

The plan formalises Council’s commitment to acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land, the Tommeginer people.

Also acknowledging the deep connection of the Aboriginal people of Tasmania to Country and their continuing, evolving cultural practice since colonisation.

Sharing the stories of the Tommeginer people and making it accessible for all of community was a priority for the organisation and community. Learning about and sharing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories in new ways is also seen as important,



RAP Artwork by Michelle Walker, using some pigments from the tulip flower.

as well as the desire to experience cultural learning through arts, events and ‘on Country’ experiences.

The RAP showcases key action and accountabilities for the organisation over the next 18 months and can be viewed on Council’s website.

Second Hand Roses: Recycled Art Shines at the WOW

Wynyard Tasmania

Wynyard’s cultural scene gets a fresh infusion of creativity this month at the Wonders of Wynyard, where a new exhibition is launched every month.

March’s display is presented by local artist Rosemary Jeffery, titled *Second Hand Roses Bling Things*. The exhibi-



Artwork from the exhibition. Picture Rosemary Jeffery

tion features a unique collection of art pieces crafted from recycled jewellery and assorted objects.

Rosemary, who has called Wynyard home for the past two years after living in Stanley and Darwin, brings a distinctive perspective to her work. “I have only really begun my artistic journey since I retired 10 years ago. My art is based on recycling,” she explains.

“All of my pieces are made with recycled items from opportunity shops, recycle tip shops, garage sales and

donations from friends. Picture frames, jewels, buttons, and different shaped items are the things I use to create my art.

Like all art, practice is important and my pieces have improved over the many years I have been doing this type of art. I hope you enjoy my exhibition.”

The exhibition is open seven days a week at 8 Exhibition Link, Wynyard, inviting locals and visitors alike to experience a celebration of sustainability and creative expression.

Wonders of Wynyard
Exhibition & Visitor Information Centre

8 Exhibition Link, Wynyard
wondersofwynyard.com
03 6443 8330

Open Daily
9am to 4pm

Free Information, Brochures and Maps • National Parks Passes • Free Wi-Fi and Phone Charging • Giftware and Souvenirs • Veteran Car Collection • Exhibition Centre

We turned right in Tasmania - heading west

With the Western Echo now being carried on the Sprit of Tasmania ferries we are starting a 'Turn Right' campaign in the April edition to recommend travellers head westwards when they get to Tasmania.

This is a trip by Neil and Natalie Thomson who visited in February.

TAS : Week 1

Well, our first few days in Devonport started with a surprise visit by long-time friends (and fellow RAM/Urban owners) Brendan & Sharon who secretly booked the site next to us! So great to catch up with these guys!

We took a visit to Sheffield, famous for over 140 outdoor murals and home to Ludo and his Alpaca "Pedro the Poser". Neil got to try his first curried scallop pie and was not disappointed

Parting ways, we headed west.

Meandering along the northern coast was a scenic and relaxing drive stopping in at Penguin, Wynyard & Boat Harbour before a few days in the historic town of Stanley.



So many well-preserved colonial buildings. The town's skyline is shadowed by a huge volcanic plug called "The Nut". We took the challenge and walked up the 490m near vertical path to the top, completed the 2km loop offering 360-degree views, but opted to save our knees and ankles, taking the chairlift down.

Given the cold windy nights, we gave the evening penguin viewing a miss. The RV Park is close enough to walk everywhere and the pub offers delicious meals using local produce.

Would recommend a stay of a few days.

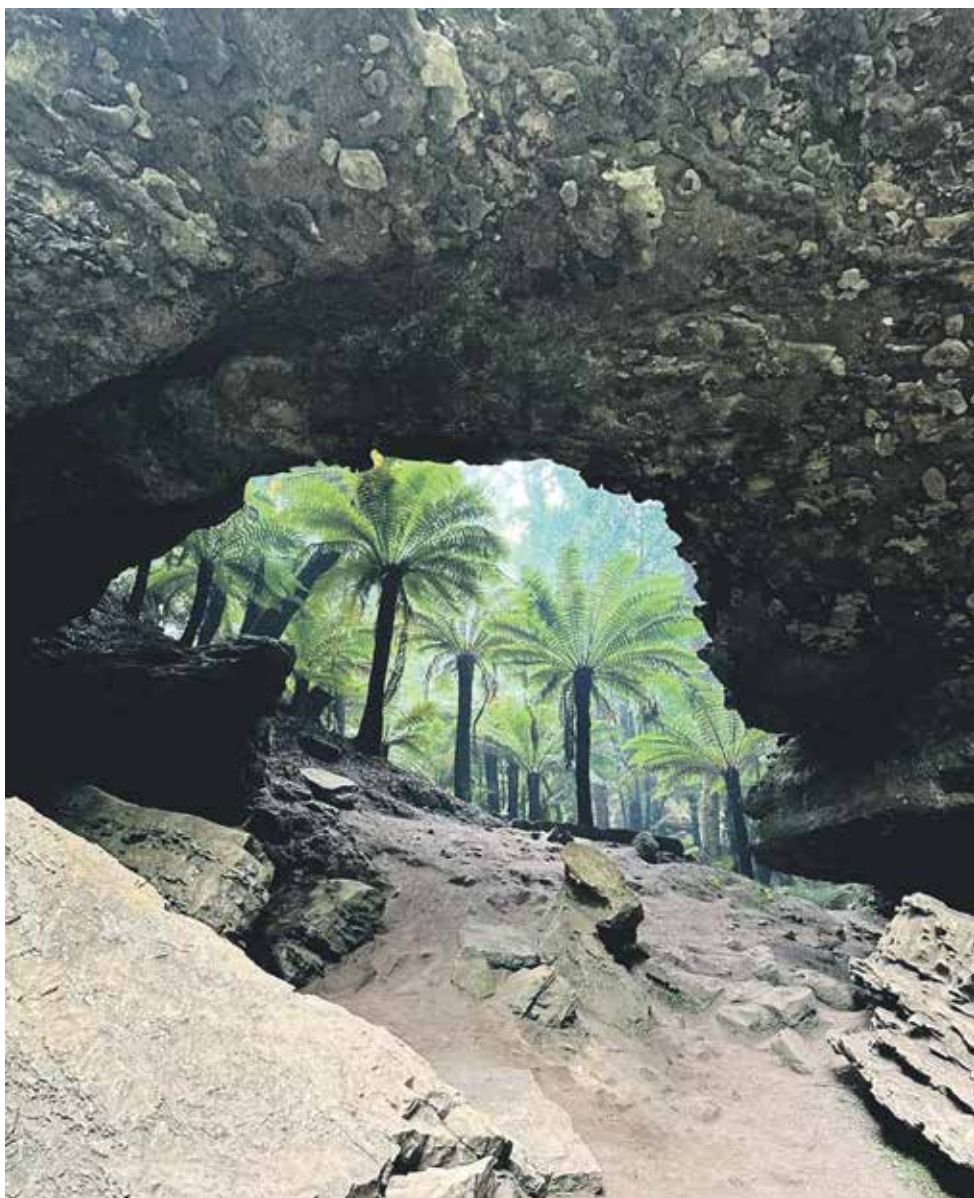
TAS : Week 2

Moving barely 30km down the road to Smithton we used "Tall Timbers RV Park" as our base to explore the 130km return Tarkine Drive Loop.

Following the route anticlockwise we stopped in at various coastal spots.

At Arthur River's "Edge of the World" you can breathe some of the planet's freshest air from the most western point of the island. Thunderous waves crash the shores and spit back the driftwood that was ejected from the river.

Vast rainforest and mountainous terrain make up the landscape as we pass over the Kanunnah Bridge, Sumac Lookout, Julius River, Lake Chisholm and finally Trowutta Natural Arch. Lots of hikes and a full day out!



Next free camp was on the banks of Lake Gairdner. Never seen so many BIG bumble bees! So relaxing here

We completed an up, down and around 9km Cradle Mountain hike which was only a taste of what was on offer but plenty enough for us!

Over to Waratah to see our first platypus (photos are near impossible) and another hike to Philosophers Falls further out. The roads are atrocious, so we opted to leave the van and just take a day trip down to Corinna.

Had a fantastic lunch at the Tarkine Pub, watched the "Fatman" Barge ferry vehicles across the Pieman River and welcomed the 1939 Huon Pine con-

structed Arcadia II river boat.

The weather has been amazing for us but not so good for the fire fighters still struggling to get control of fires which have been burning for over a week. Apparently, they were started by more than 1000 dry lightning strikes within this 45,000 hectare western area.

It hasn't altered our travel plans, but we have certainly seen the haze covered mountains, the amber coloured afternoons and experienced ash on our vehicles.

TAS : Week 3

We don't need to travel far, and Roseberry was our new base for a few days.

Fun fact - Roseberry has the highest postcode number in Australia (7470), the golf club is renowned for being the steepest golf course in Australia (and has a beautiful grassy area for RV camping) and nearby Montezuma Waterfall is the highest in TAS at 110m!! (although currently closed)

bour and up the beautiful Gordon River (World Heritage Cruises, Strahan, Tasmania - Red Boat) was possibly our best money for experience spent! Lots of commentary, fabulous lunch, comfort and space.



The day included seeing local salmon farms, guided tour of Sarah Island being Tasmania's oldest convict settlement, meeting ancient Huon Pines at Heritage Landing and a passing through the notoriously shallow Hells Gates harbour entrance channel.

The lower Gordon River area is a Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage area and, in our opinion... thank goodness... it is a very special place and deserves to be preserved for all to enjoy.

Oh, and did we mention Valentine's Day?

Stumbled upon a local "bread bin" shed to purchase a magnificent home-



made sourdough for lunch, was given a single red rose and enjoyed a wonderful buffet dinner (full seafood for Neil) with views of Strahan Harbour at Strahan Village- View 42 degrees restaurant.

Yes, life is pretty good
Neil and Natalie Thomson

Neil and Natalie have a facebook page if you wish to read about their other exploits - thomoszontour

Tales from a Zeehan graveyard

FIVE-YEAR-OLD BOY ACCIDENTALLY SHOT BY HIS TWELVE-YEAR-OLD BROTHER

There are over 1,500 people buried in the cemetery, but very few of their deaths can rival John ("Jack") Hall's for absolute tragedy and sheer senselessness.

During the afternoon of Friday, January 14, 1910, the parents of the five Hall children had gone out. The family lived at the rear of the Oonah mine, and Mr Hall had made the short walk to the mine to talk to some men he worked with, while the mother had gone into Zeehan shopping. While playing with a loaded gun belonging to his uncle, who boarded with the family, the oldest child Arthur ("Ernie") accidentally shot his brother Jack, who had just turned five.

A coronial enquiry was held the following day, and the day after that Jack was buried in what is today an unknown location.

The enquiry heard from a doctor; Jack's sister, brother and father; and his uncle.

Dr. G.B. Bailey deposed he had received a telephone message about 2.45 on Friday afternoon and had gone straight out towards the Oonah mine. He met the stretcher party at McDonald's Hotel near the intersection of Fowler Street and Main Road. He had treated Jack and then ordered his removal to the hospital, where Jack died about half an hour after he was admitted.

He had conducted a postmortem that morning and found the abdomen riddled with shot. The shot entered about the region of the navel. He considered that Jack had been hit from close range.

Ivy May Hall said she was nearly 10 years of age, and she had no sisters, but three brothers now four yesterday. She

told the enquiry Arthur had also pointed the gun at her some time before Jack was killed. Later, she had been playing outside with three of her brothers - Arthur, George and Jack. After a little while Arthur went inside to get their baby brother some broth. She followed him inside shortly after and while standing in the kitchen, she saw Arthur with the gun again. She did not know he had a cartridge in the gun. Jack then came inside and sat down on the floor and Arthur pointed the gun at him. Jack said, "No, Ernie!" and then the gun went off.

She said, "Oh, Ernie, what have you done to Jack?" and he replied, "I shot him; I didn't mean to do it." Arthur then took Jack outside, and she ran down to the mine to get her father.

Arthur Ernest Hall deposed that he had turned 12 about three months before. He had got the gun off the wall and loaded it. He had gone to his sister who was near the back door and pointed the gun at her. She said, "Oh don't, Ernie!" He then unloaded the gun and put it back.

When his sister came into the kitchen, he went and got the gun for a second time and loaded it again. Afterwards Jack came in and was playing on the floor about three yards away. He had aimed the gun at him, but he did not realise he had touched the trigger until the gun went off.

He said everyone had been playing well together and no one had been arguing. He had got the gun to have a game with his sister and frighten her. He had never played with the gun before that Friday. He did not know why he put the cartridge in the gun.

John James Hall said once Ivy had told

him he ran home with several other men and found Arthur holding Jack in his arms. Arthur said, "Oh, dad, I have shot him." He rolled Jack in a blanket, and someone put him on a stretcher. Then they carried him towards Zeehan.

At the hospital Jack had said to him, "Dad, dad; my feet are sore, my hands are sore, and my head is sore," and he also said, "What will you buy me, dad?" He had told him, "Anything you like, Jack." Jack said, "Well, buy me a big stick of lollies." These were the last words he spoke.

He added the gun was hanging in the room which was occupied by Leonard Scott and Arthur. Arthur would have to get on

the table to be able to reach the gun. Mr Hall did not know that the cartridges were on the table. Arthur had been told not to touch the gun.

Leonard Scott said he was the owner of the gun. It was a single-barrelled breech-loader. He had used it about three days before and then hung it back up on the wall. Arthur had been present when he had loaded and unloaded the gun. The trigger had a very light pull. He had since smashed the gun over a stump.

The jury, after hearing all the evidence, returned a verdict of accidental death.

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



An ambulance possibly similar to the one that carried Jack Hall to the hospital. This particular one was designed to run on rails using the four steel wheels, as well as on roads using the rubber wheels in the middle. (Tasmanian Weekly Courier, 14 January 1909.)

www.hydro.com.au/grants

Community Grants now open!

Grants up to \$5,000 are available for not-for-profit community organisations across Tasmania.

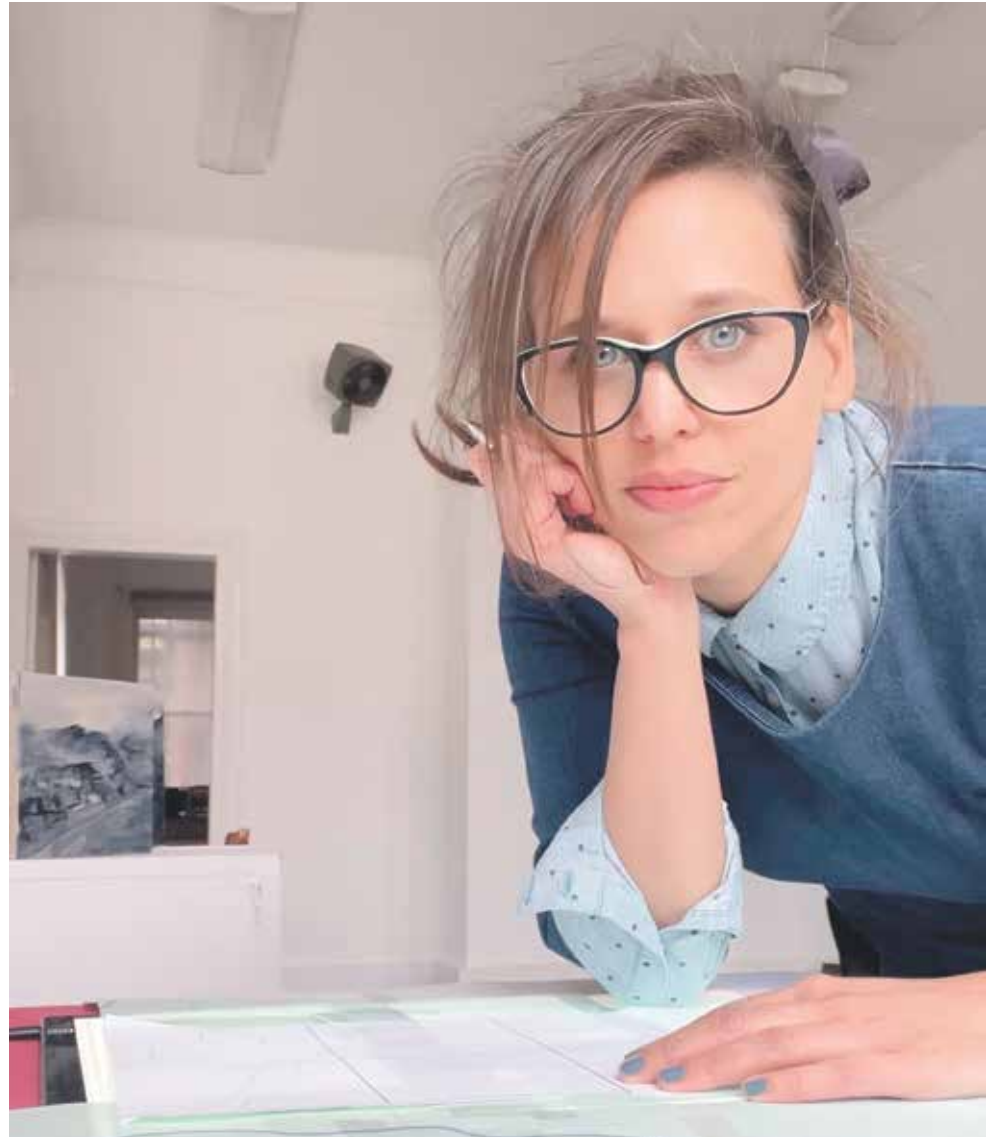
Postal Cartography: An Interactive Open Studio at Q Bank Gallery

Artist in Residence, Lada Dedić (pictured at right), invites the community to step into her Open Studio at Q Bank Gallery and take part in Postal Cartography, a collaborative mapping project that reimagines Queenstown through shared creativity. Originally intending to map her own journey through the town's layered history and striking landscape, Lada's project evolved into an exploration of collective experience. Participants are invited to take part in an artistic exchange, contributing to an evolving installation that reflects Queenstown through many perspectives. Each visitor receives an envelope containing a 10x10cm fragment of a map of Queenstown, an abstract composition of lines and shapes, ready to be transformed into a unique artwork using the materials provided. The completed works will be displayed as part of the growing exhibition, culminating in a final 'map resolution' event on March 21st. At the end of the project, each participant will receive another artist's work in the mail, reinforcing the theme of exchange and connection. Lada Dedić is a full-time travelling artist and maker, she divides her time between Australia, the South Pacific and South East Asia. Her multi-disciplinary investigative approach explores themes of meditative contemplation, the inter-

play of science & art and more recently; playful cartography. Having a peculiar relationship with direction has led her to make unconventional maps, sure to send even the most seasoned navigator on an unexpected adventure. Lada is a rambler in thought, speech and practice, known for straying off the path in both life and work. Postal Cartography is open to all, and no prior artistic experience is necessary. Drop into Q Bank Gallery between 2 - 6pm daily to take part. Finissage & Map Resolution: Friday 21st March, 5pm



*Word has gotten out and we have been getting visitors from far and wide coming in to see the map-spiration exhibit of historical aerial photographs from the collection of Rory Wray-McCann
Rory has also contributed a map segment titled 'Nature Always Wins'*



Lake Rosebery reopens to public



Lake Rosebery will reopen from 6pm tonight (Friday) after eight weeks of response efforts following an oil spill in the Henry Bay area.

Booms will remain in place around a very small section of Henry Bay but the boat ramp is now open to the public.

Hydro Tasmania's Head of Major Works Justin Vandervelde said weeks of hard work had paid off and the team was pleased with the results.

"From where we started to where we are now, it's a huge achievement for everyone involved," said Mr Vandervelde.

Over the last week, Hydro Tasmania has been managing the water level to dislodge remaining oil and collect it in booms on the lake.

Mr Vandervelde acknowledged the big multi-agency effort it had taken to reach this point.

"We're really happy that we can return the lake to the public and people can access the boat ramp again."

Impacts from the oil, like dark rings

on vegetation and stains on rock faces, will still be visible in some areas.

A few booms will remain along the banks of the gorge as part of the final clean-up effort and these areas should be avoided.

The Department of Health has updated advice for the public using the lake.

Recent water quality testing at Lake Rosebery has shown that the water is safe for recreational activities like swimming.

The Department of Health and Inland Fisheries Service have worked together to sample and assess the safety of trout caught from Lake Rosebery.

It is safe to eat trout caught from all areas open to the public.

The Department of Health recommends not eating eels caught in Lake Rosebery until further testing that includes eels is completed in the coming months.

Women's Day Breakfast at Tall Timbers



There's something truly special about a community coming together, and that's exactly what we felt at the International Women's Day Breakfast on Friday, 7 March at Tall Timbers Hotel. Co-hosted by Soroptimist International of Circular Head (SICH) and Circular Head Council, the event wasn't just about celebrating women—it was about sharing stories, inspiring action, and strengthening our community.

This year's theme, "Accelerate Action," reminded us that progress isn't just about words—it's about stepping up and making change happen.

We were privileged to hear from two incredible guest speakers. Salote Blacklow shared her journey of growing up and becoming a single mother in Fiji, speaking about the challenges women face and the strength found in faith and community. Her words were a beautiful reminder that equality starts with everyday actions.

Kathryn Fordyce, a 2024 Australian of the Year nominee and CEO of Laurel

House, delivered a passionate call to action. She reminded us that the issues women face today have been known for years, yet they persist because not enough action is taken. She observed that it is easy to get caught up in the talk, but true progress and change only occurs when decisive steps are taken to realise those plans, and, above all, that action is needed NOW.

SICH President Hannah Bruce spoke about the club's incredible work: Books for Babies, recognising Unsung Heroines in the community, and awareness campaigns on health and domestic abuse—all aimed at making a real difference in the lives of women and families.

The morning left us feeling inspired, connected, and ready to take action. When a community unites, real change happens.

To stay involved, follow Soroptimist International of Circular Head on Facebook or visit the Circular Head Council website.

Circular Head Saints' Under 14's Great Adventure

'Game Changer Camp'

Written by Jane Coates, Photo by Mark Dabner @ Prodrone Services

The bus rumbled to life as the Circular Head Saints piled in, bags slung over shoulders, boots bouncing in their hands. Six hours on the road to Dodges Ferry—an epic journey awaited. Spirits were high, snacks were plentiful, and excitement buzzed through the air.

At the heart of it all was Ally, the mastermind behind this whole adventure. She didn't just dream it up—she made it happen. From the first idea to the final whistle, Ally planned every detail, organising the trip, booking the best facilities, and even securing sponsorships to fund it all. Thanks to her, this wasn't just a road trip—it was a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Kal, Micka, and Ally stood at the front, ready to lead their squad into battle.

But before the war on the footy field, there was another challenge: surviving the bus ride.

The first couple of hours were all fun and games—until it happened.....

A deep groan from the back. A pale face. A hurried scramble for a plastic bag.

"Not it!" Kal said, hands up in surrender.

"Same!" Micka added, turning away as they both ran to the back of the bus.

That's when Nurse Jane swooped in. She handled the spew, cleaned up the mess, and somehow managed to keep everyone alive—despite the questionable road trip snacks.

She was also on call for mud in eyes, cuts, bruises, and any other disaster that came our way.

After what felt like days (but was only hours), we arrived at an amazing

facility. It had everything—comfy beds, play equipment, and even a basketball court where an intense game broke out. Bodies flew, baskets swished, and egos were bruised.

Then came dinner, and Pezza the Tassie Butcher and his mate Poacher, the masters of the grill, cooked up an absolute feast. We ate like kings, refuelling for the battles ahead.

Through it all, two absolute legends—Natasha and Alana—were everywhere, doing it all. They helped with food, making sure everyone was fed and fuelled. They stepped in as goal umpires, runners, and even helped assistant coach!

They were there, making sure things ran smoothly, keeping the kids focused, and keeping the energy up. Without them, the whole trip might have descended into chaos (or at least a lot of hungry, lost kids).

Then came the real madness—Redbanks Adventure Park.

This wasn't just any mud run. This was next-level. Some say shoes are still lost in that mud. Ankles twisted, knees hit the ground, but we never gave up. We had girls and boys limping we had tears of hurt and tears of joy.

And that's when Josh from JCP stepped in.

Josh wasn't just there to watch—he was there to push us, challenge us, and teach us lessons beyond footy. He taught us about resilience, teamwork, and how to feed the good wolf inside us.

He made us dig deep, work together, and find a mental toughness we never knew we had.

It was tough, messy, and exhausting—but we left Redbanks stronger than before.

Then came the real challenge—footy against Lauderdale. We ran, tackled, kicked, and played our absolute hearts out. The coaches, parents, and helpers watched in awe—not just at how we played, but at how we carried ourselves.

We encouraged each other. We worked hard. And most importantly, we kept our heads high.

When mistakes happened, we remembered one thing: the first word that should come to mind is "Good." Good, because we learn. Good, because we grow.

And that's exactly what we did.

As we sat together at the end of the trip, exhausted but proud, we realised something. This wasn't just about footy. This was about being a team. We started together, we finished together.

As the bus rolled back home, tired heads leaned against windows, memories swirling in our minds.

The season ahead would be our best yet—not just because of skills, but because of the attitude, respect, and hunger to be better that we carried with us.

And we had our amazing sponsors to thank for that.

Without them, there would have been no trip. No lessons. No memories.

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March 22/23 Figure - Ground Drawing

Workshop. A weekend of approaches to drawing the figure, especially in relation to environmental spaces.

Facilitators Mary Scott, Jenny Groves and Iris Blazely.

Drawing will continue at PressWEST on a monthly basis.

April 25/27 Turbine - Painting Plein-Air

(Granville Wind Farm Project.) Raymond Arnold and guest professional artists including George Kennedy, Robert Habel, Maggie Jeffreys and Paul Gundry.

June 14/15 The Book of Queenstown - Part 1

'Draw, Print, Stitch' a collection of images/stories of Queenstown in Western Tasmania. This will be the first of three workshops PressWEST will hold gathering together artists and their images to produce a series of handmade books and graphic prototypes about the unique town and its environs.

The June workshop will be concerned with planning, research, on site drawing/image collecting and some printmaking. Finished works will be exhibited at the PressWEST contribution to the Unconformity Art Trail.

Facilitators Leonie Oakes and Raymond Arnold with Robert Doherty (Ireland/Tasmania) as guest artist.

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Acting General Manager Appointed

Smithton Tasmania

Circular Head Council is pleased to announce the temporary appointment of Andrew Wardlaw from River Road Consulting as Acting General Manager, effective from 18 March 2025 until a permanent appointment is finalised. This interim arrangement reflects Council's commitment to maintaining strong leadership and operational continuity during this transitional period.

Andrew brings an extensive background with over three decades of experience in local government and management consulting. His distinguished career began in 1993 and includes a series of senior leadership roles. Notably, Andrew served as General Manager of Burnie City Council from 2012 to 2020. Prior to this, he held key positions such as Director, Corporate & Business Services at Burnie City Council and General Manager roles at both King Island and West Coast Council.

Since August 2023, Andrew has further demonstrated his leadership capabilities as the Commissioner for Dorset Council—a role appointed by the Governor of Tasmania—where he has been entrusted to exercise the powers and functions of elected councillors.

"I appreciate the opportunity to step into the role of Acting General Manager during this transition. My focus will be



Circular Head Mayor Gerard Blizzard and newly appointed Acting General Manager Andrew Wardlaw. Picture Circular Head Council.

on maintaining stability, supporting the team, and ensuring that Circular Head continues to deliver strong outcomes for the community." said Andrew Wardlaw.

Mayor Gerard Blizzard said, "Andrew's vast experience and proven leadership make him the ideal choice to guide Council through this interim phase. His appointment underscores our shared commitment to ensuring continuity and excellence in service during this transition."

"I would also like to take this oppor-

tunity to extend our heartfelt thanks to Vanessa Adams for her dedicated service. We wish her every success as she embarks on her new role at Waratah-Wynyard Council," Mayor Gerard Blizzard added.

Council's leadership is confident that Andrew's wealth of experience and proven track record in both public service and management consulting will provide the strategic oversight and stability needed during this temporary phase.



Mother's Day Classic Returns to Stanley

Stanley Tasmania

Circular Head Council is set to host the Mother's Day Classic on Sunday, May 11, 2025, at Stanley Recreation Ground. The event aims to raise vital funds for breast and ovarian cancer research.

Registration begins at 8am, with the run/walk commencing at 9am, offering distances of 2.5km and 5km. Participants are encouraged to wear bright pink, with a "Best Dressed" prize to be awarded at 10:30am during morning tea.

This community gathering welcomes all ages, though certain sections of the track may not be suitable for prams, wheelchairs, or pets.

On-the-day registration is \$40 for adults, \$30 for children, and \$35 for concessions. Early ticket buyers can take advantage of discounts until April 13, 2025.

Registration is available online at the Mother's Day Classic website and on Council's Facebook page.



Left: Circular Head Saints Secretary, Keith Billing, Mayor Gerard Blizzard and Anthony Osborn from AFL Tasmania. Right: Michael Dunn, Leigh Williams & Leighton (Darcey) Steward from Circular Head Council. Picture AFL Tasmania.

Circular Head Recreation Ground Wins Prestigious State Award

Smithton Tasmania

The Circular Head Recreation Ground's impressive transformation from a waterlogged playing surface to one of the northwest's top sporting venues has earned recognition, winning the prestigious 2024 Ken Gannon Community Football Facilities Award for Tasmania. The award celebrates the \$700,500 redevelopment project, delivering excellent playing conditions for the region.

Previously plagued by poor drainage, the Circular Head Saints had to relocate

several matches during the 2023 season, placing immense pressure on the club. Club Secretary Keith Billing highlighted the upgrades' importance, stating, "As a regional community club, we walk a tightrope every year. These upgrades mean we now have some of the best surface conditions in the NWFL, and we can't wait to continue to grow with these facilities in 2025 and beyond."

The bespoke drainage solution, developed collaboratively between Circular

Head Council, The Baker Group, and SPORTENG, involved aligning subsoil pipes strategically around existing irrigation, sand-slit drainage, and a sand carpet layer. Mayor Gerard Blizzard praised the outcome, noting, "We now have a 20-year asset we can all be very proud of."

Council encourages the community to support their local teams and experience firsthand the improved conditions at the Circular Head Recreation Ground in the exciting 2025 season.



Have Your Say

Help Shape Our New Community Wellbeing Plan

Take 5-10 minutes to complete our Community Wellbeing Survey. Share your ideas and help shape a healthier, safer, and happier future. Act now—your voice matters!

Paper copies available at Circular Head & Waratah Wynyard Council Offices.

Survey closes 5pm 21 March 2025

Council Adopts New Environmental Stewardship Plan

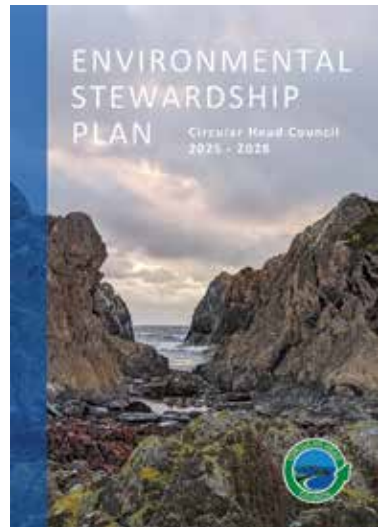
Circular Head Tasmania

On 20 February 2025, Circular Head Council adopted its Environmental Stewardship Plan (ESP) 2025–2028, marking a significant commitment to safeguarding the region’s natural heritage. The plan sets out practical measures to protect and restore key habitats, including the Duck River and coastal zones, ensuring they remain resilient for both people and wildlife.

The ESP focuses on improving water quality by reducing pollution across local rivers, wetlands, and coastal areas—crucial for recreation, tourism, and biodiversity. Initiatives include riparian restoration and enhanced storm-water management to keep waterways clean and vibrant.

Community engagement plays a central role in the plan. Residents will have increased opportunities for education, volunteering, and participation in local conservation projects. Such involvement aims to foster a collective responsibility for protecting Circular Head’s unique environment.

Furthermore, the plan creates opportunities for eco-tourism and



Cover of the ESP Plan

nature-based activities. By promoting low-impact outdoor experiences, the initiative supports local businesses while showcasing the region’s natural beauty.

The full final document is available on Circular Head Council website, providing detailed insights into the roadmap for a greener, more sustainable future. This bold step reflects the community’s commitment to environmental stewardship and long-term regional resilience.



Revitalised Stanley Recreation Centre. Picture Circular Head Council.

Fresh Look for Stanley Rec Ground

Stanley Tasmania

The Stanley Recreation Centre has received a modern makeover, with a fresh coat of paint on its exterior and brand-new signage giving the facility a welcoming appearance.

In addition, last year’s replacement of the viewing room windows has improved spectator views at sporting events. Further upgrades include a refreshed internal function room, the installation of acoustic panels, and new

heat pumps to enhance comfort—ensuring the venue is ideal for event hire.

As a cornerstone of the community, the Stanley Rec Ground hosts popular events such as the Stanley Market and the Circular Head Show and serves as the home for the Forest Stanley Football and Cricket Club.

Community groups are already expressing pride in the facility’s transformation and are enjoying the enhanced experience.

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Strong Turnout for International Women's Day Breakfast

Smithton Tasmania

More than 90 community members gathered at Tall Timbers Tasmania in Smithton on March 7, 2025, to celebrate International Women's Day with an inspiring breakfast event.

The well-attended gathering featured a delicious buffet breakfast and an empowering talk from a remarkable guest speaker, highlighting the achievements and contributions of women locally and globally.

Organised as part of Circular Head's ongoing commitment to recognising and uplifting women, the event brought together residents from across the region in a warm atmosphere of camaraderie and support.

International Women's Day, celebrated annually on March 8, has deep historical roots originating from early 20th-century labour movements in North America and Europe. Today, it serves as an important global reminder of women's significant accomplishments and the continued push for equality.

Council thanks all attendees and encourages ongoing support for events that celebrate and elevate women in the Circular Head community.

For more information on upcoming events in Circular Head, visit Council's website.

Uncovering Heritage: An Immersive Tour with CHAC



Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation (CHAC) hosted an immersive cultural tour this week, offering participants a unique insight into the region's rich Indigenous heritage.

Attendees included Deputy Mayor Annette Dawes, Councillors Tony Hine and Sally Collins, Council staff, and Circular Head Youth Leader Kelsey Williams.

Alongside CHAC representatives Kelly, Jack, and Brock, the group explored local traditions through native food tastings and firsthand storytelling.

The tour provided an in-depth look at Indigenous history and practices, leaving participants with a deeper understanding of the community's cultural legacy.

STUDY HUB

The Study Hub West Coast is experiencing a hectic few months.

We have been focusing on community involvement and paying attention to their needs and desires.

In March, we will have training courses in First Aid, and Workplace Health and Safety for Managers and Supervisors available, with significant requests from participants, which is fantastic. Our WHS for Managers and Supervisors course filled to capacity very quickly and we are taking numbers for our waitlist, and we will attempt to hold this again.

Our snake-handling course, scheduled for February, has been paused, but we will resume it shortly for those who expressed their interest.

The combined University of Tasmania/TAFE/Study Hub West Coast student and community drop-in session again proved to be a success, and we were also happy to not only host our regular University staff from Burnie, but also Richard from TAFE, who was a fantastic asset on the day and will be a regular visitor to the West Coast and Study Hub West Coast.

The Study Hub is available for your use. We offer excellent rooms for quiet study, and there is someone present to help if you require assistance.

Reach out and discover what we're all about. Discuss with us the types of training you would like to see on the West Coast. Visit the University of Tasmania [office?] to discuss if you're considering applying for a degree – their staff are there to assist you.

If you're interested in a TAFE course, we can help by connecting you with the right person.

We are here for the West Coast community – inform us about your needs.

Children's University – UTAS

Lots of events are in planning for April, including fun school holiday activities at Queenstown Library (keep an eye on the TAS Library and West Coast Facebook sites for more updates in due course). For the second year running we have the Galley Museum Open Day in Queenstown on 17 April 2025, including a chance to participate in hands-on interactive activities with Hydro Tasmania, the opportunity to talk all things 'cool' about rocks with our University PhD Earth Science student, as well as challenging Galley Museum staff to a scavenger hunt. A bonus BBQ lunch is included, and entry is free to all on the day.

West Coast Heritage Museum in Zeehan will hold an Open Day on 24 April, where children and one parent can attend the Museum for free (noting children must be under the supervision of a parent).

Note: Children's University members who can produce their passports at West Coast Heritage Museum (Zeehan) during the April school holidays can obtain free entry to the Museum over the duration of the April school holiday period.

Study Centre Circular Head (Smithton)

Study Centre Circular Head held its first orientation day with the support of the University and TasTAFE. New and ongoing students were able to engage and gain assistance with academic research and referencing, navigating the student portal, counselling and well-being, along with information on the student accessibility service. Justine and Danielle from the University also assisted new students with timetabling. Students were also tempted to indulge in a well barbecued study sausage before participating in Chair Yoga facilitated by Cassie.

In other news at the Study Centre, Britton Timbers conducted Manual Handling training for staff, giving them the necessary skills to identify and address workplace health and safety risks, implement safety procedures, and promote a safe working environment. Veronica and Kate from 26Ten held a Plain English Workshop, helping us to simplify our language, so communication is less of a barrier to participation. Keep an eye out on our Facebook page for upcoming events.

Study King Island

Study King Island has been very busy with lots of work happening behind the scenes in preparation for our move into our new space. The space is looking fantastic, and we're excited for the opportunities it will bring. Our student services officer, Emily, attended the King Island Show, connecting with the local community and engaging in valuable discussions, and is looking into how we can bring more short course training opportunities to the island.

Looking ahead, we are joining in on a University Health Careers information session and, in early April, our student services officer is heading to Queensland to visit the Cassowary Coast Universities Centre!

Looking for additional work opportunity

Why not register your interest in working at the Federal Election. All jobs are paid, no election experience is required, and training is provided.

See AEC website: <https://www.aec.gov.au/employment/working-at-elections/process.htm>

University of Tasmania students can also register via the QR code in the flyer below (separate attachment)

We welcome '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 let us know so we can share it.

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

P18



Repairs and upgrades at the Zeehan Swimming Pool continue to progress well. The recent concrete pour was successful, allowing the vinyl liner to be installed this week. Once the liner installation is completed, contractors will commence works in the plant room. This has been a long project, and we are nearing the finish line. Once completed the pool infrastructure will have been completely upgraded, including placement of a disability hoist for those patrons who may have mobility issues.

Gymnastics club flying high



The Circular Head Gymnastics Club had an outstanding year in 2024.

Marked with growth, achievements, community engagement and a commitment to nurturing young talent. Closing the year with 70 enrolled gymnasts of all abilities and ages, the club had participated in five major competitions, including Women's Artistic Gymnastics (WAG) events, a trampoline invitational and a spectacular End of Year Display.

The successful year was supported by dedicated coaches, volunteers, and a strong community spirit. The club's previous space became too small to accommodate their future growth and have moved to a larger venue at the Forest Primary School Hall.

Although the club has moved out of Smithton, they are still very focused on being able to provide their "Gym for All 4Fs" philosophy—fun, fitness, fundamentals and friendship—ensuring an inclusive and enriching environment for all participants of all ages within the community of Circular Head.

Starting the 2025 year, the club has close to 100 gymnasts enrolled and has

expanded its coaching team to eight staff members. They have an increased program availability of five days a week, including Sunday's, with a large variety of classes available.

The club is very appreciative of the support from Forest Primary School for allowing to utilise this space, the greater community of Circular Head and of course the many families that continue to enrol their children and believe that we have something for all walks of life. The stage is set for even greater achievements in 2025 and beyond.

With a thriving membership base, a commitment to fun and fitness, and a growing presence in the community, the club invites all families to consider joining this fantastic environment.

Whether you're a parent looking for a rewarding activity for your child or an adult wanting to reconnect with gymnastics, there has never been a better time to be part of the Circular Head Gymnastics Club. Together, we can continue to build a vibrant community that celebrates all things gymnastics!



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THE BUSH MUSCLES - MEMORIES OF HAULERS

Written by Malcolm Ryan 2024

Tucked away in the Tasmanian bush are the former muscle machines of the sawmilling industry. These machines, almost prehistoric looking compared to modern machinery, were called Haulers and were an innovation by our bushmen in the early part of the last century.

Our men of the bush used Haulers to source quality saw logs from steep slopes and valleys that would otherwise be inaccessible with their beloved horses and bullocks. The Haulers became all but redundant with the introduction of dozers and skidders in the latter part of the 1900s.

Each Hauler was unique in its design and construction as each one was individually designed and built by men of the bush who had the ability to “work things out” and then utilize what they could scrounge to build them. Components for the Haulers were sourced from places such as wrecked ships, steel yards, and wherever the men could get items from. The principle of the Haulers was that they have a large steel drum a bit like a cotton reel only much larger and sufficient to hold approximately half a mile of 1” to 1/4” diameter wire rope. To achieve the muscle, large cogs were needed to multiply the power of the engine driving the Hauler many, many times over in order to be able to pull large logs up steep hills and out of gullies.

The Haulers were stationary machines, strategically located at the top of a hill or valley behind a stump, the stump providing an anchor. The way they worked was the wire rope was then pulled out and run through steel blocks. Originally, the rope was pulled out with a draught horse, but in later years, a tractor or small dozer was used to pull the rope out till it reached the log.

The blocks, mostly known in the bush as Trevor Blocks, had a wheel that the rope ran through which was able to be opened to allow the rope to be put in, and then they were shut and pinned with a fern or small twig. The blocks were hung by a wire strop in a tree and this

was repeated when the line needed to change direction.

The 14-inch Trevor Bully Block, pictured below left, was the lead block of the Hauler the Blackwells brothers built. They gained the name of Bully Block as they were the lead block going away from the Hauler, and therefore absorbed more pressure, tension, and stress than the other blocks located down the wire rope line. This Bully Block now has pride of place in the entrance of my chocolate factory.

When the log was being hauled it came up almost the entire way to a block and then the Hauler was backed off, allowing the rope to go slack. The block was then opened to allow the rope to fall out of the block. The Hauler pulled the log again until it reached the next block, and the same process was repeated until the log reached the hauler.

This could be a highly dangerous job as it involved wire strops, blocks, wire rope, and a Hauler that could apply high pressure and tension on everything. There were many cases where men were killed or sustained a serious injury when something went wrong and they got caught in the wire rope and steel blocks that were whizzing about at the release of high tension.

There was an old rule in the bush

after APPM bought the mill and bush interests off the Blackwells in 1960 for 38,300 APPM shares and abandoned

for the next thirty years.

Around 2006, it was relocated to my West Ridgley property and was pro-



posed to be restored to its former glory through a youth mentoring and bush skills program. It is today, still sitting idle waiting patiently to be resurrected so it can flex its muscles once more. The Hauler pictured above was first used in the Huon Valley for hauling logs to be milled into apple cases, in the height of the Apple Isle era and was moved to Elliott in the mid-seventies by Dare Brown where it still rests in a well-kept condition and with a drum of fuel and a battery she would bark into life again.

posed to be restored to its former glory through a youth mentoring and bush skills program. It is today, still sitting idle waiting patiently to be resurrected so it can flex its muscles once more.

The Hauler pictured above was first used in the Huon Valley for hauling logs to be milled into apple cases, in the height of the Apple Isle era and was moved to Elliott in the mid-seventies by Dare Brown where it still rests in a well-kept condition and with a drum of fuel and a battery she would bark into life again.

Dare’s son Ian, himself no longer a youthful boy, currently works salvaging Huon Pine at Strahan, and vividly recalls the days when he was a young lad working the Hauler back in Huonville.

“My Dad was half deaf and Jimmy, our fix-anything bloke around the mill, was even deafer than Dad. It would be almost be morning smoko time by the time they heard each other and had a talk so we would be working every bit of daylight to keep up with the orders. I can remember many times working that bloody hauler into the dark and all you would be able to see was this red-hot exhaust pipe ‘cause I was driving her that hard so I could get home for tea. It is a wonder someone didn’t get killed,” Ian reminisces with a cheeky smile. (Circa 2015).

The bushmen of yesteryear, who cared for the bush, would be horrified to see the forest industry in the mess that it is today due to the change of guard from the caretakers of the bush, using their Haulers and sawmills, to the pillaging, woodchip, and burn regime that has transpired with excavators, skidders, and dozers, fueled by shareholder obsessed fiscal management.

Malcolm Ryan is a Northwest Coast businessman and owns Rhuby Delights in Latrobe. Malcolms bloodlines began in the Hampshire Settlement in 1841 and he is passionate about preserving his heritage for future generations.



when working with the Haulers and the ropes, and that was to never get in the bite of the rope, that is on the inside of the pull. In simple terms, this means that when pulling a log up to a block in a tree with the Hauler positioned so as to have an angle in the rope, never get on the inside of the angle.

The Hauler pictured above was built by the Blackwell brothers who had a sawmill just over the Bridge near the current Butter Factory at Wynyard. The Blackwell brothers had the Hauler built and it was worked in the bush at West Takone until the early 1960s by the Alder brothers.

The legendary Alder brothers from Mt Hicks, five in total, all of whom were hard-working bushmen, also operated the Hauler for Associated Pulp and Paper Mills Ltd (APPM) for about 3 years

David’s father, who was the Middle Pub Publican in the late seventies, now hangs in the Middle Pub bar.

The Hauler sat silent and became part of the bush it was meant to log until 1974 when Elliott farmer and sawmiller, Reg Ryan, my father, bought it from APPM for the princely sum of \$5.00. It sat in a paddock on the farm at Elliott



Rolling around Tasmania



The 20-Ghost Club is the oldest Rolls-Royce club in the world and was formed in England in 1949 with the Australian chapter of the club formed in 1992.

The club is dedicated to the preservation of pre-1945 Rolls-Royce motor cars. The name of the club is taken from the legendary Silver Ghost and the smaller counterpart, the 20 HP model. The club activities evolve around all these cars and their subsequent pre-war derivatives.

The 2025 20-Ghost club Tasmanian Tour saw 24 vehicles join the tour from all over Australia.

Originally, 27 pre-war Rolls-Royces were due to join the tour, but unfortunately due to the age of the cars, three of them didn't make it due to mechanical problems on the way to catch the Spirit of Tasmania.

Not too bad, considering the youngest car on the tour is 86 years old, and the oldest is 115 years old. The oldest car made the trip with flying colours.

One car is Tasmanian, two cars are from WA, five from SA, three from Qld, three from NSW, and ten from Victoria.

Apart from the Tasmanian car, all cars met at Geelong on Monday 3 March and made the crossing to Tasmania on the Spirit of Tasmania, experiencing a smooth and pleasant trip.

The tour was organised by long-term Tasmanian club Members Andrew and Marg Bailey.

Arriving in Devonport we met our organisers and drove to Windows on Estrella, Ulverstone for a delicious farmers breakfast.

Following breakfast, we drove through Penguin, Burnie and Yolla and stopped for lunch at the Tullah Lakeside Lodge.

After lunch, we drove through Rosebery and stopped at Zeehan for a quick perusal of the historic town.

We then drove to Strahan where we all stayed at the Strahan Village complex.





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Bluestone continues record breaking streak

An innovative project to re-mine waste left over from decades of operation at the Renison Mine has reached an important milestone in the planning process.

The EPA is inviting public comment on project specific guidelines to assess the Renison Tailings Retreatment Project, known as 'Rentails'.

Rentails will involve reprocessing 25 million tonnes of mining waste, known as 'tailings', to recover significant quantities of tin and copper.

Bluestone Mines Tasmania Joint Venture Chief Operating Officer, Mark Recklies, said Renison's three historic tailings dams contained one of Australia's largest deposits of the minerals, which were in increasing demand.

"Mining and processing technology have improved dramatically since Renison Bell was discovered in 1890, making it possible to extract valuable tin and copper from what was previously considered waste," Mr Recklies said.

"Rentails involves the construction of a new tailings reprocessing plant with a capacity to recover about 2.5 million tonnes per year.

"An estimated 400 workers will be required for the construction phase of the project, with an additional 75 permanent jobs during an anticipated 10 to 15 years of operation."

The project will include the construction of temporary and permanent accommodation in the surrounding region.

Mr Recklies said the release of draft project specific guidelines was an im-

portant step in the approval pathway for Rentails.

"We are committed to keeping the community informed at all stages of this important project," Mr Recklies said.

"Once final guidelines are issued, Bluestone will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for assessment.

"The project has also been referred to the Commonwealth Department for Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water for matters of national environmental significance under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC)."

Pending approvals and a final investment decision, operations could commence in 2029.

You can register your interest and find further information about the project by emailing: rentails@bluestonetin.com.au.





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Sales Enquiries

Jacob Walsh

0447 090 826

mining_industrial@blackleypipelines.com.au

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE WEST

2025 DATES
Memorial Hall, Orr Street, 11am-2pm

FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
2	2	6	4
			Mother's Day Market
JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT
1	6	3	7
			Father's Day Market
OCT	OCT	NOV	DEC
5	19	2	7
	The Unconformity Makers Market		Christmas Market

BOOK YOUR STALL NOW! call Robyn 0428 466 445

Save the Date
12th of April 2025

Zeehan Street Market

Come join us for a day of fun, local flavors, and unique finds!

Mark your calendars and get ready for an exciting day at the Zeehan Street Market!

Date: Saturday, 12th of April
Time: 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Location: Zeehan Main Street

FREE ENTRY EVENT

rosebery festival

Goin' Fishin', Gnarly Burl, Fireworks, Live Music,
The Strife, Shannon and Craig Colour Run, Kids Activities,
Ilan MacLeod, Rebel Ras + More Markets, Art Exhibition, +More

20th - 23rd March 2025

William Adams CAT, Recycal, MMG, PYBAR, TASRAIL, BLUESTONE MINES TASMANIA, TMEC, Blackley, DE BRUYN'S TRANSPORT, IGR Rosebery, 7XS, IMPRESS, PowerTilt, Alpha, Teo Hub, Eusebery

www.roseberyfestival.com

Grade 6 Raffle
1ST PRIZE

4X TICKETS TO A BBL15 HURRICANES GAME OF YOUR CHOICE
TASMANIA DEVILS FOOTBALL CLUB BEANIE (\$50)
\$50 EVANS IGA VOUCHER
\$50 MOONSCAPE WINESBAR VOUCHER
POTTERY FOR THE PLANET TRAVEL CUP
2 X HOBART HURRICANES HATS

2ND PRIZE

\$50 TRACKS CAFE VOUCHER
\$50 WESTERLY SEAFOODS VOUCHER
2 X POTTERY FOR THE PLANET THINKSTAY
OGFC BEANIE (\$25)
2 X HOBART HURRICANES HATS

3RD PRIZE

\$50 MARKETPLACE VOUCHER
\$20 COFFEE SHACK VOUCHER
2 X HOBART HURRICANES HATS

TICKETS \$1 EACH
DRAW FRIDAY MARCH 28
MORE PRIZES TBC

Save the Date...
Mark your calendars!

Strahan Golf Club's Cracker Night is back for another epic evening of fireworks, fun, and community spirit!

Date: Saturday 24th May, 2025
Location: Strahan Golf Club

Fireworks, Food & Family Fun

Stay tuned for more details, but for now—spread the word and get ready for a night to remember!

ZEEHAN STREET MARKET

SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH | 10AM ONWARDS

MAIN STREET, ZEEHAN

Come and be part of the ZEEHAN STREET MARKET! Whether you're a local business, artisan, or community group, this is a great opportunity to showcase your goods and services to the community.

BOOK YOUR STALL TODAY!

Spots are filling fast, so secure your table now!

STALL FEE: \$10 per table
LOCATION: Main Street, Zeehan
SET-UP TIME: From 8:30 AM
MARKET STARTS: 10 AM
NOTE: BYO tables

FOR BOOKINGS AND INQUIRIES, CONTACT:
Zeehan Neighbourhood Centre,
64716108
Join us for a day of SHOPPING, ENTERTAINMENT, and COMMUNITY FUN!

Regional Development Australia TASMANIA
Western Regional Strategic Partnership

NETWORK EVENT

SAVE THE DATE

WEDNESDAY 16 APRIL 2025

5pm - 7pm

STUDY HUB WEST COAST
Frederick Street Zeehan

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES
INDUSTRY PROJECT UPDATES

LIGHT SUPPER & REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

RSVP liz.youd@rdatasmania.org.au
BY COB Thursday 8th April

Western Echo photos and more


Photos in the Western Echo, and many more that didn't make it into print are available on our new website www.westernecho.zenfoliosite.com. Simply scan the QR code at right, find the event you are interested in and purchase photos directly from there. Too easy!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE NORTHWEST


Save the date

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE NOW!



2025 WYNYARD SHOW

SAT 15 MARCH 2025 • 9:00 AM
WYNYARD SHOWGROUNDS
JACKSON STREET
WYNYARDSHOW.ORG/BUY-TICKETS/



PACKED FULL OF FREE FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Demos by ABC's Muster Dog star Russ Fowler & Dog Molly
DISCOVER WYNYARD'S 2025 TOP TOSSERS
Enter the Free Sheaf Tossing & Gumboot Tossing Competitions

DAIRY DEMOS	POULTRY & NW BIRD CLUB DISPLAYS	TRACTOR REVERSING
ANIMAL NURSERY	LIVESTOCK COMPETITIONS	& TUG-O-WAR
INDUSTRIAL HALL	WOODCHOPPING, HISTORICAL DISPLAYS	COMPETITIONS
	+ LOADS MORE!!!!	

Appleby's MEDITERRANEO

MEGA CAR SHOW

30th March 2025

Gates open 10am till 3pm

Gold coin donation entry fee

Live music by **BRENDAN WARELY**

KIDS Face Painting Special guest **Bluesy**


Bar facilities - Special Menu

Applebys Mediterraneo Bar & Grill 17254 Bass Hwy Boat Harbour

Makes for Mental Health

SHOOTATHON

CAKE STALL | GARAGE SALE | GAMES



BOOK YOUR SPOT

SATURDAY MARCH 22 | 9AM TO 6 PM | SWIRL ARENA (BASKETBALL STADIUM)

WE'RE SHOOTING FOR 8 HOURS TO REPRESENT THE ALMOST 9 PEOPLE WHOSE TO SUICIDE EVERY DAY IN AUSTRALIA

BOOK YOUR 10 MINUTE SPOT TO HELP US RAISE AWARENESS AND FUNDS OR DONATE ITEMS FOR OUR GARAGE AND BAKE SALE

\$15 PER PERSON - 10 MINUTES SHOOTING TIME

REGISTER VIA TRIPBOOKING
CONTACT JANELLE TO BOOK YOUR TIME - 0428 902 972


RIPCURL

WEST COAST CLASSIC

50th Anniversary 1975-2025

APRIL 18-21 2025 MARRAWAH, TASMANIA

Presented by



MARRAWAH STORE DUNCAN SADBLER THISTLE HUT BOAT HARBOUR JOHN VAN DER WOBBE CONTACT GLENN 0428624866

MARCH 30





BBQ TASTE-TESTING WITH JOSH PERRY

Circular Head Men's Shed
11.30am - 1.30pm, 151 Nelson St, Smithton

NEIGHBOURS EVERY DAY - Celebrate Community & Connection!

Join us for a day of **good food and great company** as we celebrate what it means to be neighbours! Special guest **Josh Perry, MasterChef Australia 2024 runner-up**, will be serving up **delicious taste testings** you won't want to miss!

RSVP BY WEDNESDAY 26 MARCH, 2025 TO:
0402 603 496 OR CHMS_SECRETARY@MENSSHEDCIRCULARHEAD.ORG

Proudly supported by Relationships Australia Tasmania and funded by the Tasmanian Government through the Healthy Tasmania Fund.

\$5

PER PERSON



STANLEY & TARKINE FORAGE FESTIVAL
15-18 MAY 2025

Commissioning Mass – A time of Beginning

St. Joseph's Catholic School, Rosebery 13th February 2025

We began the academic school year with the Commissioning Mass as a positive note for the institution seeking God's blessings upon everyone for the year 2025.

St. Joseph's Catholic school, Rosebery had its Commissioning Liturgy on 13th February 2025 at 11.30 am where Fr. Arokia began the celebration with the School students from kinder to Grade 6 with the congregation, teachers and parents.

The important news for this year is that we have our new Principal Mrs. Tracey Kidd who took the charge in the month of January and two more new staffs joined us namely: Skye Robertson and Laura Dube.

Fr. Arokia welcomed all of them to the school and wished every success for their school journey and tasks. The message for the whole school institution was that we are called to be 'dedicated, committed, truthful and kind' in the

service of education and educating the students at Rosebery.

The commitment oath taking was done by Principal, Teachers and staffs at the end of the Mass with the candle light, followed by Students and Parents and Carers. Principal Tracey and Deputy Principal Rachael had distributed the students' badges for their leadership and commitment for learning.

The 2025 School Captains: Jaxx Armstrong, Ruby Hay, Melody McGowan; Sports Captains: Mekhi Wheldon, Sierra Ekinye and SRC Members: Kinder/Prep - Lincoln Hay & Anantha Basnayaka Mudiyansele

Year 1/2 - Evelyn Petroff & Aurora Best-Barnwell

Year 3/4 - Tyson Rubens & Harmony McGowan

Year 5/6 - Faith Wialu & Harley Brookes.

The celebration ended with the final blessings for all, beginning from teach-

ers, staffs, students, parents and carers.

WEST COAST CATHOLIC PARISH

HOLY WEEK MASS TIMING - 2025
Palm Sunday (13th April, 2025)

5:00 pm (Saturday vigil)
St. Joseph's church, Q'town
9:00 am (Sunday)
St. Fursaeus' Church, Zeehan

Maundy Thursday (17th April, 2025)

5:00 pm (Only Mass)
St. Joseph's church, Rosebery
7:30 pm (Only Adoration)
St. Joseph's church, Q'town

Good Friday (18th April, 2025)

9:30 am (Stations of the Cross)
St. Fursaeus' Church, Zeehan
11:00 am (Stations of the Cross)
St. Joseph's church, Q'town
3:00pm (Passion of our Lord)
St. Joseph's church, Q'town

Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil (19th April, 2025)



7:00 pm (Saturday Vigil)
St. Joseph's church, Q'town

Easter Sunday (20th April, 2025)

9:00 am St. Fursaeus' Church, Zeehan
11:00 am Holy Trinity Anglican church, Strahan

Fr. Arokia Aruldas
Administrator
2 Pontifex Street, Queenstown
Phone: (03)64711731

Paddle Week 2025 update



Each year Paddle Tasmania facilitates Paddle Week, usually in the middle of January. The idea is for a rolling schedule of Hydro Tasmania water releases so that local and visiting kayakers can enjoy clean, quality white water during the heat of summer. The week attracts up to 80 local and interstate paddlers.

This year's event was preceded by Slalom Competitions on the Forth River near Ulverstone and the National Wild Water Racing Championships at the Mersey River Whitewater Reserve near Mole Creek.

In canoe slalom paddlers compete for the fastest and cleanest time through a section of poles or gates as seen with Jess Fox at the Olympic Games. Wild Water Racing though is not an Olympic sport. Paddlers race down a section of rapids, fastest time wins. Races may be a rapid sprint taking less than 60 seconds or a 'classic' taking about 30 minutes. The kayakers are much longer and faster than slalom kayakers, really tippy and hard to roll. Usually held in Europe, the world championships for Wild Water racing were held in Tasmania some years ago. Tasmania is overrepresented in the competitive canoe world, consistently delivering Olympians and successful athletes in World Cup events.

Back to Paddle Week. The schedule of releases included the Forth River, the Mersey River, the King River, Wood-

wards Canal at Bradys Lake and finished with two days of water in Launceston's more challenging Cataract Gorge.

In anticipation of the King River release the West Coast Paddle Club arranged a free for members white water raft trip down the King River and a movie night at the Paragon playing Deliverance. As it turned out Hydro were unable to supply water on the King and the raft trip morphed to a kayak trip across Hells Gates with a swim at Pilot Bay. A pretty good day out regardless. The movie went ahead and thanks to all those people who came along and supported the Paddle Club and the Paragon. Let's try again next year with another Hydro release and river movie.

The Bradys Lake Whitewater course is about 90 minutes' drive from Queenstown. The water is Hydro controlled and provides excellent white water for thrills, competition and building skills. In summer the water is warm, the camping good and the fish biting. Kayak wise you can start at the easier bottom rapid and when happy move up to the next rapid and so on. This gives a controlled learning progression to build rather than destroy your confidence.

The West Coast Paddle Club has a selection of kayakers available free of charge for members to use on Club trips so find us on Facebook, join up and come and have some fun.

King Island Dairy Sold After Year-Long Uncertainty

Tasmanian cheesemaker King Island Dairy has been sold after spending more than a year on the market, facing the threat of closure.

Current owner Saputo has confirmed a binding agreement to sell the dairy to King Island Dairy 2 Pty Ltd, a newly formed entity. While Saputo did not disclose the identities of those behind the new company, it stated that the buyers are "two experienced Australian businessmen with expertise in supply chain and manufacturing."

"The buyer will make their own announcement in the coming days," Saputo added.

The sale covers the King Island Dairy facility, its brand, the on-site cheese store, and two local farms that ensure a steady milk supply.

Saputo informed its King Island staff in person before sending an email to all employees announcing the news. The company assured its workers that they would have the opportunity to transfer their employment to the new owner. Last September, Saputo announced plans to shut down the factory after failing to find a buyer, a move that left the King Island community deeply concerned about losing its largest employer. Tasmanian Premier Jeremy Rockliff vowed to find a solution, accusing the Canadian dairy giant of attempting to phase out the brand to reduce competition with its other dairy products.

"It would be a real blow to King Island if the multinational behemoth is planning to walk away from the King Island Dairy brand to promote its other brands," Rockliff said at the time.

"We do not take these accusations lightly, and we will not stand by while a global company neglects its responsibility to work with the government for Tasmania's benefit."

Hope Restored for King Island Dairy
Despite initial concerns, Saputo Dairy Australia's director of operations and supply chain, Gerard Lourey, said the company remained hopeful that an alternative solution would emerge following public outcry.

"We are very pleased to have reached a sale agreement with the buyer," Lourey said.

"We deeply appreciate the ongoing support of our dedicated King Island employees, suppliers, customers, the local council, and the Tasmanian government during this challenging period. We thank them for their patience, resilience, and collaboration."

Premier Rockliff also shared a brief statement on social media today, declaring:

"I said that King Island Dairy wouldn't close on my watch. Well today, we've saved it."



New season of footy with CHFA MMG project still waiting



The CHFA season opener will take place on 5th April 2025 Clubs are uniting to promote Mental Health and Suicide prevention with all games taking place at the Circular Head Community and Recreation centre.

Local Mental Health service providers attending the day include STITCH, RAW, Speak up Stay Chatty, Black Dog Institute, Good Sports.

The day commences at 0930 with under 12s's Redpa V Forest/Stanley on the bottom ground and under 16's Scotchtown V Irishtown on the main ground, games will continue to flow throughout the day on the main ground going well into the evening and under lights.

After the completion of the first senior game all clubs and umpires are to come together linking arms under a minute of Silence in respect of those locals who have fallen to suicide.

Clubs have had a very productive off season with all Presidents and Coaches finalised and preseason training has begun. Hobie Rutter continues as President at Irishtown with Matt McAlister coaching the under 12's, Daniel Little-

john under 16's Danny Swan and Leslie Lambert leading the reserves and Kyle Everett and Sean Ryan.

Scotchtown has Josh Smith has taking on the presidency role as well as the role of Under 12's coach. Robert Flint coaching the Under 16's, Diddle Poke and Mitchell Scoyler will continue from last season as reserves coach. Seniors will be led by David Tuxworth

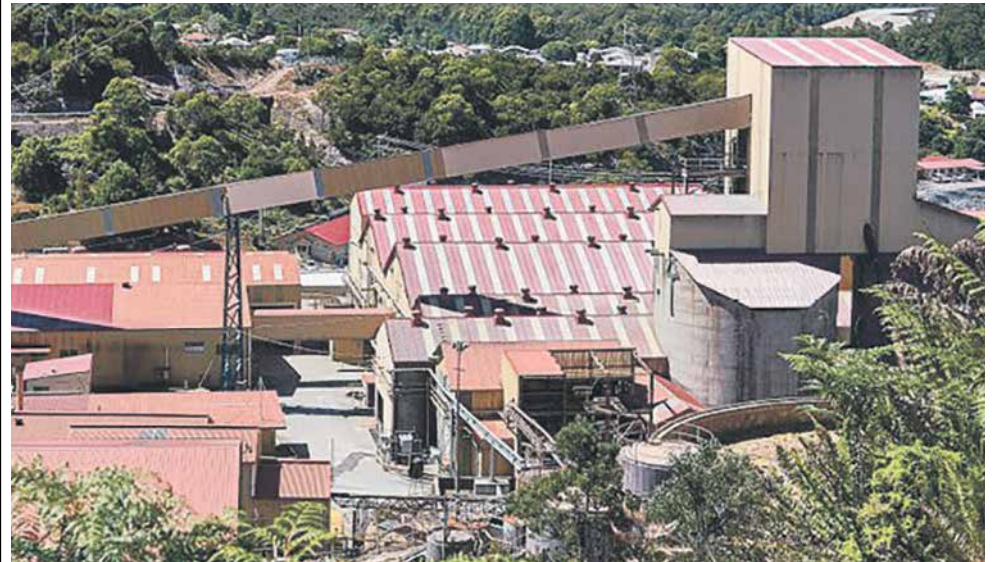
Redpa has seen a Change in leadership with Michael Booth taking over from Zac Bransden as president. Andrew Pilkington has been appointed coach of the under 12's. Casey Grey will be in charge of the Under 16's, Tim West and Josh Anderson continue in the role of Reserves. Josh Gale continues as senior Coach,

Forest/Stanley also has had a change in leadership with Issac Long as President. Guy Kearnes steps into the Under 12 Coaches role, Trent Poke and Caleb Berechree are coaching the 16's Reserves Coach is Donovan Lockett and John Cartwright. Jake Lyndon is Coaching the Seniors.

The CHFUA is being led by Gino Moro and Stephen Heald, with Ian Heald taking on the coaching role solo with Trainings Monday and Wednesday night 5pm from the Umpire sheds.

This season the CHFA are trying smaller final series format. We will see just 2 rounds of finals instead of 4 with 1st spot on the ladder going directly to the Grand Final. 2nd and 3rd will play off and 4th will see the season come to and end.

The CHFA executive wish all players, Coaches, Supporters and Volunteers all the best for the upcoming season



MMG is making strides toward an extended future, but a critical project remains stuck in federal approvals limbo. MMG Limited's 2024 annual results report revealed that an underground and surface exploration drilling program had boosted Rosebery Mine's ore reserves by 47 percent. This included increases of more than 30 percent in zinc, lead, silver, gold, and copper.

The key challenge now is securing federal approval for a long-term tailings storage solution.

Proposals to establish a new tailings storage facility at South Marionoak and to resume preparatory works assessing its feasibility have been stalled at the federal level for an extended period.

It is unlikely that Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek will make a decision on these proposals before the upcoming federal election, leaving the mine's future uncertain.

If a minority government is elected, the situation could become even more complex, as environmental groups strongly oppose both proposals.

Rosebery Mine currently provides over 500 jobs, and MMG has emphasized the need for a sustainable tailings storage solution to ensure ongoing operations. In the meantime, the company has pursued temporary measures. In December, it received final approval to expand an existing tailings storage facility. Plans include raising embankments at the Bobadil tailings storage site and increasing capacity at the 2/5 Dam.

"These projects, subject to permitting approvals, could extend the life of the existing tailings facilities until 2030," MMG stated. Chairman Xu Jiqing praised the Rosebery team for achieving key milestones in developing long-term tailings storage solutions to maximize the site's potential.

The mine recorded strong performance in 2024. MMG reported a 58 percent increase in the site's earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, and amortization, reaching \$196.5 million. The company as a whole saw its net after-tax profit soar to \$583 million—nearly triple its 2023 result.



Seniors Grand final winners from 2024 season. Redpa 6.11.47 Irishtown 1.4.10

Tasnetworks quick on the scene to stop fireworks

A couple of weeks ago a neighbour alerted me to the power line at the back of my shop sparking, smoking and banging. It was like a very scary fireworks display right outside my back door. Tasnetworks came out quickly with their big cherry picker truck and replaced it with more modern cable. Great job guys.



West Coast Junior Football update

Lets keep junior footy running on the West Coast for our children

Make sure you get the word out to your friends and get registered!

We are excited to be kicking off the 2025 West Coast Junior Football season on Sunday the 30th March with a Gala Day in Strahan.

Three teams Zeehan, Strahan and Queenstown are registered in Play HQ with a view to re-establish Rosebery next year.

All West Coast girls from grade 1 to 7 and boys from grade 1 to 6 are invited to register through PlayHQ.

All Rosebery participants, please contact Steve on 0459717033 to arrange a team to play for this season.

2025 will have a new look. We'll be separating the kids into two games played simultaneously with the 9 person juniors team being a 1/3rd size ground

and played between grade one to grade three boys and girls.

The senior teams will consist of 15 per side, grade four boys and girls to grade six boys and grade seven girls.

We ask parents to assist where possible with goal umpiring, vote scoring, timekeeping and canteen duties. These small duties help our hard-working committee, umpires and coaches to put on this year's roster.



Stadium cricket returns to coast

Some months ago, I spent time at Mountain Heights School and Zeehan Primary school, promoting Stadium Cricket for all ages, with around 140 coming along to check it out. I would love to return and set up adult rosters, also including juniors. Stadium Cricket is a cross between indoor and backyard cricket, played in school stadiums. 6 players per team, one hour games

To get Stadium Cricket happening, I am looking for at least 4 teams to get started Get a fun team together and let's get cricket happening again.

For more info on this wicked cricket game, contact John House on 0407 561283

WE PLAY QUEENSTOWN BASKETBALL

Photos by Alan Jennison

QJBA Round 2

On March 3rd Round 2 of Queenstown Junior basketball was played. Our first game was our U11 girls, the two teams were Rubies Vs Gems. Rubies came out on top with a 24 to 10 final score. Our second game was our U15 girls, the two teams were Mystics Vs Fever which Mystics won with an 18 to 10 final score.





Queenstown Amateur Swimming Club Swimathon 2025

Thank you and well done to all our swimmers who participated and raised money to support our club. It was fantastic to see so many swimmers in the water and see most people increase the number of laps they swam from last year. The fundraising from the Swimathon goes directly back into supporting our little club and our members.

Thank you to Jamie for cooking the bbq and keeping everyone fed, Sharyn for donating first and second prize to the raffle and Tammy for donating third prize. There were some very excited winners! Thank you also to all parents and community who supported the night by counting laps and with other jobs, it does not go unnoticed.

If you were unable to participate last week, but need the participation to qualify for championships or would simply like to raise some funds for our club, please inbox the page and we will organise a catch up for you!



WE PLAY NORTH WEST KARTING CLUB

Story by David Fidler, Photos by Alan Jennison

60 competitors and crew made their way to the North Western Kart Club at Highclere on Saturday 1st of March for the Annual TaG Restricted & KA3 Tas Masters Feature, covering 10 competitive classes. Weather was good for most of the day with a couple of showers throughout the day just to make racing that little more exciting.

Cadet 9 was the smallest group of the day with only three karters entering this class, two of these being provisional licence holders. Luke McCullagh was the driver to beat all day finishing the day on the top step of the podium, second place was Hugh Beechey and third was Jayden Clarke.

Cadet 12 has a field of 15 drivers, this class also had some P Platers entered. P Plater Mia Robertson was voted P Plate driver of the day after a rollover in her second heat, Mia sat out her Third heat before having a great race in the final. The final was a hotly contested race with Eli White finishing First for his first podium in the Cadet 12 class, second place went to Jack O'Neill who was also on the podium for the first time, Ethan Youd rounded out the podium in Third.

The KA3 Junior Light and Heavy classes were run on track together due to smaller numbers, KA3 Junior light had some very close racing with three new additions to the class taking out the podium. Harry Warmesley has kept the speed he had from Cadet 12's finishing First for the weekend, Elenah Rankin continued with her great speed finishing Second on the podium, the final step went to Ayden McCullagh who is also showing great pace since moving up from the Cadet 12 class. KA3 Junior Heavy class only consisted of 3 drivers this weekend. Sophie Sommerville who is a P Plater showed she is no slouch behind the wheel finishing her day in Second position with Jack Redpath coming in Third.

KA3 Senior Light and Medium also took to the track together with the girls showing the way in the KA3 Senior Light class. Gemma Wyllie, first place, proving to good for Tayla Heath who finished a close Second for the weekend, Jonty Rowbottom rounded out the podium behind Tayla Heath for Third place. KA3 Senior Medium only had the two entries this weekend with Tyson Slatter, First, too good for Sam Braid finishing Second.

The first of the Feature classes was TaG 125 Restricted Heavy who were also on

track with the TaG 125 Restricted Mediums. Daniel Hinds showed his superiority in this class with a sensational lap of 38.218 seconds the claim a new lap record for the TaG 125 Restricted Heavy class, Second and Third place was a battle of the Sheahen Brothers with Nigel finishing ahead of Allan to take out Second with Allan, Third. TaG 125 Restricted Medium unfortunately having only the two competitors this weekend was still closely contested with Gareth McCarthy finishing on the top step of the podium, second going to Troy Sheahen.

TaG Restricted Light and KA3 Tas Masters ran their first three heats together with some sensationally close racing in both classes. Joel Howe showed he isn't a driver to count out in any class, making Zane Wyatt work for his position. Zane Wyatt run out victorious in the final and setting a new lap record during the day of 37.108 seconds around the 770-metre track. Luke Sapwell, fresh of a SKAA Dirt Kart State title last week at Latrobe Speedway finished Second to Wyatt, closely followed by Joel Howe in Third.

KA3 Tas Masters was thrilling to watch all day with plenty of sensational passing moves made throughout the day, Ben Marley really hitting his straps this weekend showing he is no slouch behind the wheel of a Kart, taking out the Victory in this class over a fast-finishing Clinton Slatter, Daniel Rowbottom rounded out the podium with a third place finish.


NWKC will now get set for there next meeting on Saturday 24th of May for the Cadet Titles, followed by a bonfire night and Fireworks.





Western Echo photos and more

Photos in the Western Echo, and many more that didn't make it into print are available on our new website www.westernecho.zenfoliosite.com. Simply scan the QR code at right, find the event you are interested in and purchase photos directly from there. Too easy!



Smithton Bowls Club finals achievement

Smithton has reached the finals in both Division 2 and Division 3, finishing the home and away roster in the top four. Division 2 secured the top position leading into the finals, achieving victories on all three rinks against Ulverstone Bombers at Smithton. The team, confident and in strong form, is aiming for a second consecutive premiership. Key players include Clayton Williams, Michael Berechree, John Stronach, Gary Nankivell, Glen McLaren, Hans Driehaus, Rodney O'Halloran, Mark Elphinstone, and Russell Hugo. Robert Turley and Ken Moore also contributed as fill-ins.

Division 3 has made the finals in only

their second season, showing great improvement and adaptation to playing against strong opponents. Key contributors throughout the season include Maurice Moles, Leigh Pinner, Wayne Huisman, Ross Arnold, Lionel Wright, Michael Neilson, Neville Edwards, Tom Riley, Len Gaby, Rick Skilton, Neville Foggo, Irene Arnold, Warren Heald, Dennis Robson, Margaret O'Halloran, Terry Auld, and Trish Elphinstone.

Wednesday, March 19th, 2025, will be the finals with venues yet to be announced. The Club will be wanting as much support as possible from members and community in general.



WE PLAY NORTH WEST BOARD RIDERS TAKE ON MARRAWAH

Story by Lucy Taylor Photos by Alan Jennison



Marrawah's surf break, 'Lighthouse' shaped up to be a prime location for North West Board Riders final event of the Summer series on Saturday 22 February.

The day consisted of a fun competition which included coaching for the Under 18 competitors, as well as a junior coaching session with groms age 4 to 11 riding the shore break.

The weather warmed up to over 27 degrees which made the offshore banks the perfect place to be positioned. The swell was pumping at 2 metres with a strong offshore breeze making for challenging conditions that demanded competitors' true courage and skills to shine.

Participants came from across the Coast from Devonport, Ulverstone, Penguin, Burnie, Boat Harbour and Sisters Beach to be part of the event.

A last-minute entry came from visitor, Ryuhei Yamamoto from Japan who stunned the judges and onlookers with his elegant big wave style. He went on to claim first place in the Open Men's division on the day, a close second for local ripper, Matt Gaby.

The under 18's division was taken out by sixteen-year-old Oscar Taylor from Boat Harbour who took the top wave score in this age group for the win.

Special mentioned to Bo Ellis, the only female competitor who continues to dominate alongside her male counterparts in the surf. Over 40's competitors were sizzling on the day and an epic barrel ride from Richard Ramsden had the Surfing Tasmania board representative from the north west out in front of the pack!

Competitors took home prizes from generous club sponsors that included Twenty Five Nine and Buttons Brewing. Other sponsors who have supported the season include Little Sisters General Store, Dixons Pharmacy, Red Herring and Surfing Tasmania.

The club looks forward to Surfing Tasmania's West Coast Classic over Easter and next seasons calendar of event which includes the Phantom Coast Classic.

Stay tuned for upcoming event information on social media or sign up to become a member for updates via an e-newsletter.

Results

Opens 1. Ryuhei Yamamoto 2. Matt Gaby 3. Dylan Haberle 4. Toby Ray

Under 18s 1. Oscar Taylor 2. Liam Tassicker 3. Bo Ellis 4. Murray Ingram

Over 40s 1. Richard Ramsden 2. Jy Johannesen 3. Aaron Auton 4. Cam Bremner

WE PLAY NORTH WEST BOARD RIDERS TAKE ON MARRAWAH

Story by Lucy Taylor Photos by Alan Jennison



North West Board Riders take on Marrawah

Photos by Alan Jennison



Western Echo photos and more

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