



# Smoke Signals

East Tamar Newsletter

We're on the web

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



## Celebrating our heritage

Imagine it's 1843. A young Dr Matthias Gaunt, recently arrived from England, chats with his friend and neighbor, Robert de Little. Together they admire the newly-completed small church on the riverbank at Windermere; Matthias' dream, and Robert's architectural feat.

Fast-forward to 2013 November, and Robert's great, great grandson David from Dover, meets Matthias' great, great grandson Simon from Sydney, both enjoying the weekend of festivities at the 170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the church's completion and forging a new friendship first initiated 170 years ago.

Over 90 people, including descendants of the early pioneer families, as well as locals, picnicked happily on the grassy river bank slopes, rekindling old friendships and memories of old times, and making new connections with others.

The evening BBQ meal was followed by an interesting and entertaining talk and visual presentation by Peter and Ann Cripps, church historical archivists who were commissioned to research a Conservation Management Plan for the church and graveyard of

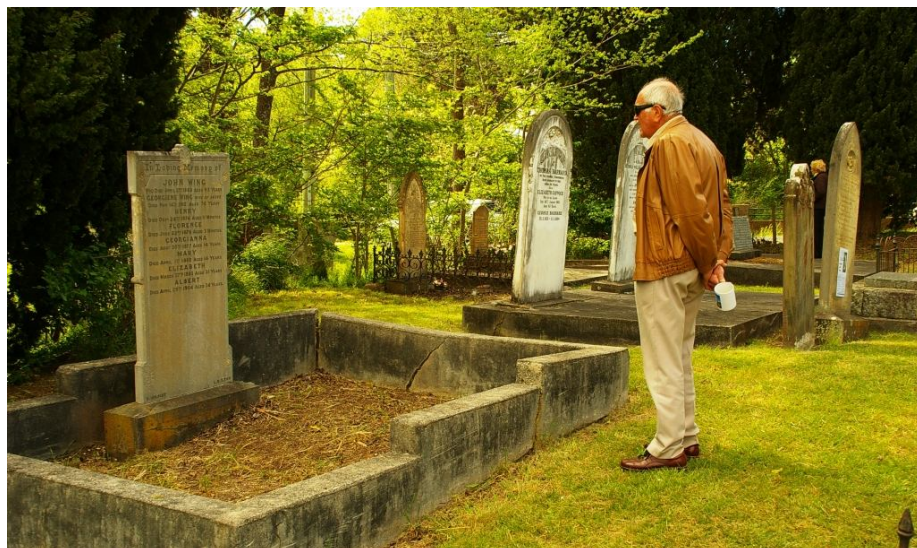
St Matthias' church.

There were several audible gasps when we were told that the alter linen was still the original set used in the first service, the floor boards still original, and the building still essentially unchanged despite considerable maintenance work being done over the years.

There was a Celebratory Service on the Sunday afternoon, followed by champagne and nibbles, and more stories and memories.

The very Special Service was led by Rev Ken Box and was truly inspiring. There were lots of Rosevears, Atkinsons, Medwins, Gatenbys and Wings all reliving the past, and together hoping there will be a stronger future for this historic little church which now remains as the only church between Launceston and Georgetown on the East Tamar.

THANKS to all who helped, and those who joined us in Celebration, and to the clergy at Holy Trinity Launceston whose patronage over the past six years has allowed St Mathias to remain a very special place to worship, or simply take time to reflect.



Issue 188

December 2013

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## Windermere Corner Café

6328 1335

Mon-Thurs 7:30—5:30pm

Fri—TGIF as usual

A range of Tasmanian wines, beers  
& spirits are available

Kitchen closes 7:30pm

Sat-8:00—4:30pm

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owned alcohol.

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## Gardening Club News.....by Ros Ryan

A great day was held at the home of Margaret and Jon Hosford in Windermere. Unfortunately the day was very wet so all was set up in the Garage and we all felt extremely comfortable.

The majority stayed indoors and enjoyed Lunch and a catch up with a few brave souls taking a stroll around the Garden in Gumboots.

2013 has been a very lean year for Garden club due to the extreme weather, people seeking a better

climate for winter and the hard work that goes into getting your Garden ready. It has been decided 2014 will only have meetings February to April then September to December.

Due to the lack of meetings our Finances are down.

To experience our Christmas lunch the way we have become accustomed we all need to pay a small amount.

\$5 per couple plus salad or sweet and a bottle of wine to share.

Christmas this year will be at the home of Lou Finney and John Bailly at John Lees Way Dilston on Friday the 13th December at 12 noon.

All interested in attending that haven't put their names down call Ros on 63281566,

if no answer please leave a message and I will call you back regarding Sweet or Salad.

Take care and have an enjoyable and safe Festive season.

The Windermere, Swan Bay and Dilston Garden Club.

Ps: If there is anybody that would be interested in taking over the running of the Garden Club I would be very interested in hearing from you.

Copy For NEXT  
ISSUE

Due

Friday January  
31st

For publication in the  
1st week of February

Email address:  
smokesignals@bigpond.com

Or mail to:

454 Windermere Rd. Windermere  
7252

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Community Notices and Fund Raising  
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Advertisements must be  
accompanied by full name, address  
and should state the number of  
editions that it is to appear in.

Leave advertising copy at the  
Windermere Store or email to:

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Smokesignals on the web

http://www.winderdoon.com/comm  
unity/smokesignals.htm

### Prune your laterals for better tomatoes

Of all vegetables grown in the home garden, tomatoes would be the choice of most people for the summer. There is nothing to compare with the flavour of a vine ripened tomato. Most varieties of tomatoes need the support of a stake and you will improve the size and quality of the fruit if you prune out the lateral branches that spring from each leaf node.

Plants should set their first fruit by mid December and you should have ripe tomatoes by late January provided we do not get an abnormally cool year. Tomatoes do not like wind, so protect them with a clear plastic shelter if you need to grow them in a windy position.

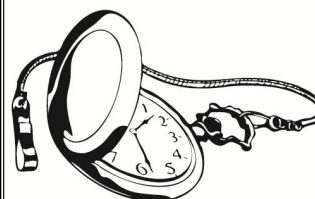
A healthy tomato plant will set 5-8 trusses of tomatoes on a stake so you should have no worries about pinching out the laterals. This keeps the plants open and prevents fungal diseases from becoming established. **Tomatoes must have consistent watering for their uptake of calcium to set a firm skin.** If this does not occur they are prone to a condition known as "Blossom End Rot". This is a deficiency in calcium, not in the soil necessarily but usually in the plant's uptake due to inconsistent watering.



Once the fruit shows pink you can ripen them inside in a warm dark place.

## Windermere Watches

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to 8pm

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## Community Contacts - FIRE:000

Dilston Hall:	6328 1348
St. Matthias Church:	6328 1209
Playgroup:	0407 993 616
Garden Club:	63281566
Book Discussion Group:	6328 1231
Bird Watching:	6328 1163
Native Animal Rescue	
<i>Lorraine De Weys</i>	63263502
Men's Shed	6328 1544
<b>FIRE BRIGADE OFFICERS</b>	
Paul Blakie	Mob 0417592424
Neville Jolly	Mob 0417 540230
David Lake	Mob 0438 075 534
Jason Hingston	Mob 0407392457
Raoul Stowe	Mob 0417351423



*Brian Wightman ,  
MHA and his staff  
wish Smokesignals  
Readers a very  
Happy Christmas.*



*Smokesignals acknowledges  
the continued contribution  
and support of*

**Brian Wightman, MHA**  
in the printing of this  
newsletter.

## *Experienced Country Agent...*

Hello all East Tamar Residents,

As you have probably heard, the real estate market has been slow for quite some time, but the GOOD NEWS is, things are picking up.

Many home sellers are listing with me in the hope to secure a sale to a local buyer, or mainland interest, which is going strong.

Country lifestyle properties, vacant blocks and small allotments are always sought after, which is what I specialise in.

As an established agent residing on Windermere Road for the past 11 years, I know what buyers are looking for and what our area has to offer, so it makes sense to deal with your local agent.

Call me, Sharon Fahey for an obligation free market appraisal on your property.



**Sharon Fahey 0409 188 249**



sharonf@tsre.com.au

**towns shearing real estate**

58 Elizabeth Street, Launceston

St Matthias' 170th Birthday celebrations



## Birds of The Tamar ..... The Noisy Miner

Jon Hosford



The Noisy Miner is an Australian endemic of the honeyeater family. It is a bold and curious bird, identified by its mostly grey body and black crown and cheeks. The bill is yellow, as are the legs and the naked skin behind the eye. The name is well suited as the common harsh calls are uttered repeatedly by the members of the colony. They are common in eastern Australia and have spread to many parts of Tasmania. They are a particularly dominant honeyeater and quite often form large

colonies. of noisy active birds foraging in tall eucalypts for nectar fruit and gleaning insects. From the leaves and under bark. Very occasionally they will eat small reptiles.

Noisy Miners breed in small to large colonies and several broods may be reared during a single season. The female constructs the nest in a eucalypt and incubates the eggs alone, but both sexes will care for and feed the young birds. Additional 'helpers' usually also feed the young. Interestingly, these helpers are almost always male birds.

Miners unite to mob predators and are particularly noisy when defending territory against other species, even birds larger than themselves such as Magpies and Kookaburras.

I observed these birds at the Dilston Hall recently. They are not at present in my garden in Windermere and I give thanks for that, as usually the presence of these birds means the absence of smaller honeyeaters such as The Eastern Spinebill and the New Holland Honeyeater which currently visit regularly for the nectar available in Kangaroo paws and the Pineapple Sage.

## MO Bros Unite for Men's Health



### Amble In Cottage

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- ★ Colour TV and DVD player
- ★ Stereo CD/cassette system

Everything is there for an enjoyable stay!



Cnr East Tamar Highway & Windermere Road  
Windermere, Tasmania 7252

### Bookings

Judy Pike 0417311728

Nine members of the East Tamar Men's Shed joined together as a team during the month of November to support Men's Health research by growing a Mo and raising money for the International Movember campaign.

Jon Hosford, Jeff Wynne, John Baily, Neil McLelland, Joe Mennen, Jack Mackeddie, Ivan Dean, Ian Anderson & Ross Schapel, all endured the discomfort of a hairy upper lip for the month and presented at The Windermere Corner Cafe on Friday November 29th to auction the privilege of having their hairy growth removed.

A lot of fun was had and even our mo sisters got into the fun by sporting hairy upper lips made for the occasion..

At one stage of the evening, the bidding for retention of a mo was stronger than for its removal. Eventually the removal bidders won the issue and the moustache was removed. By the end of the evening. All mos had gone and the campaign was \$250 richer.

Many thanks to all those who joined in on the night and to those who donated to the cause.. The Men's Shed members really appreciate your support. Hopefully in early 2014 we can demonstrate how The East Tamar Mem's Shed can support the community through its operations.

**During the month an amount of \$ 2,825 was raised by The Shed team.**

**Amazing !**



### A Moment to go

**Lto R:**

Ivan Dean  
Ross Schapel  
Tim Anderson  
Jon Hosford  
Joe Mennen  
Jack Mac Keddie  
Neil McLelland  
Jeff Wynne  
Absent::John Baily

## Community Advertisements



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# DILSTON FIRE BRIGADE

## Tasmania Fire Service

### Statewide exercise. East Arm Fire; New station takes shape

#### Brigade Contacts

Paul Blakie	0417 592 424
Neville Jolly	0417 540 230
Jason Hingston	0407 392 457
Raoul Stow	0417 351 423

As was reported in the media recently, the Tasmania Fire Service held a state wide exercise called Exercise Huddle. Dilston Fire Brigade was involved in this invaluable training exercise and formed part of Task Force Alpha, a mix of brigades and fire appliances from the north and northwest of the state. The exercise incorporated every level of the fire service membership, from the newest to the upper hierarchy, right to our chief officer. We looked at how we coordinate major incidents and how the different levels of management work together in order to provide the best approach and plans. We also looked at the very latest in fire fighting equipment and in all some 350 members of the TFS found the weekend to be invaluable in increasing our knowledge and training.

We recently kicked our fire season off with a callout to Hillwood to assist in an escaped burn off in and around East Arm Road. Weather conditions and the terrain provided some real challenges in attacking this fire and for 2 days there were real concerns of the fire breaking out into plantation timber. A coordinated effort by brigades from Hillwood, Dilston, Bell Bay and

Karoola, along with a helpful change in the weather ultimately enabled the fire to be controlled. The incident provided a couple of our newer members the opportunity to put theory into practice under the watchful eye of more experienced members.

Just a note here however, please if you are considering a burn off, take particular attention to the weather and the amount you wish to burn off. If in any doubt the brigade is more than happy to provide advise as needed.

The new station as most will have noticed, is well on the way to completion with an expected move in date of sometime in the new year. Building works will continue with some landscaping to be done and further concrete hard standing to be laid. We are patiently anxious awaiting the big day!



[www.facebook.com/DilstonFireBrigade](https://www.facebook.com/DilstonFireBrigade)



*The brigade would like to wish all those in the community the very best for the festive season, and ask that we all stay safe as we transition into the new year!! Thankyou to those that supported us throughout the year and a big thankyou to the new members that joined us this year and enabled the brigade to continue it's service to the community.*

*Additional thanks must also go out to Kerry and her team at the Windermere Corner Cafe for supplying us with food as and when needed during and following callouts and incidents!*

*Finally thank you to The Smoke Signals Editor for making available the space in each edition of Smoke Signals so that the brigade can keep you all informed of our activities.*



## **DILSTON FIRE BRIGADE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LOLLY RUN**

**Sunday 22nd December**

**From 4.30pm**

Travelling from **Peddie Drive** to **Dilston** and **Rostella**, then **John Lees Drive** to **Windermere Road Nth**, to **Native Point**, then **Los Angeles Road**, **Walford Rise** and finally **Windermere Road Sth.**





## RED CROSS

Is asking for your threads

*The Red Cross retail clothing shop in George Street Launceston needs your donation of unwanted clean seasonal clothing. Your help would make a difference to the lives of those less fortunate.*

*Any queries please call Emily 63281139.*

## DID YOU KNOW?

### Planning a function

Dilston Hall hires out tables & chairs

for community use

at a very minimal fee

For further details contact

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## Need to Relax? Try Tai Chi

New Tai Chi Classes for Beginners

Thursdays 9:30am – 10:30 am

Dilston Hall

Cost \$6

If you are interested in an intermediate level or evening class please contact me and if there is enough interest I will run additional classes.

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on 6334-8550, 0418 606



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**ST MATTHIAS**  
**WINDERMERE**



**HOLY TRINITY**  
**LAUNCESTON**

# A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO US ALL

**COME AND JOIN WITH US TO CELEBRATE  
THIS CHRISTMAS EVE**

**CHRISTMAS EVE CAROL SERVICE 7:00 PM  
TUESDAY 24 DECEMBER**



♦ Get into the Christmas Spirit with nibbles afterwards  
(Shortbread, Fruit Cake, who knows?)

♦ AND CHAMPAGNE or Orange Juice, if you prefer, to CHEER  
EVERYONE !!



## PLEASE NOTE:

**THIS YEAR WE ARE UNABLE TO OFFER CHRISTMAS DAY EUCHARIST AT ST MATTHIAS**  
You are most welcome to attend the 9:00am service at Holy Trinity.

### ST MATTHIAS' SERVICES

Sunday 8 December  
10:30 am Eucharist Service

Sunday 22 December  
10:30 am Eucharist Service

Tuesday 24 December 7:00 pm  
**CHRISTMAS EVE CAROL SERVICE**

### HOLY TRINITY SERVICES

#### CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Tuesday 24 December  
**5:00 pm Children's Crib Service**  
**11:30 pm Midnight Service**

Wednesday 25 December  
**9:00 am Eucharist with Carols**

### RESTORATION COMPLETED FOR WING GRAVE FENCE



This is one of the few grave fences left in Tasmania and was in very bad condition.

But look at it now after being carefully restored. Andrew Madden, an expert in restoration of very old timbers removed the rotten timbers and repaired as many pickets as possible. What had to be removed was replaced with the same type timber as the original.

