

### LIVING WITH SNAKES

By Ian Norton, Senior Executive Officer, Reptile Rescue



Ian Norton

Every year all over the State, snakes in suburbia become an ever increasing problem. As a Senior Executive Officer with Reptile Rescue Incorporated, I witness a myriad of unusual encounters from home invasion of dwellings, workshops, garages and cars by snakes, not to mention fatalities of a large number of dogs from snakebite. Awareness and preventative measures can greatly enhance chance meetings with these much maligned reptiles.

Something as simple as putting water out on the boundary of a back yard accompanied by good home maintenance

can have a positive effect. Water is an attractant for snakes during hot summer weather and often a dogs dish may appear as a water oasis in the dessert to a snake, but with life threatening ramifications that can brings pets into direct conflict over water rights. The remedy may be as simple as placing a dog's water dish in the shade out in the open where both dog, snake and humans can have advance awareness of attendees at the drink bowl.

Home security in itself enters the equation, remember, if a mouse can gain entry to a house, so can a snake. Doors left open will allow a house full of flies and possibly snakes that take advantage of open doors and windows. A bush under an open window is a perfect entry point, and imagine waking up in the middle of the night to find yourself sharing the bed with a venomous snake, it might sound fanciful but it has happened with disastrous consequences.

Car transport for snakes happens frequently with snakes secreting themselves underneath or in the engine bay of all types of motorised transport, literally delivering snakes right into suburbia and often into home garages.

Education is the key to keeping humans and pets safe, and to co-existing happily with snakes as a part of our native fauna in rural areas.

Continued Page 2



Copperhead Snake



Tiger Snake

## Community Contacts

FIRE:000

### Dilston Fire Brigade

Raoul Stow 0417 351 423

### Hillwood Fire Brigade

Elaine Burns 0417 540 665

### Windermere Cafe

6328 1303

### Dilston Hall

Lizzie Benstead: 0409 974 508

### St Matthias Church

June: 0411 567 029

Jenny: 0419 544 266

### Playgroup

Amy: 0413 394 523

### Dilston/Swan Bay/Windermere Garden Club

Kerri: 0407 447 344

### East Tamar Mens Shed

John: 0431 151 766

Jon 0419 317 808

### Book Discussion Group

Jess: 0428 658 988

[Jess.Panday@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:Jess.Panday@education.tas.gov.au)

### Justice of The Peace

Darren Pullen: 0439 912 862

## Copy For NEXT ISSUE Due

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## SPECIAL SMOKE SIGNALS SNAKE EDUCATION SESSION WITH IAN NORTON

Saturday February 20 at 10:00am at the Dilston Hall In a free two hour session you will:

- Get up close and personal with live snakes - learn to identify different species. Identification between species is essential.
- Learn what to do when you encounter a snake.
- Learn first aid and clinical management of snake bite. This is essential to survival - learn to apply bandages and refine their application.
- Watch a powerpoint presentation that will outline important facts and explode myths.

WE WILL BE OFFERING SPECIAL SNAKE BITE BANDAGES FOR SALE ON THE DAY

PLEASE NOTE: Because of COVID restrictions only 32 people can be admitted to the Dilston Hall, but most of the information will be delivered outdoors, allowing for social distancing.

## TAMAR ACTION GROUP - CORRECTION

In last issue's front page story on the Tamar Action Group, we inadvertently directed readers to their website at [tamaractiongroup.com.au](http://tamaractiongroup.com.au). The correct web site address is [tamaractiongroup.org.au](http://tamaractiongroup.org.au). Our apologies for the error.



**"MADE WITH LOVE"**  
**SATURDAY 10th April 2021 9am-2pm**  
Dilston Hall John Lees Drive Dilston



Join us for this popular community event. Covid regulations will be in place.



Men's Shed Sales and BBQ  
Hand made Crafts  
Cards, Soaps and other goodies,  
Plants  
Garden Art from local artists  
Paintings and Drawings  
Raffle  
Cakes, Preserves and other yummy delights



Book your space now to share your handmade items or we look forward to seeing you on the day

To book or for more information contact  
Fiona Miller 0414 657 578 [creative.fionam@gmail.com](mailto:creative.fionam@gmail.com)



## Letters To The Editor

### **“THERE’S ALWAYS SOMETHING IN MY BASKET”.**

Every day I live and have lived my life with the embedded belief that community is an extension of family. Many a time I would visit people with my Grandmother or Mother with a basketful of goodies for someone, share a catch up over a cup of tea and often left with our basket as full as we came.

The act of giving and receiving was instilled in me from my family and a school motto “Give to receive” and I stand by those beliefs in all that I do. Ironically after many different jobs, roles and organisations, I found my fit in Asset Based Community Development. It was a day I realised I could be ok with giving freely of “me”, my time, my skills/ gifts and not feel the pressure of someone else’s judgement or outcome based structure, but enjoy the simplicity of the act of kindness, neighbourliness, creativity and connection. This may seem simple, but many find this connection and act of community hard to find.



We have been in this community for just over 3 years and I am in awe and forever grateful of the connection, community mindedness and neighbourliness that exists here without pretence. We may not connect every day, but we do keep an eye out for each other, feed dogs and chooks and lend a hand when needed. You see in my work, we offer opportunities for people to grow their skills in understanding how to engage, connect, grow, build leadership and nurture their communities. This community, “Our Community”, is truly a connected community and I could write a book filled with wonderful stories of connection and community. Together we address issues that matter, create safe spaces and places for connection and importantly give each the support we need when a tough challenge faces us. We are quick to respond and bounce back from hard times and protect each other and the assets around us that connect us and for this we are happier and healthier.

But you know, I see so much more than that. I see a willingness to listen and be heard and to find ways to connect us even more. To educate, to allow people shine, to share and support ideas, to grow and build our community together, to include and be included with the simplest of gestures as a text message or a note in your mail box. How thankful I am for the social media platform where we can ask questions, return wandering creatures, to share a story or reach out. How thankful that last year when we could not travel to our families we knew we had one here. How thankful are we all for “Smoke Signals” and all of the people that make it happen, for the benefit of us all.

Every day I see people waving and smiling at each other, stopping to chat, meeting for coffee, supporting local events, and businesses, mowing lawns, swapping produce and lending a hand when someone needs it. I do love that celebrations are also high on the list. My heart is full of these beautiful moments that are shared amongst us without expecting anything in return, just the knowledge that we are loved and one day we will have opportunity to return the favour in some way. A basket filling gift we should not take for granted.

Be proud wonderful community of all that you are and “Thank you for filling my basket” and accepting the basket I can offer you.

Fiona Elliott (Miller)

PS we have plenty of zucchinis if you need any!



# BIRDS OF THE TAMAR By Jon Hosford

## Hooded Plovers



### KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE KIDS THIS SUMMER

The following article appeared in the December edition of Australian birdlife to which I subscribe. I have gained permission to reprint this article for the education of East Tamar residents.

Male and female Hooded Plovers look identical. Not even the slightest size difference tells them apart. This is undoubtedly because they are leaders in gender equality in the animal kingdom, proportionately sharing the burden of raising young. And burden is no exaggeration. Hooded plovers can have an eight-month-long breeding season and can renest up to seven times. They spend four weeks on eggs, and five weeks raising their flightless chicks.

But it takes just seconds for all this effort to be undone- for a predator, a human foot, tyre or wave to bring an end to it all. And so, Hooded plovers must begin again, and

again, and again. Hoodies are one of the most tenacious and hardworking species when it comes to parenting. The chicks begin feeding themselves, just moments after hatching, but even so, the parents never rest and rarely take a moment to feed themselves during the five long weeks it takes the chicks to fledge. They have a full-time job staying alert, scanning the environment for threats, warning the chicks into hiding and then putting themselves in direct danger by feigning a broken wing or running rapidly in front of an energetic dog or hungry magpie.

That's why it's so important for us to take care on the beach each summer.

Heading to the beach with your dog over Tasmania's late summer and autumn? By following some simple guidelines, we can share our beaches with the special birds that live there and make a big difference to their future.

- Don't assume you will be able to see them, as beach nesting birds are masters of camouflage- you could be stressing birds and not even know it.
- Walk close to the water's edge- nests and chicks are easily crushed underfoot by people and animals walking above the high tide line.
- Stay away from fenced areas, which can give you a general idea of where the birds may be.
- Keep your dog on a leash. Wandering dogs are extremely dangerous to beach-nesting birds, and your dog could easily scare or kill a chick before you even notice. Keep your dog on a lead and follow all signage and dog registrations at your beach.



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### Ivan Dean MLC

Your local Independent  
Member for Windermere -  
Legislative Council



*I am frequently in  
the Hillwood and  
Dilston areas and  
happy to catch up  
should I be able to  
assist with any  
issues.*

Phone: 03 6324 2005

Mobile: 0417 364 375

Email: [ivan.dean@parliament.tas.gov.au](mailto:ivan.dean@parliament.tas.gov.au)

Henty House

One Civic Square

Launceston TAS 7250



## EAST TAMAR MENS SHED

With the Christmas /New Year period, many members have been involved with family, and SHED sessions have had a pruned attendance. Nevertheless we are seeing members making creative furniture as pictured below, bat hollows for the public and some wood lathe turned items are being made. Others have been crafting homemade projects for themselves. We are keen to support the handmade market being planned for Saturday April 10th and encourage members to assist in producing items for sale at this.

See further details advertised in this and the next edition of Smoke Signals.

There are quite a number of good news items we are keen to share in the next edition once they have been finalised. So watch this space.



Ian's toy box seat cabinet  
( blackwood) \$ 200



George's Rocking Horse

President:

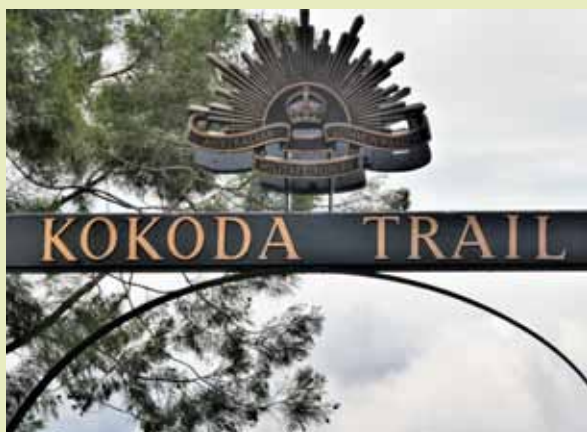
George Murray 049 927 3375

Secretary:

Jon Hosford 0419 317 808



ETMS is assisted by  
equipment grants  
from the Tasmanian  
Government.



### PETER STECKENKO PRESENTS

An evening of reflection on the trail and its significance in World War 2 through the journey of a walker.

At the Dilston Memorial Hall

Saturday April 24th at 6pm \$15 per head includes light BBQ meal and wine.

Under current COVID restrictions a limit of 32 is set for the venue.

So don't miss out.

Bookings to

Jon Hosford - 0419 317 808 secretary@

easttamarmensshed.org.au Or Alf Waters 0438 948 251

## GET SMOKE SIGNALS ON LINE

We rely on volunteers for the distribution of Smoke Signals, so can't guarantee that you will receive it in your mailbox every time. Why not subscribe to our on line version and be sure to keep up to date with local happenings (you'll still get the printed version if we have a deliverer in your area).

Just email [smokesignals@bigpond.com](mailto:smokesignals@bigpond.com) with SUBSCRIBE in the subject line and we'll add you to our online subscription list.

**Smoke Signals is also available from:**

George Town Library

Marigolds on the Tamar-Hillwood

Mt Direction Service Station

Hillwood Berry Farm

Windermere Cafe



One of the most striking buildings on the East Tamar is the three story stone and brick barn on the Eastern side of John Lees Drive, opposite the Windermere turnoff.

In the 1830s the property, known as Thorpe, was owned by Captain George Coulson, who also owned the two story Friend's Arms in what is now Dilston Road.

Coulson built a stone and timber cottage on the property and in 1836 leased Thorpe to William Bransgrove, who, with his brother George, ran a prominent butcher's shop in Launceston.

It was clearly good farming land, as in 1838 the Cornwall Chronicle reported:

Turnips.— We had an opportunity yesterday of seeing two turnips or enormous growth. One of the white Norfolk kind measured four feet four inches in circumference, and weighed forty one pounds. The other, of the red globe kind, weighed nineteen pounds. These turnips

were grown by Mr Bransgrove, on the Thorpe farm, East Bank, Tamar, without manure, and are transplanted into the garden of Mr. Richmond, of this Town, where they are to be seen.

The land however was prone to frequent flooding and it may have been Bransgrove and Captain Coulson who initiated the convict cut diversion of Lady Nelson Creek to drain the area north of the present Lady Nelson Creek bridge.

Bransgrove was assigned a large number of convicts who around 1837 constructed the barn. The bottom floor is made from rubble freestone, three feet thick, with two stories of locally made bricks above.

The purpose of this imposing building is something of a mystery, as it is variously described as a granary, a barn, a flour mill, a distillery and a barracks.

The Australian Heritage Register lists it as the Burnside Flour Mill (Burnside was the later name of the property),

but Jill Cassidy and Keith Preston in their extensive study of Tasmanian flour mills, think that this was unlikely.

In 1909 the Launceston Daily Telegraph claimed it was built on the creek as a distillery but forestalled by Governor Franklin's ban on distillation in 1838.

It has been described elsewhere as a barracks and may well have served to accommodate both soldiers and convicts at times.

The Tasmanian Heritage Register lists it as the Burnside Granary, and this seems the most likely theory, as, with the creek diverted, Bransgrove may have had large scale cropping ambitions.

That it still stands proudly today, almost 200 years later, is a testament to the skill of its convict builders.



## CHURCH NEWS     St Matthias' Anglican Church

**E**xciting breaking news: It is with great excitement and joy that we announce the re-commencement of 9am fortnightly services as of Sunday Feb 14 (unless a fresh outbreak of COVID precludes this). Current COVID restrictions dictate a max. group limit of 30, use of sanitiser on entry and prior to communion, and to practise social distancing within the church and grounds. Yellow dots have been placed on alternate pews signifying positions where either one person or a couple may sit. Please prevent a "bottleneck" whilst entering and exiting church by maintaining social distancing of 1.5m, and morning tea can only be served outside (with limited food), weather permitting. However we are so looking forward to this day, and hope you can come along and join us. Please feel free to wear a mask if you feel more comfortable doing so.



We welcome Rev John Tongue (Assistant Priest to the Parish) will lead most St Matthias' services. He has moved from Devonport with his wife Shirley, his son Peter and daughter Kimberley. They are keen gardeners and birdwatchers as well!

Despite cool weather, our outdoor Christmas carols service was a great success with 100 in attendance...a tradition too special to miss.



Easter Sunday will be celebrated at St Matthias', with all other Holy Week services being centred at Holy Trinity in town. Last year's community celebration of Easter at Windermere with decorated mailboxes and gardens was very special, and we hope this will again be a feature of our community.



We are currently negotiating with Dunns Stonemasons in Prospect, for advice regarding restoration of some of the graves with new concrete and/or marble chips. We hope some descendants of these pioneer families will sponsor the upgrades to honour the memories of their ancestors. Should anyone else also wish to "adopt a grave", please contact 0409317806.

Contact details: Rev John Tongue 0488473973    Dane Courtney 0408622182  
Services 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. 9am.  
Follow us on Facebook [stmatthias'windermere](#) for regular information updates.

## GARDEN CLUB NEWS



View over the Tamar Estuary from "Tarcoola"

I think that everyone will agree that we in Tasmania, have been very fortunate to be living on this beautiful island where we have been able, for many months, to experience relative (but cautious!) freedom to move around. Not only that, but how fortunate are we to enjoy this lovely community of garden lovers! We welcomed quite a few new members in 2020 and look forward to a long and happy association with you all.

Our 2021 calendar is shaping up to be an exciting year with some really special gardens to visit, including Wychwood at Mole Creek, in February.

We all enjoyed celebrating the final gathering for 2020 - our Christmas celebration. Lou and John provided a wonderful Christmas venue in their house and garden at "Tarcoola" in Dilston. We had all asked John to talk about Truffle growing, and so he did - very eloquently - providing a most interesting background to the industry and its growth in Tasmania. We all had a taste of Tamar Truffle Paste – and some of us purchased a jar. I wish to add that, since then, Greg and I have used it as an addition to the tomato base on our own home-made pizzas, and enjoyed it very much. Very highly recommended!

John's vegetable and fruit garden was looking very healthy and productive – John particularly loves this part of his garden and it shows. Lou likes to use the produce from their garden in all their meals and takes pride in having to purchase very little produce from markets or shops.

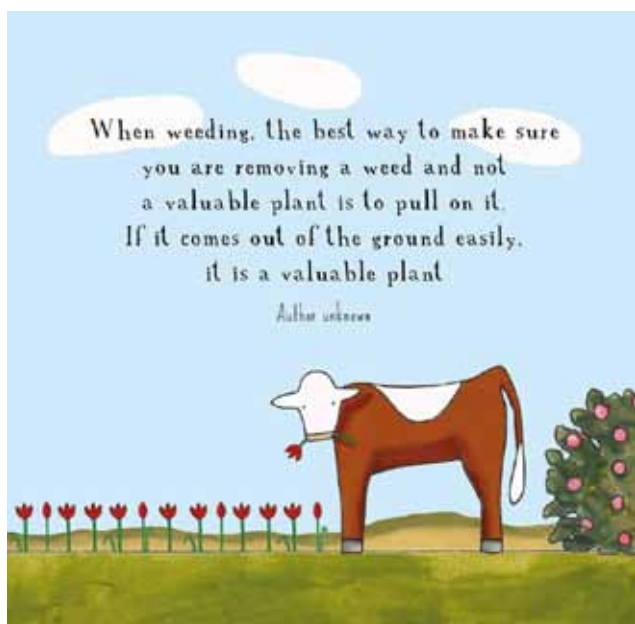
Thank you to Lou and John for your wonderful hospitality – it was a fabulous afternoon.



A very Christmassy pavlova!







If you would like to participate in Garden Club activities, please call or email me. New members are very welcome and there are no fees involved!  
 Kerri Curtis – Telephone: 0407 447 344  
 Email: [kerridwen51@gmail.com](mailto:kerridwen51@gmail.com)

### NEED SOME POLY PIPE ?

Dear Editor,

When we moved, from our farm to Swan Bay, resources that came with us included a quantity of poly pipe. Sizes are 50 mm and 90 mm.

They are a useful garden resource for such projects as supporting protective netting over fruiting plants or constructing an easy to build green-house.

We have a quantity which is surplus to our needs to give away to any Smokesignals readers. We are at 12 Woodlawn Road Swan Bay ( near Native Point Reserve) &/or “[irdcfarquhar@bigpond.com](mailto:irdcfarquhar@bigpond.com)” or 0448 281 645.  
 Ian & Di Farquhar

### TREVOR AVENT – METAL DETECTORIST

Trevor Avent is a local metal detectorist who is keen to investigate some of the older properties on the East Tamar. All items found are recorded then returned to the property owner. Trevor’s finds have included old coins, axe heads, cutlery and other household items from the 1800s. One of the most interesting finds was this 1862 Tasmanian Local Forces waist belt buckle.

Who knows what buried treasure he might find? If you’d like to invite Trevor to investigate your property contact him on 0429 933 679 or email him at [trevor@aluglass.com.au](mailto:trevor@aluglass.com.au)



**Distributors still needed for the Hillwood Area If you can help please contact George or Jenny Chandler on 0419 544 266 or email [jenichan@bigpond.net.au](mailto:jenichan@bigpond.net.au)**

# THE BEES IN MY GARDEN

## IT'S A WIN-WIN FOR BEES, BEEKEEPERS AND ORCHARDISTS

It's an Australian first. It's called The Purple Hive Project, and it's a technology game changer that's designed to safeguard Australia's bee and honey industry from Varroa destructor, a pinhead-sized, blood-sucking mite that has devastated hives around the world. Australia is the only inhabited continent on earth without Varroa Destructor, and monitoring of the mite is currently a painstakingly manual process, with sentinel hives at ports and points of entry.

The "Purple Hive" is a solar-powered artificial intelligence-based device, trained to detect Varroa mite in real-time.



It looks like a letterbox attached to the front of a hive. The entry slot contains sophisticated AI surveillance equipment.

"It's got two cameras, one top, one bottom," explained co-developer Vignesh Murugan of the Melbourne-based Virmana Tech company. "As a bee comes through the front slit we monitor the bees, take an image every second and detect whether varroa mite is there."

Individual images of thousands of bees per hive are taken over the course of a day. That's where artificial intelligence comes into play.

"So, we've invented the world's fastest and smallest artificial intelligence that can see like humans," said Dr Shivy Yohanandan, who works for the Australian branch of Xailient, a high-tech firm headquartered in Silicon Valley, California.

"So what's happening here is we've trained AI to count bees and detect hitchhiking varroa mites."

If the mite is detected, an alarm signal can be sent instantly to a device such as a mobile phone.

The Purple Hive Project has the backing of Bega Cheese Limited, which is investing heavily in the beekeeping and honey market.

It is hoped that this early-warning system will be welcomed by beekeepers right around Australia, and especially in vulnerable areas.

Source: ABC "Landline". Photo: Timeline.

## RECOGNITION FOR MY FRIEND INGRID IN GERMANY

It was through my German friend Ingrid that I first became aware of the worldwide threat to honeybees, and was inspired to bring these stories to you.

She has been an active campaigner for a long time, and was recently awarded for her work.

She and her volunteer community team were tasked with clearing a four acre piece of waste land that had been used for dumping waste building material and to turn it into a model eco habitat to support bees and wildlife. They have two beekeepers, with hives for honeybees and homes for wild bees. There is now an artificial lake on the site, formerly a quarry, and hundreds of fruit trees. They have created projects for local schoolchildren to participate in too. It's good to see community spirit supporting projects like this.



Ingrid's Award





Ingrid's Training an Eagle



## PLAY GROUP

Dilston Playgroup had a fantastic wrap up for 2020! With games, music, Christmas craft and a fun final catchup for the season it really was a great day for the whole family. The children were so excited to have a visit from Santa who was escorted by the Dilston fire service bringing gifts and so much excitement for the children.

As the new year has begun we welcome all new families and friends to come along to the Dilston playgroup. We have a lot of fun new craft, fine and gross motor activities as well as exploratory and developmental activities lined up for the new year. Not to mention the catchups and friendships shared amongst parents.

This year is very exciting as we will be welcoming a few new babies to our Playgroup family including my own due this month. If there is anyone who would consider opening the playgroup for a couple of weeks around the end of February to early March as I settle back into the newborn role please contact me (Amy 0413394523).

Dilston Playgroup is held on Mondays 10am-12pm, at the Dilston Memorial Hall. Cost is \$3 (BYO children's morning tea). All families welcome! Any inquiries, please call Amy on 0413394523 or keep up to date on the latest news on the Dilston Playgroup Facebook page.





Tasmania Fire Service

# Dilston and Hillwood Fire Brigades



**Register your burn offs and fires by calling freecall 1800 000 699**

**By letting us know, you will help to prevent false alarms!**

## **FIRE SEASON 20/21**

Well after a few years of busy fire seasons, this years iteration has transpired to give us some level of relief. And the same can be said for most parts of the state. Both brigades have been kept on their toes with minor incidents to attend, but nothing major.

Despite the periodic rains, parts of Tasmania do however remain dry, particularly on the east coast. Fingers crossed!!

## **FIRE PERMITS 20/21**

Since the last edition the Fire Permit Period has commenced, and we thank both communities for making use of this process which helps manage fires on the land. Need a permit, contact on one of the numbers below, or via the 1800 number above!

## **TRAINING RETURNS**

Both Brigades are now back into their training calendars for 2021 so keep an eye out for us as we move around the communities. We have some new members joining us this year so we welcome them, as well as ongoing development for the more senior members.

## **DILSTON AWARDS EVENING**

Following the Xmas Lolly Run 2020, Dilston Brigade held an awards evening as part of our annual Christmas BBQ. A number of members were in receipt of awards and medals in recognition of many years of service. Whilst none of us volunteer for reward, it was great to be able to recognise the efforts and time that these individuals have put in. Well done to all recipients.

mention of Dilston Brigade stalwart Neville Jolly. 'Nev' was ably selected as the brigade member of the year for 2020 in recognition of his many years of service to the brigade in a great number of roles. Nev also received a 25 year clasp to his National Medal for Service, and he is seen here below with 4th Officer Ken Nolan, who also received his National Medal

## **EASTER RAFFLE**

Dilston Brigade is running an easter raffle that will be drawn on APRIL 7, 2021. See over for details!

## **BRIGADE MEMBER OF THE YEAR 2020**

We would like to make special



.../DilstonFireBrigade  
.../TasmaniaFireService

### Dilston Fire Brigade Contacts

Raoul Stow	0417 351 423
Paul Blakie	0417 592 424
Ben Jones	0417 877 001
Ken Nolan	0448 320 996

### Hillwood Fire Brigade Contacts

Elaine Burns	0417 540 665
Sharon Clarke	0417 600 571
Leon Hodges	0409 169 288
Andy Kendall	0427 818 282



## **DILSTON FIRE BRIGADE EASTER RAFFLE 2021**

Drawn **April 7** at Dilston Fire Station

Tickets are \$10 each with a maximum 150 tickets!

Not bad odds!!

**1st price - THE ULTIMATE ADVENTURE! valued at \$1500**

**2nd price - THE GREAT OUTDOORS! valued at \$750**

**3rd prize - THE CHOCOLATE TREAT! valued at \$250**

Tickets available from Brigade Members

and from the WINDERMERE CAFÉ

Keep an eye on our FACEBOOK page for more information!



## **SAD NEWS:**

JACQUES, Willis died peacefully on 8th January 2021 at Sandhill Nursing Home, just six days before her 100th birthday. Willis, who was the loved daughter of Frank and Ada Jacques and sister of Bev (all deceased) was a former resident of Hillwood. The Jacques family had an orchard in Hillwood.

Jacques Road is named for the family and that is why it is pronounced "JAKES" not "JARKS".

## **HILLWOOD GARDEN CLUB and GEORGE TOWN AND DISTRICTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Are holding their Annual combined meeting in the Hillwood Hall on Monday February 15th at 7.30 p.m. Speakers are Margaret and Jon Hosford who will speak about the history of Windermere's St Mathias Church from the past to the present. All welcome.

## **ANZAC DAY SERVICE AND BREAKFAST:**

6.00 a.m. at the Hillwood Fire Station for the Service and the Hillwood Hall afterwards from 7.00 a.m for the usual Breakfast. We will need plenty of helpers for the Breakfast as usual. Toast cooks, servers, people to set up the night before. Contacts: Robyn Wheeler on 0409 420 877 or Nancy Donnelly on 0431 613 484.

## **HILLWOOD HISTORY ROOM:**

Work has commenced at sorting papers etc in the new History Room in the Hillwood Hall. We will be soon sourcing any artifacts or stories to add to our collection. It is also planned to compile an Oral history. I would like to recognise Alf Waters and Lindsay Millar who have contributed to this project over many years and also John Taylor.

The History Room has its own history. When the Hall was built, it was designated as a Committee Room. When it was decided to hold Committee meetings in the Supper Room, it was used for storage until it was updated and used by Playgroup for many years. When Playgroup was no longer held because of lack of numbers it sat idle for a while and has now been re-styled and has become the Hillwood History Room. Residents might remember the History display at the celebration of fifty years of the Hall in 2009. Items from this display have now found a home.

## **LOW HEAD CONFERENCE IN HILLWOOD:**

Tom Gunn is holding this Conference in the Hillwood Hall this year on March 28th. Watch out for notification of the program.

## **GOOD NEWS::**

The Foreshore Walkway has been included in George Town Council's Sports and Recreation Facility Strategy. Let's hope it gets a Guernsey among all the other projects in the Strategy. Our Progress Association has been lobbying for this for many years.

The other good news is the Acoustics in the Hall which we understand is on Council's agenda and hopefully will be in place in time for the Anzac Day Breakfast.

## **KIDS CLUB:**

Any families or parents interested in sending or being part of Hillwood Kids Club in 2021 please contact Susan Gillman on 0439 065 914. No start date yet as we have been in recess since COVID. We also need more kids to make it viable to run. Open to children ages 5-12, Friday night 4.30-7.00 pm fortnightly. Organised games, craft, scooters, Bible story and meal provided.

## **HILLWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB:**

The Club did not field a team last year because of COVID but has already started training for 2021. This year is the first for the Club to field a WOMEN'S TEAM although girls have always been included in the Mini League. Contact: Jayne Donnelly on 0417 415 292.

A reminder that HILLWOOD MINI-LEAGUE are looking for members from Hillwood and surrounds between the ages of five and eleven. Contact for the Mini-League is Shaun Crawford on 0438 624 626.

The new PRESIDENT of the Club is Bob McLean. Bob has been involved with the club for many years, firstly as a player in earlier years and since it's rebirth in the early 80's has been heavily involved, including many years as Secretary and trainer but never President until now. Bob has long been considered the "Face of Hillwood Football Club" and it is appropriate that he has now taken on the role of President of the Club he loves so much. His wife Kaye has also been heavily involved, beginning as a child in the earlier years of the club (when her father Bill Burton played) by helping her mother, Ethel make sandwiches and has only just reluctantly handed over the job of Canteen Manager due to ill health.

Please contact me on 0431 613 484 or [nancydonnelly@bigpond.com](mailto:nancydonnelly@bigpond.com) if you have any news you would like me to include. I especially like achievements of young people from the district. Not much lately because of COVID.



### WINDERMERE CAFE NEWS

Happy New year from all of us here at Windermere Cafe & thank you very much for your continued support  
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These included Hobart, Launceston, Devonport and Burnie.

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