



Smoke Signals

Dilston Windermere



Swan Bay Newsletter

We're on the web

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

Issue 168

December 2010

Inside this issue

Many Questions surround the NBN

Since our last edition and the controversy it unveiled as to the likely compromise of the NBN delivery to homes in our circulation area, there has been a team of very active people asking questions in the places that matter, to change the outcome of a future that is likely to compromise the communication options of people in the outskirts of the City of Launceston.

MHA Ivan Dean asked a question of The Premier in State Parliament :

What is the criterion for the rollout of NBN within the State, what criterion is applied when determining each phase of the rollout - phases 1, 2 and 3 - and why would an area such as Dilston, Windermere, Swan Bay be identified for connections as late as phase 4, which could well be five or six years hence?

The essence of The Premier's answer:

The commitments made to Tasmania by the Commonwealth Government were that Tasmania would be the first State to receive the NBN and this would include a 'fibre to the premises' footprint of 200 000 premises to be built within five years of commencement of the rollout. This represents a very large proportion of Tasmanian homes and businesses. Other areas will be covered by wireless or satellite services offering speeds of at least 12 mbps, which is much faster than many premises are able to obtain now.

The details of that fibre footprint rollout and its timing are a matter for NBN Co., the company established to build the NBN, to determine.

While it would be good for every Tasmanian to have immediate access to the NBN fibre footprint, NBN Co. needs to be realistic and responsible in determining where, when and which infrastructure is rolled out.

The Member for Rosevears, Kerry Finch MHA asked a similar question.

The Premier's answer also implied that not all premises would be serviced by a fibre connection to the premises.

"There are financial and logistical factors to be taken into consideration, which means that some areas will be not be inside the fibre footprint.

These areas are not being ignored. They will receive new wireless or satellite services which will provide speeds as fast as those that many city people experience now, with the potential to deliver speeds more than eight times faster than this in the future."

It would seem that this district is not currently included in the planning for fibre to the premises. If you feel that this is unsatisfactory and that you are not prepared to subsidise an inequitable rollout of the NBN, you need to make your opinion heard locally by contacting (Bev Goldfarb@bigpond.com) or your local Member of State Parliament. If you take action personally, we may well be able to apply pressure to have the priority for areas designated to receive fibre to the property changed.

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Windermere Corner Café

6328 1335

NEW YEARS EVE

BBQ

8:30pm—12:30am

ALL WELCOME

\$10 per head

BYO Meats to cook & drinks

Salads provided

DJ will provide entertainment

Come along and celebrate a
community welcome to

THE NEW YEAR 2011



Garden Club News by Ros Ryan

Our November meet was hosted by Margaret and Jon Hosford whose home looks over The Tamar.

The day was hot and humid with most guests seeking shade.

Our lunch, a nice variety of mains and desserts was enjoyed by all. I especially liked the Rhubarb Champagne made by Jon.

An escorted walk around their garden was a pleasure and very informative. It's been nice these past few years watching the garden all come together.

The vineyard looks healthy and productive as do the fruit trees and a veggie garden. The native trees and bushes are looking good as does the rockery which is filling up and very colourful.

This was an enjoyable day thank

you Margaret & Jon.

Next Month:

Christmas lunch— Noel & Ros Ryan

January: Open garden at Devonport

February: Wendy & Denis Butler.

All are welcome. Please come along and join our happy group.



Top: Succulent rockery.

Below: New rockery after 1 year.

Copy For NEXT ISSUE

Due

Friday January
21st

For publication first
week in February.

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

1/12 Page \$9.00

book an ad in four issues and save:

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Small Classifieds, Wanted to sell, etc
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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.

Leave advertising copy at the Windermere Store or email to:

smokesignals@bigpond.com

Smokesignals on the web

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

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Signal Station Tavern

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\$8 meals Thursday evenings

6PM TO 8PM

Friday & Saturday nights— full counter meals 6pm
to 8pm

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Pizzas & jacket potatoes eat in or take away

This Cafe



Lyndel & Max Rawlings
would love to catch up
with friends from

Dilston/Windermere/Swan Bay

if you are in town.

Come and see us for a coffee and a chat

At our new business in George Street.

Opposite Barratt's Music.

The Summer Heat is Upon You..... Dr Don

Hopefully the following hints will help to keep you and your families healthy over this period;

Re the heat:

Don't work or play outside between 12 noon and 4 pm unless absolutely necessary. You need to be drinking at least 2 litres of water per day, plus your teas, coffees and other drinks. More water is needed if you are doing hard physical work in the heat.

Alcohol does not mix with heat, exercising/working, or any activities on the water

Insect bites:

Remove the insect including the sting in the case of a bee. In the home situation a paste of bicarb soda and water will absorb much of the insect's venom. After about 15 minutes apply tea tree oil around the bite. Away from the home, the sap of a bracken frond is useful. Metho, cold water or Stingose are all other options.

Medical attention may be needed urgently if there is shortness of breath, swelling or tingling of the lips. This may indicate an acute allergic reaction. Ring for an ambulance if in

doubt.

Less dramatic is the swelling and indicate infection and the need for antibiotics.

Snake bites:

Avoid. Wear gum boots in wet areas or in long grass and near blackberries. Always have long trousers on, as the 2 major venous snakes we have here cannot bite through denim.

If bitten, remove your self or the patient from danger. Apply a very firm dressing over the bite and ring for an ambulance. Do not remove the dressing prior to arrival at casualty.

Have a safe, happy Christmas
Dr Don Hempton

FIRE

Brigade Contacts



Rob Montague
6328 1336 (h)
Jason Hingston
Mob 0407392457
Neville Jolly
6326 5860 (h)
Mob 0417 540230
David Lake
Mob 0438 075 534

Community Contacts - FIRE: 000

Dilston Hall: 6328 1348
St. Matthias Church:

6328 1209
Playgroup: 6328 1196

Garden Club: 63281566
CWA: 6328 1257
Book Discussion Group: 6328 1231

Bird Watching: 6328 1163

Native Animal Rescue

Lorraine De Wey's 63263502

Men's Shed 6328 1544

FIRE BRIGADE OFFICERS

Rob Montague 6394 8377 (w)
6328 1336 (h)

Jason Hingston Mob 0407392457

Neville Jolly 6326 5860 (h)
Mob 0417 540230

David Lake Mob 0438 075 534

BURN'S COMMERCIAL & DOMESTIC CLEANING

Special offer pre Christmas

We will " Spring Clean" your home and clean carpets all in ONE day.

CLEAN SWEEP DEAL

Book your carpet & a friend's carpet clean for 3 rooms each or more to receive \$30 off each clean.

All takers will enter the draw for a FREE carpet clean in 6 months time.

PHONE: Sally- Anne 63922303

Mob: 0417 928 147

For a free quote

HAPPY CHRISTMAS to all
Smokesignals readers from
Brian Wightman MHA, Labor
member for Bass.



Smokesignals acknowledges the
contribution and support of
Brian Wightman, MHA in the printing
of this newsletter.

Dr Don Hempton

The Windermere GP

Is available for consults,
Strictly by appointment

Ring 6328 1560





Neighbourhood Watch— Reports of Breaking & Entering

Recent reports of interference with property in the district are a warning that all residents need to take precautions to safeguard their property against theft and interference.

Reports to Smokesignals include incidents of identity theft with the removal of passports and other personal documents. Other incidents have involved visits from well dressed strangers who make an excuse of a wrong address if challenged. Several properties have been broken into over the past 2 months in the Windermere /Swan Bay district.

Who's Watching Your Home Whilst You're Away?

Are you going away from home over the summer holidays? Do you know who's watching it for signs that no one's home?

" Don't leave invitations for opportunistic thieves ", says NHW Tasmania President Jan Dunsby. " Signs such as overflowing mail boxes, empty driveways, wheelie bins on the pavement, unanswered phones and long grass all indicate that the house may be unoccupied ", she said.

Ms Dunsby urged anyone leaving their home unoccupied to ask a trustworthy neighbour or a family member to collect the mail, remove empty wheelie bins, mow the lawn and sometimes park in the driveway. *" We should also turn down the ring volume on the phone, make sure all doors and windows are locked (including the garden shed) and install a timer so that interior lights come on and off in a random fashion " , she said.*

Visit the Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania website, <http://nhwtas.org.au/>

Your local residing agent...

If you are looking for a local agent that resides in your area, knows about local infrastructure and has a good sound knowledge of the Real Estate market along the East Tamar - then please call Sharon Fahey.

For a no obligation free market appraisal on your home or if you just want to have a friendly chat about sales in our area please do not hesitate to call.

With mainland interest becoming strong again after a slow winter period, you may just be wanting a quiet sale where we bring along a buyer without any advertising.

Alternatively if you would like a "No Sale No Charge" marketing campaign we can offer you a colour photographic signboard and global internet advertising. This means that if we do not sell your property you owe us nothing!

Sharon Fahey 0409 188 249



sfahey@townsshearing.com.au

towns shearing real estate

58 Elizabeth Street, Launceston



Interview with the notorious Gertie Gambusia

By Grant Scurr Gambusia Project Manager, Tamar NRM

Today we bring you an extraordinary tail (tale) about Gambusia. What are Gambusia? Read on to find out. Recently on a quiet day in a lonely spot in the Windermere Wetlands, Gambusia Project Manager Grant Scurr was given the rare opportunity to interview one of the members of the notorious Gambusia *holbrooki* family - Miss Gertie Gambusia. Gertie gave some rare insights into her family and what humans and other native fish should expect from them.

Here is her interview....

Grant Scurr (aka GS): 'Hello Miss Gertie.....how are you today?'

Gertie Gambusia (aka GG): 'Honestly, I'm sick of children and being pregnant!'

GS: 'Why's that Miss Gertie?'

GG: 'Well...you know...the first 100 or so babies in late spring aren't too bad but by the end of summer when I've been pregnant nine times and there's nearly a million kiddies, grandkiddies and great grandkiddies....it just wears me out!'

GS: 'But there must be times when you can get plenty of time out and space to yourself around the wetlands?'

GG: 'Well...again it's not too bad in the spring but by the end of summer the little darlings seem to have filled every corner of the wetlands. It's impossible for me to get any peace and quiet.'

GS: 'How do you think the native fish and tadpoles feel about all those kids of yours filling up the wetlands?'

GG: 'Who cares! Anyway, those annoying native fish and tadpoles soon scarper off when gangs of my relatives move in especially when we chase them and nip bits off their fins! Didn't you know, we're everywhere.'

GS: 'So you're saying all the native fish and tadpoles disappear?'

GG: 'Hmmm, I'm not really sure and anyway as I said before, who cares! They just seem to swim off somewhere and hide.'

GS: 'Do you miss your homeland?'

GG: 'What! You mean Mexico and Southern USA? Not on your life....that's just a myth to us. I'm twentieth generation Tasmanian. My ancestors arrived here way back in 1992 in a bucket.'

GS: 'What about this Gambusia trapping and dip netting that's being done by Tamar Natural Resource Management?'

GG: 'What's dip netting - not sure what you're talking about! (Miss Gertie clasps fin to brow)

Oh wow, is that why it isn't so crowded in that channel by the highway, here at Windermere?'

GS: 'Yes, that's right...does that bother you?'

GG: (shrugging her fins) 'No, not really. If I catch my kiddies and grandkiddies while they're little I eat them. So long as I get fed every day, I really don't care. Actually it sounds good...I'll have to swim round to that channel to get my little bit of peace and quiet!'

GS: 'You're not concerned that you might get caught?'

GG: 'Me get caught, don't be silly..to even think it! Of course I won't...you'll never catch me...I'm too swift, too intelligent...aaarrghh...hey what are you doing! Let go of me...let gooooo... (Miss Gertie Gambusia is swiftly scooped up in Grant's net).

GS: 'That was Miss Gertie Gambusia and I really enjoyed our interview - hope you did too! If you would like to help with trapping or hand netting these pesky fish please contact Tamar Natural Resource Management (Tamar NRM) on 6323-3310 or email Grant.Scurr@launceston.tas.gov.au. We always need volunteers to help eradicate them.'

Grant Scurr

Photo: Four pregnant Gambusia females.



Tamar NRM

Community News



Are there any men interested in starting a mens shed in the Dilston, Windermere, Swan Bay area?

We are hoping to gain some indication of interest from you about starting a Shed in our area.

If you are unsure of what a mens shed is about have a look at www.mensheds.com.au

Why not give us a ring and let us know you are interested, if we get enough we will set up a meeting to discuss it and hopefully start the ball rolling.!!!

Jeff Wynne 6328 1544
Neil McLelland 6328 1215

A group of 10 men attended the 1st meeting of a local group keen to see the establishment of a Men's Shed in the district.

The meeting shared ideas and learned about Men's Sheds Australia's structure and avenues of assistance.

Problems with men's health, isolation, loneliness and depression are looming as major health issues for men. Men's sheds can play a significant and practical role in addressing these and other men's issues. Men's sheds can help connect men with their communities and mainstream society and at the same time act as a catalyst in stimulating their community's economic activities.

There was a wide range of interests amongst the men from the district who attended, but all were confident the desire to form a group was common and that further regular meetings would progress the innovation.

Next meeting is at the home of Steve Hollier, 238 Windermere Road on Tuesday January 18th 2011 at 5pm. All welcome. Bring something to share.

Christmas gift ideas

Twin pack - a festive red and white for \$50.

...that's a saving of \$10

Enjoy our limited release, multiple award winning 2005 Pinot Noir and make your selection from our 2009 white wines - Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc or Pinot Gris.



15% discount

Enjoy a 15% discount on orders of six or more wines for drinking over Christmas.

White Wines **reduced to** \$21.25 / bottle

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New release

Toast the festive season with the first release of Native Point Vintage Sparkling Rosé

... \$25.00 per bottle

Available at the
Windermere Corner Cafe until
December 31, 2010

Native Point
Naturally
ELEGANT WINES

A Story of Hope from Ecuador by *Anne Bowden* community reporter from Hillwood.

As we look forward to sharing Christmas and the home comforts with our loved ones I would like to share a story, of hope, joy and love from the other side of the world in Ecuador, of Maria de Lourdes who moved to South America to help the indigenous children. I can only describe her as an unsung hero and a "one woman miracle walking band".

In 1996 Maria founded Conexiion Vital (Vital Connection) a non-profit organization which is in charge of carrying out Project Renaissance.

At approximately 3000 m altitude, surrounded by beautiful views in the Andes mountains and two hours from Quito the capital of Ecuador, there in the province of Atuntaqui is where Project Renaissance is now giving support to 13 schools. This organisation has also been working for the past 3 years with another project in the Cumbaya-Tumbaco area where 522 children and 47 teachers are attending school. Included in this are seven preschools with a total of 350 children located in the rural area of Quito.

Maria has trained teachers in the advanced method of Montessori, English, right brain demonstrations on the Glen Doman method. Each child has received doctors and dentist checkups. She has also taught nutrition and now has helpers that oversee the menus and food preparation.

In a recent email from Maria she said " Our goals are to give these children the basic in health and education, like drinkable water and a bathroom for each school, training to the teachers on the most advance methods of education, including seminars to make Montessori material. We are overlooking the menus and food prepared for the children at the school, they received 3 meals daily (breakfast, snack and lunch). We started meetings with the parents and will have meetings with the community, for a greater support for the schools. We are also requesting medicine for parasites for each child from the representatives of the Department of Health in the city. The next step is to find a way to give them doctor and dentist checkups and follow up plus medicine for all of them" she ends her email with "I am grateful for the opportunity to serve these precious children."

None of the schools have bathrooms which is a detriment for their health, furthermore eight of the schools do not have drinkable water aggravating the health of the children and their teachers. Project Renaissance is already looking into these factors and we are trying to contact authorities and people with good hearts to help us fulfilled the needs of these children and their schools.

The families of these children are very poor, the place where they live is near by the mountain Imbabura, where it usually is very cold very early and late in the day. Since the schools and communities are so far, there are not too many people that go there to visit these schools and not for sure to celebrate Christmas with them. This year Project Renaissance will love to give them at least a little present and a little bag of candies.

Maria's only funding to do this remarkable work, comes from donations by big hearted individuals but with the downturn in the US economy she is struggling to provide the basic necessities for food and education. Maria needs water filters for 8 of the schools to have uncontaminated water. Another major priority are new bathrooms and kitchens. She only needs \$500 per school to install a bathroom in each of the 13 schools.

If you find it in your heart to donate towards helping fund one of these projects or towards a \$2 Christmas gift for each of the 522 children, please go to www.educationecuador.org which has paypal facilities, or for more information about Maria and her work, contact Anne on 041 7274340 or anne@maxaustralia.net. Maria will be sending photos of the children receiving their first Christmas gift.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas,

Anne Bowden,

Hillwood



Maria de Lourdes instructs a group of Ecuadorian teachers on the right brain Doman method.

**ST MATTHIAS
WINDERMERE**



&

**HOLY TRINITY
LAUNCESTON**



CHRISTMAS SERVICES



ST MATTHIAS

Friday 24 December **7:00 pm**

CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLS

Christmas Carols Service

Saturday 25 December **9:00 am**

CHRISTMAS DAY

Holy Eucharist Service

HOLY TRINITY

Friday 24 December **5:30 pm**

CHRISTMAS EVE CRIB SERVICE

Friday 24 December **11:30 pm**

CHRISTMAS EVE

Midnight Mass Service

Saturday 25 December **9:00 am**

CHRISTMAS DAY

Holy Eucharist Service

ALL SAINTS' EVE SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER

The BBQ at St Matthias Church Windermere was "WELL DONE" to everyone who braved the showery weather—a good crowd. We were all cosy and dry under the waterproof canopies outside. Great sausages, salads, 'Texas' beans and desserts. A big thanks to the Men's Club of Holy Trinity for providing the hard work of the BBQ and to everyone that brought the 'extras'.

It was a special service to celebrate the lives of family and friends who have died and to light a candle in their memory—also to celebrate the memory of the people who are buried in the graveyard at St Matthias and their contribution to our church: the Rosevears, Plummers, Wings, Mallinsons, Gaunts, Medwins, Coulsons and others. It was a very moving service and we had a lot of candles alight in the cemetery after the service. It was a beautiful and simple way to remember our loved ones and the people who preceded us at St Matthias.

Sue Speed

QUIET DAY AT ST MATTHIAS SATURDAY 20 NOVEMBER

This was led by Archdeacon Bob McKay, starting at 10:00 am and finishing at 2:00 pm (he has a soft spot in his heart for St Matthias). It was a time for "*looking inward and listening to the world that is around*" meditation. As before, I came away with a feeling of peace and settlement. Everyone who attended came away with their own peace—another step in our individual pilgrimages.

S Speed