

Smoke Signals

East Tamar Newsletter

www.winderdoon.com/community/smokesignals.htm

Windermere Boat Ramp Needs an Upgrade

The Windermere Boat Ramp Improvement Committee was formed in February to encourage Launceston City Council to apply for and match funding for improved facilities at the Windermere Recreation Reserve through MAST, the State Boating authority.

The Committee, led by Rob Brunning and Leon Miller, has submitted an application to MAST with LCC support for funding in the 2017 budget year of MAST.

This facility would potentially greatly improve the recreational facilities available at the Reserve since Council had the jetty demolished for safety reasons. The full plans for the proposal along with the Committee submission can be seen on the Smokesignals web page:

www.winderdoon.com/community.htm

There are three main improvements that are needed:

- the erosion of the rock walls on either side of the ramp needs to be stopped. This leaves rocks littering the ramp that is a real hazard.
- The ramp isn't steep enough to launch a boat without backing into the water.

 A finger pontoon next to the ramp as seen on other ramps would also make launching and retrieving so much safer and more pleasurable.

It was evident that an application was better to come from a community group and not an individual, so the Windermere Boat Ramp Improvement Committee was fomed.

At this stage the submission has estimated costs for the improvement as close to \$344,000. The Acting Parks & Recreation Manager of LCC, Barry Parks, has written a letter of support to accompany the proposal, but at this stage commitment of LCC is likely to fall short of the \$50% funding support required for projects of this nature.

Community support for Budget priority is required for this project to receive adequate funding form Council, Contact Rob Brunning for further information:

rcbrunning@hotmail.com

Your contact with councillors on this project becoming a budget item for LCC would assist.

Low tide exposes rock erosion



High tide creates slippery retrieval conditions

Issue 202

April 2016

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Windermere

Corner Café

6328 1335

Please note our changed hours

Mon- Tues, Thurs 8:00-5:00pm

Wed 10am-3:00pm

Fri—TGIF as usual

A range of Tasmanian wines, beers & spirits are available

Sat-9:00—4:00pm

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All your basic essentials .

Licensed to sell Tasmanian produced and owned alcohol.

Try our Take Home Meals

Birds of The Tamar...

Jon Hosford

Thornbills

Australia has 11 distinct species of Thornbill of which only 3 inhabit Tasmania and only 2 are likely to be seen in the Tamar Valley.

The **Brown Thornbill** 100-110mm in length, is commonly seen in low



and dense vegetation to 5 metres. It will occasionally visit more open gardens, but relies on dense vegetation in close proximity for security. The fantailed cuckoo often parasitises this species, and it is not uncommon to see an extremely large chick in a Brown thornbill nest. The cuckoo will be heard as a mournful and persistent trill like a broken pea in a whistle in early spring months.

The Brown Thornbill is very similar to the Tasmanian Thornbill and is often confused as this species, endemic to Tasmania, inhabits converging dense habit, also but only in wetter areas.

The Tasmanian Thornbill is unlikely to be seen in Tamar Valley gardens as it inhabits wet and dense rainforest. It has a white under tail that distinguishes it from the Brown Thornbill. This is a subtle external variation but is enough to distinguish a different species as the 2 species do not

inter-breed. It is most likely that the Tasmanian Thornbill arrived on the island in cooler, wetter times whilst



the Brown thornbill, very common on mainland Australia, has arrived more recently.

Probably the most common Thornbill seen in numbers around the Tamar Valley is the Yellow-rumped Thornbill, aptly nicknamed "butterbum" by bird observers., because of its yellow rump feathers readily observable



when flying away from you.

It is the most wide spread of the thornbill family. It occurs commonly in edge habitat of open woodlands and gardens.

Flocks of up to a dozen birds are often seen feeding on the ground, picking up a range of insects, spiders caterpillars and occasional seeds. They band together in the breeding season (July –December), one female with several males, and often raise 2-3 broods in one season.



Signal Station Tavern

Bar, Lounge competitive prices

Our dining facilities are currently being upgraded.

Open again in March.

Current bar hours 'Mon-Thurs 1-9pm

Fri-Sat 11am-10

Sun 11am-9pm

Sunday Pizzas 1-7:30pm

PHONE 6394 8228



Caltex Mount

CALTEX

Direction

Open 7 days per week- 6am to 7pm weekdays

8am to 7pm Saturday, 8am to 6pm Sunday

Full grocery lines- fish bait/gear-BBQ gas **VARIETY OF TAKEAWAYS & HOT DRINKS**

PHONE ORDERS 6394 8364

A very bulky nest is built for each brood with a characteristic false nest or cup in the top and a concealed side entrance. All members of the breeding group brood and feed the young, but only the female incubates.

Gardening Notes & News

Autumn sowings

Garlic

March-April is an ideal time to sow garlic for best results. Strong leaf growth before the Winter cold sets in will assist the plant to store food in the later Spring months before harvest in December. There are many different types of garlic, but I have had success with the pink Italian type obtainable from Allan's Nursery in Prospect at present. Prepare your soil for the garlic by digging in Dynamic Lifter pellets and or sheep manure. Garlic is a hungry feeder and requires a balanced soil. Break the cloves away from the bulb and sow them with the pointed end up at a depth of about 2.5cm. Plant about 25 cm between cloves for best root growth. Water in well and wait until the leaves emerge from the soil about 2 weeks after planting. Side dress in Spring with further pellets or apply Seasol to the leaves every two weeks during spring growth. When the plant starts to set a bulb you can stop fertilising but keep up the water until the leaves start to fall over. At this stage it is preferable that the plants do not get a lot of water or they won't keep well. When the leaves have fallen over in early December, you can lift the plants and lay them on the top of the bed until they dry completely. Plait the garlic into strings and hang in a cool dry place.



Plaitted Garlic plants

Broad Beans

Broad beans are fantastic for rejuvenating depleted beds over the winter if sown as a green manure crop. Liberally sow the seed at a depth of 2.5 cm and when it is green and starting to set flowers, chop it down and dig it in. At this stage it will have set nitrogen nodules in the soil and this will help the next crop you sow.

Broad beans are best sown in April or early May, as they too require strong leaf growth to flower well and produce big beans. You won't get flowers setting much before mid October no matter when you sow the beans, but I always sow mine in April so that tillered growth is strong in the Spring, and a healthy bean crop follows.

In late December when they are finished, don't pull them out.

Cut them off at ground level and sow Sweet Corn seeds between the old broad bean plants. They will grow strong and produce great cobs on the nitrogen remaining from the beans. You must water the corn plants consistently also to get good filled cobs. I grow Coles Dwarf, broad beans, which is a heirloom variety and will grow true to seed. I save seed each year.

Broccoli is another brassica crop over winter crop.

Broccoli is a heavy feeder, but the advantage is its habit of continuing to produce side shoots once the main head is cut. Plant it as seedlings now for Broccoli June - August



Kale is another brassica and the easiest to grow of this family. Again a heavy feeder, Kale will provide winter greens of great nutrition throughout winter and spring if planted out as seedlings now.

Protection of young plants.

To protect young seedlings when transplanted and to give them wind-free warmer conditions, I use gutter-guard covered in plastic. It protects the plants from wind, snails and slugs. You can remove these cloches when the plants get to the top.

Garden Club News...

Jacqui Ralph

Our March garden club luncheon was held at the home of Helen and Dennis Pratt on a beautiful sunny Tassie autumn day.

We had a good number of long standing garden clubbers and some fairly new people to the area, which is always good to see. We hope they join us for future luncheons.

After an excellent lunch, (to which our ladies always bring such a delicious range of finger food) and lots of interesting conversations, It was time to walk around the gardens.

The front garden has some lovely mature trees, a very green lawn and various flower beds with colourful shrubs and flowers.

The back garden has been nicely tiered and contains lots of beautiful roses in many lovely colours and some heavenly perfumed ones. Intermingled with these are various shrubs and an assortment of flowers. There is a lawned area which goes on down to the rivers edge, passing by a neat composting set up.

Thank you Helen and Dennis for a lovely day.

ST MATTHIAS WINDERMERE









EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE 27 MARCH 2016

Easter Sunday Service was very well attended. It was nice to see some familiar faces from the local community and some which we hadn't seen before as well.

The Eucharist Service, led by The Rev Warwick Cuthbertson, was beautiful and celebrated the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The church was full of vases of home grown flowers from local gardens and arranged by Wendy Doyle with assistance from Merryn McClelland. They have been donating their time and talents for these special services for YEARS Rev Cuthbertson's sermon about the presence of the Holy Spirit was very inspiring and one which was very relevant in today's world.

RINGING THE BELLS OF ST MATTHIAS

As some of you would know St Matthias Church has been ringing it's bell every Monday afternoon at 3:30 pm in support of releasing refugee children from detention. Most of the Launceston City bells have been ringing as well! The Australian government has now released all children in detention in Australia. If we have helped in some small way to bring this decision about, we thank the <u>many supporters</u> who have come along to assist in ringing the bell on Mondays. Even visitors to St Matthias have pitched in and given their efforts as well.





ART EXHIBITION AND ENTERTAINMENT AT ST MATTHIAS

Watch this space for the details of the entertainment above..

We will put up posters at the Corner Store advertising it as soon as we have a final agreed date –sometime in late May !!!! Wine, good food and a great afternoon on the river!!!!!!

ST MATTHIAS' SERVICES

Sunday 24th April

10:30 am Eucharist Service

Sunday 8th May

10:30 am Eucharist Service

Sunday 22nd May

10:30 am Eucharist Service and Baptism

Sunday 12th June

We encourage the community to enjoy the church grounds.

HOLY TRINITY SERVICES

Each Sunday:

8:30 am Eucharist Service

10:30 am Sung Eucharist

5:30 pm Choral Evensong (1st Sunday)

Growing in Faith Together (2nd Sunday)

Taize Service (3rd Sunday)

Prayer at the end of the day

(4th Sunday)For information on Weekly Eucharists

Go to Holy Trinity's website

holytrinitylaunceston.org

Community Centre News



The SHED has been operative for 12 months now and it is rewarding to look back and see the progress made in set up and to look at the diverse range of activities we can potentially support for those who wish to use our facilities.

Many think that this organisation is predominantly focussed on supporting retired and aging men. Whilst this may be somewhat true, as these profiles tend to fit those who have the free time to put in the work necessary for administration, the organisation is not at all exclusive to those who have retired.

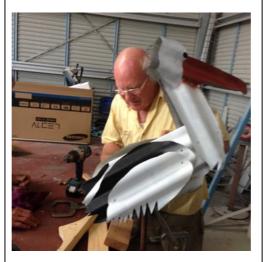
We are exploring many idea to support those adults who wish to use our facilities and learn new skills. One idea being discussed at present is to involve newly arrived migrant men who would want to learn skills with machinery they have not previously had the opportunity to work with.

We currently have a submission before the Tasmanian Men's Shed Association Grants initiative with the Tasmanian Government for a training program for our leaders to be skilled in safety procedures and teaching newcomers how to safely use equipment.

If this is successful it will give our members the opportunity to involve many more members and to pass on skills.



Joe and Jack set up the router table whilst John cuts blocks on the radial arm saw.



Jack MacKeddie sets up a leg frame for Jon Hosford's corrugated Pelican.

SPECIALISED SHEEP POO NOW AVAILABLE AT THE MENS SHED

A quantity of the "Pulverised" Sheep Poo is now available to be collected at the new Men's shed or the old Fire Station behind the community centre on John Lees Drive.

Special thanks to Jamie Melvin for assisting in the collection of the 80 bags that have been stacked awaiting that good autumn dressing in readiness for a productive spring next season. This finely pulverised poo is so easy to work, it can be spread so easily and is absorbed into the earth, garden, lawn so readily; a far superior product to the old regular pellets we all know so well.

We are looking for new members, so come on by on a Saturday morning check out the wonderful facilities that the crew have established already and pick up your bag of fertiliser for \$6.00 or one of our friendly members will deliver a quantity for \$6.00 + a small delivery fee.



Newsletter printed by courtesy of

Michael Ferguson MP

Web: www.michaelferguson.com Email: michael.ferguson@dpac.tas.gov.au Mail: PO Box 537, Launceston 7250 Phone: 6777 1032

Supporting Northern Tasmania

Launceston City Council News Lisa Brady



Have you, your school, or your business made an effort to change the way you manage your waste? The Waste NoT Awards 2016 is now open to schools, individuals and organisations who are improving their waste management practices. From recycling to re-invention, upcycyling, and education initiatives, the Waste NoT Awards recognise and reward your efforts. **Entries close on April 29th 2016**. Visit <u>rethinkwaste.com.au</u> and apply today!

Get Connected NBN News by Trixie Gillard

If you're wondering why we've still no news about our NBN connection, perhaps this explains it:

It seems the Windermere, Dilston and Swan Bay area is considered to be a 'niche problem'.

Here's the background:

Following the Coalition's election, NBN moved away from a full-fibre rollout to the concept of aiming to provide 38 percent of homes with Fibre-to-the-Node and fibre to the basement, making use of existing copper lines; 34 percent with hybrid fibre-coaxial; 20 percent with Fibre-to the-Premises; 5 percent with fixed wireless; and 3 percent with satellite services. However, this plan has been plagued by all sorts of problems - logistical, technical and economic.

So here's the latest technological fix NBN is planning to trial:

According to a recent article released by ZDNet: Australia's National Broadband Network (NBN) company has announced that it will be conducting trials of fibre-to-the-distribution-point (FttDP) network technology beginning next month.

As a solution for what NBN labelled a niche problem -- premises in more remote areas, with lead-ins of between 50 metres and 300 metres, where it is too expensive to roll out either fibre to the node (FttN) or fibre to the premises (FttP) -- it is putting forward FttDP.

Think of all the acreage properties along Windermere Road with lead-ins of 300 metres and more, and you begin to get the picture.

For example: FttP connections can cost up to AU\$20,000 to connect these remote premises with lead-in conduits, NBN says, with the properties also deemed to be not isolated enough to obtain satellite connections.

NBN CEO Bill Morrow said this new solution "brings fibre closer to the home, to where that copper loop length is much less."

Morrow further explained that the newly available "box" being used as a distribution point will be installed within **footpath pits**, and will draw power from the set-top boxes positioned inside the homes it provides with broadband.

So, does this FttDP solution, which may well come our way, mean that we'll eventually get footpaths too? GetConnected asks.

NBN said the FttDP network could begin being rolled out in 2017.

Source: ZDNET article by Corrine Reichert March 17, 2016



Dilston Fire Brigade



Tasmania Fire Service

A Message from the Brigade Chief...

With the 2016 bushfire season coming to an end the Dilston Fire Brigade would like to thank you the Dilston/Windermere community for your vigilance this summer.

The brigade did not have to respond to any significant fire incidents within our response area this summer. This can be attributed to the community's vigilance with fire.

The Brigade would like to thank those member of the community doing the right thing and applying for a permit to burn off any vegetation they may have by calling one of the fire permit officers numbers in this newsletter, obeying total fire ban days when they were in place, also for registering their burn by calling 1800 000 699.

With the 2016 bushfire season being the most prolonged bushfire battle in the state's history we were

called upon to supply crews throughout the state as mentioned in last edition. This would not have been possible had we not had the support of the community but more importantly the support our volunteers receive from their family, friends, neighbours and employers throughout the season.

As The Brigade Chief of the Dilston Fire Brigade I would like to thank the community for their ongoing support of the service in which we provide but most importantly of all the members of the brigade both support members and active service. Without you all giving up your family time, work time and relaxation time we wouldn't have a brigade to respond to emergencies. You all do an exceptional job from all the hours

training you put in throughout the year to answering the phone or pager in the early morning hours to attend a callout or pack your bags for deployment at short notice.

It's by no means an easy job and a lot of the time is not the most glamorous but you all show the grit and determination to get the job done as the brigade always has right from it's beginnings.

Thank you all for what you do.

Paul Blakie Brigade Chief, Dilston Fire Brigade



www.facebook.com/DilstonFireBrigade www.facebook.com/TasmaniaFireService

Brigade Contacts

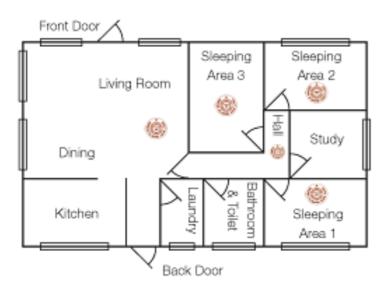
Paul Blakie 0417 592 424
Neville Jolly 0417 540 230
Jason Hingston 0439 771 156
Raoul Stow 0417 351 423

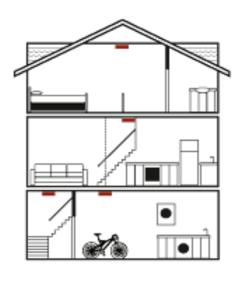
Only working smoke alarms save lives!

- 1. 1. You should install a photoelectric smoke alarm in each sleeping area, hallway and living area.
- 2. **Test** alarms monthly.
- 3. 3. **Vacuum** dust from alarms every 6 months.
- 4. 4. **Replace** batteries once a year. Some alarms have 10-year lithium batteries that do not need replacing every year.
- 5. **Smoke alarms** should be supported by a home fire escape plan.

Young children are likely to **sleep through** the sound of a smoke alarm, so **you must alert them** to a fire and help them escape to safety.

Where best to position your smoke alarms





Install smoke alarms on each level of a multi-storey property, remember to install in stairways as stairways act like chimneys for smoke and heat.







7. 7. **Smoke alarms for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing** There are specialised smoke alarms available for people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. These alarms have a flashing strobe light and a vibrating pad for placing under the pillow that activate when the smoke alarm sounds. If you require a special alarm for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing contact Tasdeaf

Phone/TTY: (03) 6228 1955 Freecall: 1800 982 212 e-mail: <u>info@tasdeaf.org.au</u> or visit: www.tasdeaf.org.au

Installation of a smoke alarm is quick and easy.

Follow the manufacturer's instructions. Generally, because smoke rises, mounting in the middle of the ceiling is recommended.

Life Span : Most alarms have a life span of 10 years.



Landcare

Under the leadership of NRM North there will be a field day at Josh & Wendy Cocker's property on Los Angelos Road. This is an opportunity to hear land-care experts discuss planning and management of land in the Tamar Valley. Regardless of the size of your holding there is value in sharing ideas, learning from the experience of others, sharing your experience and testing your ideas.

In the ten years that Josh & Wendy have been managing their property they have made a significant difference. We shall learn what they have done and why. Perhaps they may have made one or two mistakes, we can learn from that too. We can think about what else may have happened. We can focus on sites within the whole and discuss those issues pertinent to those situations. Or we can direct discussions away from the immediate location and prompt discussion about our own blocks. The options are open. Come and listen, share and learn.

In some situations help may be available for property planning and specific projects. And 'you have to be in it to win it'!

Mark the time 10 AM, May 21 2016



Letters

Dear Reader.

I write to draw attention to the various by-roads which criss-cross the landscape between to highway to Launceston Port and the Tamar Estuary. These roads are frequented by walkers who venture out to enjoy the countryside, exercise themselves, with or without their pets and to enjoy the interface with those others who share the experience. All these people are to be commended for the effort they take to collect litter and keep our landscape tidy.

Sadly however litter is recurrent.; next week there will be more. Whilst we do keep roadsides tidy, there remains a small number of road users who do not share the cares implied above.

This writer regularly walks from

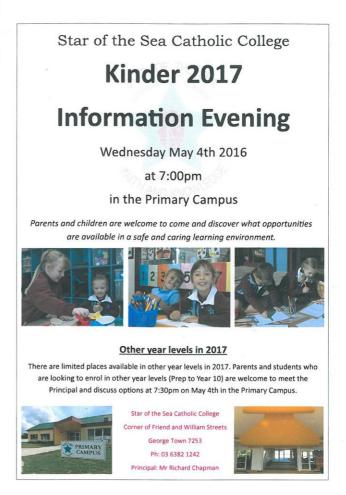
Woodlawn to Windermere Church and return daily. Rarely a week passes without some litter to collect. I am aware of others who frequent, and pickup, along other road sections.

Do those who carelessly dispose of items from their vehicles have an appreciation of our delightful environment? One supposes that readers of Smokesignals would not be so careless. However some people are. Please do what you can to minimise litter in our landscape.

Ian R Farquhar

THANK YOU EAST TAMAR!

Trevor and Lynda Bennion thank everyone for their warm welcome during their 5 month stay in Dilston. We really enjoyed our TGIF dinners at Windemere cafe and all the social



Hillwood News...Nancy Donnelly

HAPPY NEWS:

New baby for Justin and Kara Miller, sister for Mason – Reese Isla born 29th January 2016.

ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE AND BREAKFAST is on again this year. The Service is held at 6.00 a.m. at the Memorial next to the Hillwood Fire Station just off the Highway on Hillwood Jetty Road. The reason for this site is that the three plaques for World War One men who died in action were originally placed on trees in the area across the road from the Fire Station where the Hillwood School was at one time located. The Breakfast is held in the Hillwood Hall after the Service. Funds are raised at the Breakfast through a Donation Box for that purpose. Money from this is put away for next year's Breakfast. There is also an Auction and Raffle. Any money raised above the amount needed for next year's Breakfast is donated to some cause like Legacy and to some community need.

Last year the balance needed for the Community Defibrillator was donated first and the remainder to Legacy. This year the plan is to donate to Mates for Mates which is a support system for serving or retired members of the Defence Force and their families.

The balance of the funds raised will be held to donate to a worthy community cause at some time during the year. Suggestions from the Community would be most welcome. We also provide and pay for plaques for the Memorial wall.

We are looking for helpers with the Breakfast.

HILLWOOD FOOTBALL season begins on Saturday 9th April with





a match against George Town at George Town with tea at Hillwood Clubrooms from 6.30 p.m. The first home game is on Saturday 16th April at the Hillwood Recreation Ground.

MANDY MONAGHAN

is a delightful and popular young member of the Hillwood Community. Mandy likes helping people. She had a family member die of Leukaemia, so when she heard of some lovely women who were having their heads shaved for the World's Greatest Shave, Mandy decided to do the same.

A Sausage Sizzle was held on Sunday 3rd April at the Hillwood Pontoon Reserve while Mandy's locks were shorn. Mandy's target was \$1500.

SO, everyone was delighted and applauded when it was announced that she has raised well over double that amount.

Well done, Mandy Monaghan. We are proud of you!

Community Advertisements

Peter Gutteridge

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THIS SPACE

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0419317808

All Smokesignals advertising supports community projects.

Tas Lock and Key (George Dearing)



Has moved to Newnham Court. 77 George Town Road

Keys, Locks, advice, callouts to East Tamar.

63262200



Ride-on Mowing Brushcutting Gardening Rubbish Removal Chainsaw Work General Maintenance etc.

Friendly & Reliable

Fletcher & Co. **NUTSETY**

Fletcher & Co. Nursery (formerly Garden View Nursery) has reopened. Plants sold direct to public at wholesale prices.

75mm pots-\$2.50 125mm pots \$5.50

140mm pots (trees)-\$7.50

543 John Lees Drive, Dilston Open Saturdays & Sundays 10am-4pm

DID YOU KNOW? Planning a function

Dilston Hall hires out tables & chairs for community use at a very minimal fee For further details contact

Pat Hollier 63281348



WINDERMERE CABINS

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Mob: 0419 022 236

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Email:

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- · Skid Steer Bobcat
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Sharon Fahey 0409 188 249

Associate/Senior Property Consultant

Towns Shearing Real Estate | 58 Elizabeth Street L'TON | Ph: 03 6334 3484

Market update from your local real estate consultant

Summer was a great selling quarter. The majority of country buyers are still mainlanders looking to retire to our lovely State and find a reprieve from the hot weather they may have be experiencing on the big island.

They are ideally looking for well-presented homes on small acreage up to about 50 acre allotments.

Buyer demand is excellent if the price is fair based on current market value.

So if you are thinking of selling and would like a no pressure, no obligation, free appraisal, please call me and we can have a chat.

What others say about Sharon Fahey...

"We are from interstate, so the process of viewing & investigating the property we were successful in buying, could have been difficult & frustrating. However, Sharon pulled out all stops to streamline the process for us & ensure that communications between us, the vendors & others as necessary were seamless & timely. We are very satisfied buyers. Many thanks Sharon."

"This is the second time I have had Sharon sell a property for me, & I will never go anywhere else. Her professional & friendly approach is outstanding as is her communication. I was always kept in the loop & given feedback on viewings. I definitely recommend her to friends & family, whether buying or selling!"



Copy For NEXT ISSUE Due Friday March 27th

For publication in the 2nd week of April

Email address: smokesignals@bigpond.com

Or mail to:

454 Windermere Rd. Windermere 7252 WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADVERTISE IN SMOKE SIGNALS?

1/6 Page \$17.00

Book an ad in four issues and save:

1/6 Page \$51.00

1/12 Page \$27.00

Small Classifieds, Wanted to sell, etc **\$5** (one insertion)

Community Notices and Fund Raising Notices are Free!!

Advertisements must be accompanied by full name, address and should_state the number of editions that it is to appear in.

Email advertising copy to smokesignals@bigpond.com

Smokesignals on the web

http://www.winderdoon.com/community/smokesignals.htm





Check out the June edition for a story on the context of this photo. Community does work. We are fortunate to live in such a giving community.

Community Contacts - FIRE: 000

6328 1348 Dilston Hall: St. Matthias Church: 6328 1209 0407 993 616 Playgroup: **Garden Club:** 63281566 **Book Discussion Group:** 6328 1231 Bird Watching: 6328 1163 Native Animal Rescue Lorraine De Weys 63263502 Men's Shed 6328 1544 Justice of The Peace

Darren Pullen 0439 912 862

FIRE BRIGADE OFFICERS

Paul Blakie Mob 0417592424

Neville Jolly Mob 0417 540230

Jason Hingston Mob 0439 771 156

Raoul Stow Mob 0417351423