



Issue 212

www.winderdoon.com/community/smokesignals.htm

December 2017

WE'RE NBN READY

After a most frustrating battle with many assurances by both politicians and NBN personell,we finally have an offer of NBN broadband coverage. Russell Kelly, Manager - Tasmania, NBN™ local reports:

"The Tamar Valley is now ready for service on the NBN access network



- with the switch on this month of the new NBN fixed wireless tower at Windermere.

Also this month, the fixed wireless tower at Legana has been activated, which provides coverage of parts of Legana and Dilston.

NBN continues to connect the last remaining micronodes in the Nobelius Drive region of Legana, and in Grindelwald.

All this activity means that the entire Tamar Valley between Launceston and George Town is now covered by the NBN access network.

Residents and businesses can approach the retailer of their choice to order a service.

For many people in the Tamar, the NBN brings a vast improvement on the broadband that was previously available. It provides faster speeds and more data than many people had access to previously. This opens up opportunities to work from home or access education, ehealth and business services, as well as experience on-line streaming of entertainment and gaming.

Across Tasmania, the NBN access network is now 97% complete. Tasmania was the first state to start and will be the first to finish, with all areas planned to be ready by service in the second half of 2018.

This Issue

Garden Club

Church News

East Tamar Men's Shed

Fire Brigade

Hillwood News

Australia is now more than half way through the NBN rollout.

There is more information about connecting to the NBN network at www.nbnco.com.au"

I received a report recently that a resident in Swan Bay Drive was receiving download speeds of 25Mbps from his new NBN connection through iprimus. He is very happy with this, as previous speeds were often less than 1Mbps. Swan Bay has been at the end of the Telstra copper network and so has experienced a most frustrating time as the load on the network has increased. It is expected that average speeds will decrease as greater traffic shares the bandwidth available from providers under their varied plans. - Ed

October

With many of the regulars away and a few cancellations, it had been a long break, so was lovely to catch up for our October Club luncheon.

It was held at the home of Kerri Curtis and Greg Mitchell in Windermere.

It was also nice to see a few new members, please come again.

The day started off overcast but became sunny and we were able to dine outside overlooking the River. The garden was in peak condition, lots of colour, Irises, Rhododendrons and by the look of the Cherry trees this is coming along nicely as a good crop is expected.

Approx 14 members attended and enjoyed a nice lunch.

Thank you Kerrie and Greg for your hospitality.

November

A rather large gathering of the Garden Club was easily accommodated in the beautiful sprawling gardens of Trixie and John Gillard on a cloudy Windermere day. The clouds did not dim the beauty of this magnificent garden and we all enjoyed a rather sumptuous shared feast in the Japanese-style garden high above the Tamar and with sweeping views across to Freshwater Point and around to Rosevears.

Trixie has a meticulous eye for design and detail and has created a beautifully integrated garden of fruit trees, olive trees, rock gardens, red and white rose gardens and a very well protected vegetable and herb garden, as well as the previously mentioned Japanese garden. We were taken on a journey around the garden past the just emerging deep red blooms of the red rose garden, past the carpeting roses and beyond to the red seat. Here we

paused to enjoy yet another sweeping view of the Tamar, and then continued on up the hill and along the avenue of fruit trees to the budleias by the barn.

The house nestles very comfortably in the hillside with a large rock garden reinforcing its comfort from behind. This rock garden contains areas of separately coloured plantings arranged to create a visual delight - lavenders, irises, an area of iceberg roses (not quite opened yet, but holding great promise), and the previously mentioned vegetable and herb garden located in a warm sunny hollow protected by the house and the rockery.

We all want to thank Trixie and John for hosting a really lovely Garden Club lunch, and for arranging for the sun to come out to complete this perfect day!

Kerri Curtis

Telephone: 0407 447 344

Christmas Function

Our Christmas function will be held at the home of Anna and Jonathan Waterhouse, 472 Windermere Rd on Friday, December 8th at 12 Noon.









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BIRDS OF THE TAMAR

Brown Quail - Coturnix ypsilophora

I have not featured this bird previously in 10 years of writing for Smoke Signals, as I had not seen it in the district until last month.

Whilst on a walk on Windermere Rd I observed a family of Brown Quail quietly evading our obvious presence beside the road in Windermere. When we got back home I contacted the owner of the property who sent me some photos of the family. It is great to know that I am not the only bird watcher in the district.

Please be sure to advise me if you see something out of the ordinary for you.

The Brown Quail (Swamp Quail to Tasmanians) is well distributed but not readily observed in home gardens. It prefers a dense grass growth for camouflage, which is not your average house surround.

This is no excuse to get out of mowing lawns!

The Brown Quail is a small plump ground- dwelling bird that varies in colour from red-brown to grey-brown with fine white streaks and black barring above. The female is a larger bird than the male and the Tasmanian version is larger than the mainland as is the case with many bird species.

The diet of Brown Quail consists of seeds of grasses and small herbs, some greenery such as clover or grass, and insects. They feed on the ground,

searching the leaf litter and soil for seeds and insects.

They prefer to seek dense cover when threatened rather than flight, and if flushed they will fly low to the ground with a rapid wing whirring.

"The breeding season runs from October to March in Tasmania. The Brown Quail has been found to be monogamous in captivity.

They make their nests in grassy areas where there is knee high cover, with both birds co-operating in nest building. The nest is built in a slight depression scraped in the soil, with the use of dead grasses and stems to line it.

The hen lays one egg per day until there are up to 14 eggs. Incubation begins when the egg laying is completed and the incubation period is around 21 days. Whilst it is mainly the female that will incubate the eggs, males will sometimes take on incubation duties. The male will feed the female on the nest.

The eggs usually hatch within a few hours of each other, and the chicks are not much bigger than a walnut. Like many other ground birds, the chicks are covered in down and are mobile from day one, although they are unable to fly for the first fortnight. They develop quickly, but are very prone to predation by cats and bad weather in their first two weeks of life. They are fast growing by thirty days they are the size of an

adult. They develop juvenile plumage, quickly followed by adult plumage by the time they are 100 days old. Sometimes Brown Quail nest more than once in a season.

Adults attempt to protect their young by distracting predators. Like other birds, such as ducks, they may pretend to have a broken wing and stumble as they walk in order to lure a predator away from chicks.

Mortality is high amongst juveniles, with up to 80% of the population by autumn, having been predated upon, or died due to natural causes, such as food shortages, by the following spring."

http://www.wildlifematters.org.au/ Brown_Quail.htm

This is a great website for Tasmanian wildlife.



A family of Brown Quail grazing in Windermere Rd.

CAFÉ NEWS

Bean in the Country's owner/chef, Merran Fane, is now recovering at home after surgery for a very badly broken wrist. (It would, of course, have to be her right arm...making cooking impossible). Merran will need further treatment for the injury, so we're not sure when she can return to work.

Fortunately barista Bella managed to re-open the café after only 2 days caring for her mum, and much of the usual menu is still available.

We are trying to keep our normal hours as much as possible, but have had to suspend the Friday evening, so no TGIF until further notice. You can follow us on Facebook for updated information.

Please note that the café will be closed for Christmas holidays, and these dates will be announced by Facebook and a sign at the door.

Thank you for your interest in our café's first year. Special thanks to those who

have supported us and sent messages during this difficult time.

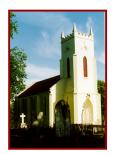
For 2018, just remember that we need your custom and regular support in order to provide both the café and mail collection services. Please visit us often.

We wish you all a lovely holiday season, and a truly happy New Year.

Merran and Bella

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ST MATTHIAS WINDERMERE







HOLY TRINITY LAUNCESTON

EVERY ONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN WITH US TO CELEBRATE 'CHRISTMAS SPIRIT 2017'

ST MATTHIAS' SERVICES

9 DECEMBER SATURDAY 5:00 pm CLARINET CHOIR CONCERT

\$10.00 per adult and \$5.00 per child Includes a glass of champagne and Christmas Cake after

The Clarinet Choir has performed at St Matthias once before to a packed audience, so to get a seat you need to be there early. This performance will include Christmas music as well.



10 DECEMBER SUNDAY ST MATTHIAS CHILDREN'S CRIB SERVICE

To start **AFTER** the scheduled 9:00 am Service (ie 10:00 am)

A Family/Children's service of the Christmas Story





24 DECEMBER SUNDAY 7:00 pm CHRISTMAS EVE CAROL SERVICE

Join us and Rev Ken Box for this Special Christmas Carol Service with Champagne and a serve of Christmas Cake afterwards.

There will be Communion offered after to anyone who would like to participate. Christians of any denomination are welcome to share with us



HOLY TRINITY CHRISTMAS SEVICES

17 December 10:30 am SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

24 December 11:30 pm MIDNIGHT EUCHARIST 24 December 5:00 pm CHILDREN'S CRIB SERVICE

25 December 9:00 am CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

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EAST TAMAR MEN'S SHED

October/November have been busy at the SHED with preparation for our extension, and continued work on our Hupmobile project. We have attracted 2 new members who have had a great deal of experience in working with motors so they are relishing the challenge of this project. Wood workers have been busy making bird nesting boxes for Pardalotes and Green Rosellas as well as restoring a table of a local resident. A Community Project undertaken in conjunction with LCC and Smoke Signals is the provision of a new Community Notice Board at the Bean in The Country Café. This has now been placed and further information about its use is found on p.10 of this publication.

John Wood has crafted a table for the donor of eucalypt burl material to ETMS

a few months ago. (pictured). This will be given to John Semmens of Prospect in thanks for his donation.

Our shed extension is now underway with slab construction complete and the erection of the shed due to commence in early December. There will be much work to be done once we gain occupancy to plan and place suitable work areas and equipment for our operations.

We encourage men of the district to call in to check out our varied opportunities for engagement in woodworking, car restoration and metal work.

Call Jon Hosford 0419 317 808 secretary@easttamarmensshed.org.au



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

ETMS is assisted by equipment grants from the Tasmanian Government.



Tamar Valley Gardening Service

Jeff Makins offers:

- gardening services
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- clearing
- garden care and maintenance

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Bar Hours

Mon-Thurs: 1pm - 9pm Fri-Sat: 11am - 10pm Sun: 11am - 9pm

> Sunday Pizzas: 1pm - 7:30pm

Our dining facilities are currently being upgraded.

Open again in March.

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Dilston Fire Brigade



Tasmania Fire Service

Register the fire by calling freecall 1800 000 699

By telling the Tasmania Fire Service about your fire you may help prevent false alarms.

An Early Fire Season start

The fire season has well and truly arrived for most areas around the state. Our pre season forecasts and briefings indicated an above average number of fires, and that the East and South East areas of Tasmania to be particularly prone to heightened fire danger. And that is precisely what has happened with a significant fire at St Helens kicking off in October, and time of year where we don't usually see fires of the magnitude of this one. Dilston Fire Brigade were asked to provide resources to this incident on day 3 of the fire and we then maintained a presence in one or either or both of our appliance for the next 14 days. We also provided personal to assist in crewing appliances from other brigades on top of the commitment with our own. In all we amassed around 400 cumulative hours on the St Helens fire ground as part of a state-wide effort to bring it under control. At times significant fears were held for

the communities of Scamander, Beaumaris and Goshen, but the combined efforts of all involved ensured minimal property loss. As this issue goes to print, efforts are still underway to rehabilitate the ground following fire fighting activities.

A very big thankyou from the Brigade Chief for the many hours put in by brigade members, both in firefighting efforts, and the efforts back home in cleaning and restocking appliances.

Fire Permits

As hopefully most of you will have heard and read on the news and social media, our area is now in the Fire Permit period and all fires over 1 cubic meter must have a permit to burn. This is a relatively simple exercise and can be arranged via contacting one of the brigade officers noted below, were they will put you in contact with one of our permit officers. We have already written a number of permits and we are appreciative of the efforts of members of the community in helping us to manage fires as the weather heats up

Property Access

Just a reminder to ensure that your property access is such as to enable a large fire appliance can gain access in times of an emergency. This is particularly relevant for residences in a bush setting given the time of year, but it is also important for everyone to consider. We are happy to report that a number of residents have sought advise on this matter with the resultant pruning now meaning all large (including Ambulances) emergency vehicles are able to access their properties.

State Fire Fighter Competitions

In amongst our operational requirements we fielded a combined team with Rocherlea Fire Brigade. A fun weekend was had by all and the team even managed a 3rd placing in one event. Well done!!



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

Brigade Contacts

Raoul Stow 0417 351 423
Jason Hingston 0439 771 156
Jamie Smith 0458 515 386
Tom Hudson 0427 378 908

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All the members at the Dilston Fire Brigade would like to wish everyone in the community the very best for the festive season, and ask that we all stay safe as we move on into 2018!! Thankyou to you all for your support throughout the year.

A thankyou again also to the Editor of Smoke Signals for continuing to make available the space in each edition so that the brigade can keep you all informed of our activities. Merry Christmas everyone and prosperous New Year!



DILSTON FIRE BRIGADE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LOLLY RUN Saturday 16th December, 3.00pm

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



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HAPPY NEWS: New baby grandson for Ann and Martin Evans. Alexander, born to daughter Jacqui and Jacob Wawryk on 3rd October.

New baby grand-child for Deb and Phil Sarich. Arthur Patrick born to Deb and Phil's daughter Naomi and husband Simon on 1st November.

SAD NEWS: David Sarich, oldest brother of Phil, died on October 13th. David grew up at Mt Direction.

Tamika, grand-daughter of Alf and Colleen Waters. Tamika, daughter of the late Michael lived with Alf and Colleen for many years. Died on 30th October.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR YOUNG

PEOPLE: HOLLI Geeves of Mt Direction finished third place in the 12-16 girls Mini Lites at the National Motocross championships in Horsham in October. She will compete in the National Championships in Tasmania next year hoping for a win in her last year in Juniors.

MYRA Donnelly has been acquiring medals in Swimming and will be competing in Pacific School Games in Adelaide when you receive this issue.

JAMES Hawes of The Glen made the State Under-14 Soccer team which came fifth in the competition.

His brother SEAN played for the Tasmanian Rep Team for Under 11's Soccer in the Sydney International Cup coming third in Division 2.

They and their sister AIMEE play five-a-side indoor Futsal.

James, Sean and Aimee's proud grandparents are James and Gayle Laverty.

COMMUNITY NEWS: FUN WEEKEND

POT LUCK CHRISTMAS MEAL Friday Night 8th December at Hillwood Football Clubrooms - 6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m. Please bring along some food to share. Watch out for flyers.

SWAP-MEET Sunday morning 10th December - from 10.00 am to 11.00 am at the Hillwood Pontoon Reserve.

HILLWOOD COMMUNITY GET-TOGETHER

from 2.00 pm on Sunday 10th
December at the Hillwood Football
Clubrooms. This event was created so
that members of our community can
meet and also for former residents
to visit and catch up. Our second
Community Get-Together will be
combined with local groups as a

Christmas Celebration. Please bring some afternoon tea to share with your neighbours and former residents. Tea and coffee supplied.

If you are new to the area, this is an opportunity to get to know your neighbours.

HILLWOOD KIDS CLUB: The last session for the year in the Hillwood Hall will have been held by now. Next year's sessions will begin when school resumes next year.

Susan Gillman is the contact for Kids Club as advised in October News in which I gave her old email address. Her current email address is gillmas73@gmail.com.

CHURCH IN HILLWOOD. Sad to report that the monthly Church Service held by the Anglican Church will no longer be held due to low numbers. Services are held through Riverlinks in George Town, Low Head and Pipers River, St Matthias at Windermere and various venues in Launceston.

HILLWOOD FIRE BRIGADE spent 10 days giving a helping hand at the St. Helens fires.

It is FIRE PERMIT time again - from Thursday 16th November, a metre by a metre only needs to be registered on 1800 000 699, anything over a metre will need a Permit. FIRE PERMIT OFFICERS: Elaine Burns 0417 540665 lan Nixon 0429 948254 Sharon Clarke 0417 600571 Leon Hodges 0409 169288.

The Tasmanian Fire Service has a DVD providing information to guide you through steps to prepare and make your home and family safe.

HILLWOOD FOOTBALL Training will have started when you receive this Newsletter. They are aiming high this year. The Clubrooms are open on Thursday nights.

A fund-raising Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings was held in November, with 15 wonderful volunteers (including some players which is much appreciated) and record takings.

APOLOGY RE EUCHRE TOURNAMENT

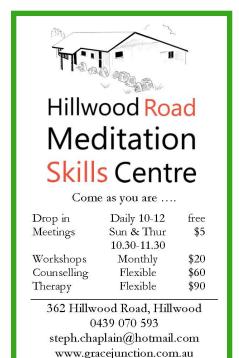
Jeff and I apologise that we were unable to organise the Euchre as advised in the October Newsletter due to illness. We are now ready, but after consultation with others have decided that as some people prefer other card games, we will offer CARD GAMES

on Thursday nights at the Football Clubrooms. We will be there from 6.30 pm on.

HILLWOOD LADIES GROUP Will be in recess after November until early February when we will be seeking new members as a result of some of our ladies moving away from the district. Ladies Group meets on Wednesday mornings from 10.00 am at the Hillwood Hall where they enjoy craft work, bingo monthly, occasional lunches out or visits to interesting places or just a chat. Contact: Gayle Laverty 63 948213 or g.laverty@bigpond.com

TENNIS I received contact from Narelle Ellmers in George Town who has spent the last 12 months reestablishing tennis within the George Town Municipality. Narelle is gaining coaching experience and also put me in contact with Jason Fletcher who is a tennis coach. Both are interested in assisting us in forming a Tennis Club in Hillwood.

Happy Christmas to all. Don't forget, if you have any news for this Community Newsletter, please let me know. I specially like to report news of the achievements of our young people. You can contact me on 63948140 or 0431613484 or nancydonnelly@bigpond.com



COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Smoke Signals has funded a Community Noticeboard erected in the grounds of the Windermere Corner Café "Bean in The Country".

It will offer opportunities for local businesses to advertise their presence at a minimal cost each year whilst allowing community members and organisations to display various notices.

Notices will be limited to a display space of 140mm x 200mm (A5) and can be organised at the Café or through Smoke Signals free of charge. Notices will have a 1 month life cycle unless specifically arranged.

Yearly advertising for local businesses or business people will be available at a cost of \$30 per year + \$30 for the design of the advertisement (100mmx100mm max).

These charges will benefit community projects. Advertising space is limited to 100mmx 100mm around the edge of the board and will be designed and charged to the advertiser by Blackbird Design Studio.

Please contact the Editor by email with your enquiry for space. jhosford@bigpond.net.au

BOOK REVIEW

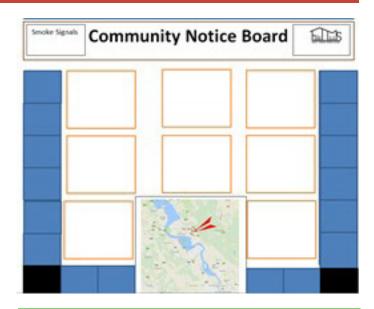
"Corridors: A Verse Memoir "by Leila Marion Field, published by Inspiring Publishers (Calwell, ACT 2016), ISBN 9781925346831.

It is now available for sale at Petrarch Books in Launceston, in e-book format online, or by order from the publisher.

"A woman now in her eighties looks back to a childhood and adolescence lived in the turbulent context of England in the 1930's and 1940's. It is a young girl's story of finding her own way through the complex choices and changes that occur, and in this is also a deeper perspective of social history, all conveyed in the unique literary voice of poetry."

About the author: Leila Field is a new resident of Windermere, having moved here last year from Canberra. So far she is probably best known locally as the mother of our café owner, Merran Fane, but Leila is also a professional chef and a published poet. Born in England, she has been a permanent resident of Australia for many years, and has divided her working life between the UK and Australia. Her book, "Corridors", was launched in 2016 in Canberra by the Deputy High Commissioner of the British High Commission, Mr Tony Brennan. On that occasion Mr Brennan said that he had never before read such an intimate account of the 1940's, particularly including the experience of the evacuation of children, "based on the actual memories of a child caught up in the terror of that time."

Price \$22.95





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Elders Towns Shearing Real Estate

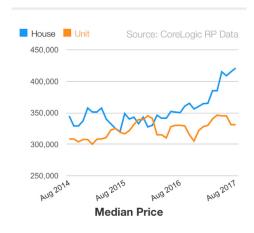
Tasmania is currently experiencing high levels of demand from both local and overseas buyers.

Hobart has displayed strong growth and this has now filtered through to Launceston as prices are always more affordable in the north of the state.

Compared to the same period five years ago, the median house sale price for Launceston and surrounding suburbs has increased 11.8% which equates to an annual growth rate of 2.3%. (stats from realestate.com).

So if you are thinking of selling, spring is always a great time to market your property. Buyer demand is excellent and some top prices are being achieved within days or weeks of listing a property for sale.

Suburb Profile Report for Launceston TAS (7250)





Call Sharon Fahey now for your free market appraisal on your property - 0409 188 249.

Elders Towns Shearing 58 Elizabeth Street Launceston Tas 7250

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

Dietitian

Stephen Hodgkinson: APD, BHlthSc, MND Summerdale Medical Centre

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P: 0419 838 674 E: stephen.h.nutrition@gmail.com

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> 0448990314 63281391

Fletcher & Co. nursery

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



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Ivan Dean MLC

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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 Henty House

One Civic Square Launceston TAS 7250

CHRISTMAS ON THE EAST TAMAR

Light up your garden/letterbox and/ or house with Christmas lights and decorations this year and you might win one of 3 X \$50 vouchers from Bean in the Country, sponsored by Smoke Signals along with several small encouragement awards.

Entry notification must be registered by Dec 15th for judging during the week commencing Sun 17th.

> Dilston/Windermere/ Swan Bay/ Hillwood

63281163 or 0409 317 806 (Marg Hosford)

Email: hosfordm@bigpond.net.au





Blackbird Design Studio
blackbird-designstudio.com
contact@blackbird-designstudio.com
Happy
Holidays!

Issue 212

www.winderdoon.com/community/smokesignals.htm

December 2017

Community Contacts

FIRE: 000

Dilston Hall: 6328 1348

St. Matthias Church: 6328 1209

Playgroup: 0437 851 920

Garden Club: 6328 1566

Book Discussion Group: 6328 1381

Bird Watching: 6328 1163

Native Animal Rescue -Lorraine De Weys 6326 3502

Men's Shed - Jeff Wynne 0417 843 943

Justice of The Peace -Darren Pullen 0439 912 862

FIRE BRIGADE OFFICERS Raoul Stow - 0417 351 423 Jason Hingston - 0439 771 156 Jamie Smith - 0458 515 386

Copy For NEXT ISSUE Due

Friday January 26th
For publication in the 2nd week of February
Email address: smokesignals@bigpond.com
Or mail to: 454 Windermere Rd. Windermere 7252

ADVERTISING

Invoices for advertising in Smoke Signals for 2017 will be issued in January 2018.

As we wish to keep a balance between news, editorial and advertising, advertising for businesses will be prioritised for 6 editions or more.

Advertising rates for 2018 and until further notice: We have not increased rates since 2012.

(1 column x 10 lines single spacing): \$10