



Smoke Signals

East Tamar Newsletter

We're on the web

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

Christmas Seal of Approval

Tourists and locals alike were treated to a rare viewing of an Australian Fur Seal out of its usual territory at Windermere for Christmas.

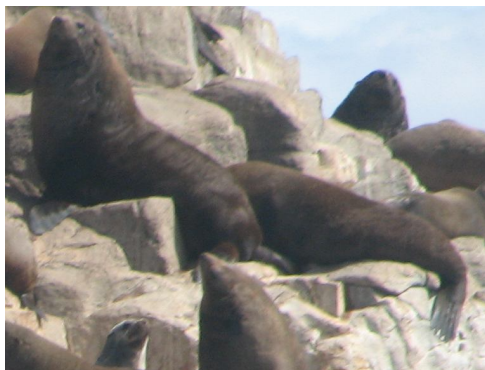
On Monday December 23rd, Stephen and Denise Sampson of Doctors Hill stopped at the Windermere Café to post a letter.

Stephen couldn't believe what he saw in Manwaring's paddock opposite the post box.

"There's a seal in the paddock!" he called through the window.

"Oh yeah, how many drinks have you had?" remarked Denise sceptically.

"You know I don't drink! There's a seal



over there."

Sure enough a fur seal was large as life under the large gum tree in the paddock.

A high tide inundates areas close to this region and the seal had probably been chasing food and retired for a rest after his hunting.

A large group of Asian tourists from Singapore had booked morning tea at the Café, and the kids were treated to this rare sight and were obviously excited by it.

Despite photos committed and not received, we thought this local story was worth publishing. Fur Seals are more

commonly found around the Tasmanian Coastline and especially on the small islands south of Bruny Island.

Photo: Bruny Island 2008.

Ragwort Opportunity

For walkers on Windermere Road and indeed the whole district during the month of February, there is a chance to do a positive deed for environmental management.

Ragwort is a noxious weed and is difficult to control, as it grows best on verges of uncultivated land beside roads where councils do not specifically take an interest in management.

February is a great time to remove plants where you walk before they set seed.

The flower is tall, yellow and daisy like. The plant removes easily with a firm pull.

It is worth the effort to minimise the spread of this weed in the district. Specific campaigns have been conducted in the past but being aware as a local walker gives you great satisfaction when you identify and remove plants you see on your walk.



Issue 189

February 2014

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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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Licensed to sell Tasmanian produced and
owned alcohol.

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Gardening Club News.....by Ros Ryan

Christmas last year was a great celebration attended by about 20. Although the day was windy & showery, it was enjoyed by all.

Mark from Allan's Prospect Nursery joined us, and named a weed popping up in our Lawns. The weed has a small yellow flower. It is very soft to tread on and spreads. It is called Creeping Oxalis and can be treated with Kamba M. A good selection of plants and shrubs were available for sale.

We all enjoyed a tasty lunch, good company, conversation & the usual walk around the Garden.

Thank you Lou & John for your hospitality.

January saw a smaller group gather at Maureen & Rob McLaine's home in Swan Bay.

The weather was beautiful, we spent our time on the veranda overlooking the Garden and the Bay.

We all enjoyed Finger food, a glass of Wine & Garden walk.

Thank you Maureen & Rob for your hospitality.

Next Meets

February Wendy & Denis Butler at Riverside.
March Pauline & Barry Oliver at Newnham

Copy For NEXT
ISSUE

Due

Friday March 28th

For publication in the
1st week of April

Email address:
smokesignals@bigpond.com

Or mail to:

454 Windermere Rd. Windermere
7252

WOULD YOU LIKE TO
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Book an ad in four issues and save:

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1/12 Page \$27.00

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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



*Garden Club members enjoying a pre-Christmas
get together.*

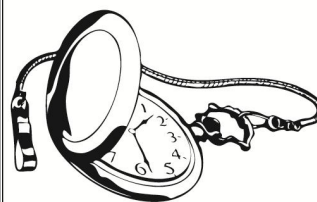
For enquiries about joining the Garden
Club

Phone Ros Ryan

Phone: 6328 1566

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or 6328 1544

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to 8pm

Sundays

All day PIZZA 1:00-7:30pm

ST MATTHIAS WINDERMERE



HOLY TRINITY LAUNCESTON

SPECIAL SERVICES AT ST MATTHIAS

In the last few months St Matthias has had 2 very special services, the 170th Anniversary Celebration of St Matthias and the regular Christmas Eve Carols service (standing room only). Both services were extremely well attended, which is absolutely great. We encourage members of the community to come along to our bi-monthly services.

There is a core group of parishioners who care for St Matthias and support the church. The recent 170th celebration was a very special event and from these services a database was compiled of "Friends of St Matthias" and others who wanted to be informed of upcoming events, etc (especially applicable to people who don't live locally).

We have tourists constantly visiting the grounds wanting to have a closer look at the beautiful little church on the river and possibly seeing the inside. Families come out from Launceston to have a picnic in the grounds and enjoy the fantastic view. We encourage the community to enjoy the grounds of the church.



LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

We are planning an Easter Lenten Bible Study for Dilston, Windermere and Swan Bay. It will last for only 5 weeks (meeting once each week at a different house in the area). If you are interested please ring Sue Speed on 03 6328 1209 and I will put your name on a list and let you know the dates/places when ready—starting sometime soon after 5 March.

QUIET DAY

St Matthias will be having a Quiet Day on 24 February which will be lead by Benno Zaidam, assisted by Rev Ken Box. A Quiet Day at St Matthias runs from 10:00 am to approx 2-3 pm. It encompasses a brief 'discussion' of coping with our everyday problems and follows with quiet meditation inside and outside the church. If you think better on your feet, that's okay. There will be morning and afternoon teas provided but please bring your lunch, cool drinks and chairs to sit on outside the church. If you have any queries please contact Sue Speed (03 6328 1209)

WORKING BEES

St Matthias will be having 1 or 2 Working Bees relatively soon (date has not been set yet) to "BAG" the Columbarium Wall the same colour as the church and move the mound of 'wood chips' to another location to be used for stabilisation when the riverbank is planted. It should greatly improve the outside presentation of the church and grounds. If you would like to help please ring Sue Speed on 03 6328 1209 and I will take your name and let you know the date and what is happening.

ST MATTHIAS' SERVICES

Sunday 9 February
10:30 am Eucharist Service

Sunday 23 March
10:30 am Eucharist Service

Sunday 20 April
10:30 am
EASTER EUCHARIST SERVICE

Sunday 23 February
10:30 am Eucharist Service

Sunday 13 April
10:30 am Eucharist Service

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THESE
VERY SPECIAL SERVICES



Tasmania Fire Service

The Heat!

It's no exaggeration that we have been in a period of protracted high temperatures. Happily the level of fire activity in our area has been quite low given the conditions and for that we thank the community for their vigilance. It's a good reminder that on particularly hot days we all need to refrain from undertaking any activity that may cause a fire and indeed, on days of Total Fire Ban, such activities are prohibited.

A small fire in Los Angeles Road was started from a single spark from a brushcutter, but a quick response from both Dilston and Hillwood Fire Brigades rounded this up in short order.

Residents may have noticed the blackened area just opposite the Windermere Shop on the side of the road. This was caused by some spontaneous combustion of materials in the tray of a ute. A quick response again from the brigade, along with assistance from Rocherlea fires, limited the spread of this grass fire.

Another 5 minutes later and it would have been into longer grass and the result would have been a fast running fire that is hard to stop.

The brigade has however been busy assisting with other incidents in Hillwood, George Town, and most recently, at the Wattle Hill Fire in Hobart. Readers will probably be aware of the media attention that this fire garnered and we were

pleased to be able to send 3 of our fire-fighters down as part of a Northern Region Task Force to help with the resolution of this fire. The crews spent long days blackening out which mostly involved manual labour in difficult terrain, ensuring that there are no hot spots that might cause a reignition.

Thankfully the combined efforts of some 25 brigade kept property damage to a minimum, in a community that still vividly remembers the devastation last year in the same area.

Lastly, a big thankyou to the

Brigade Contacts

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

community for the support shown during the lolly drop just prior to Christmas. We love seeing the children's faces and Santa reports he lost a lot of weight getting in and out of the truck so often.

We hope to see you all again soon with the completion of our new station drawing near.

Keep an eye on the building works and we hope to have some more information next issue of Smoke Signals.



Left to Right:

Dilston Brigade Chief
Paul Blakie

Dilston 2nd Officer
Neville Jolly

Pipers Brook B.Chief
Peter Harly

...at Dodges Ferry Fire Station tucking into a meal after a hard day on the Wattle Hill Fire Ground.

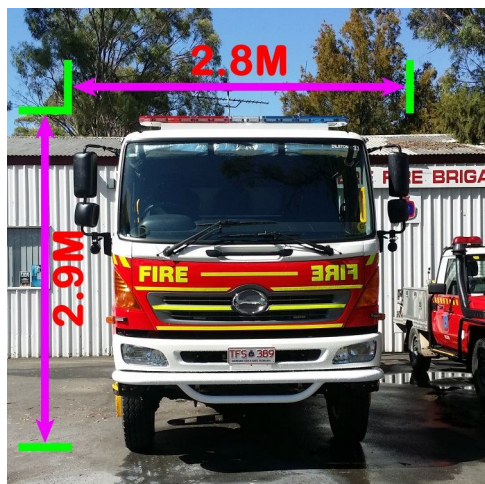


www.facebook.com/DilstonFireBrigade



Difficult to Access Properties.

Recent observations by brigade members has highlighted a number of issues, one of which is the number of residences with in the Dilston/Windermere/Swan Bay area that have narrow and/or difficult accesses. We would like to ask residents to take stock of their own properties, and whether emergency vehicles (not just Fire Service) are able to gain access in case of such an emergency. As a guide we have provided some diagrams below that show the dimension of our 3.1 Heavy Tanker. We realise that there will be some driveways that will not be able to be easily modified, but things like overhanging branches and driveway shrubbery could be altered to allow better access. Time is critical in such situations!!! We are more than happy to offer advice to residents if this can be of help.



A selection of images from recent Brigade activity.
Clockwise from Left...
Wattle Hill Fire;
Los Angeles Road;
Los Angeles Road Panorama;
John Lees Drive opposite the Windermere Corner Café.

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 Wey</i>	63263502
Men's Shed	6328 1544
FIRE BRIGADE OFFICERS	
Paul Blakie	Mob 0417592424
Neville Jolly	Mob 0417 540230
David Lake	Mob 0438 075 534
Jason Hingston	Mob 0407392457
Raoul Stowe	Mob 0417351423

NATIVE POINT VINEYARD

Looking forward to harvesting the grapes during March and April?
If you would like to be part of our local picking team this season, please contact Sheena.



Tel: 0474 131 582



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

Birds of The Tamar Striated Pardalote

Jon Hosford

Arriving home from a trip to The East Coast at the weekend, I discovered a small dead bird on our doorstep: maybe a victim of clean windows or a Smokesignals reader trying to identify the victim of their windows.

It prompted me to write of this often overlooked little resident of our gardens and open eucalypt forests.

There are actually 6 races of the Striated Pardalote found in Australia, however the race predominantly found in Tasmania is the yellow tipped form (striatus), named because of a small yellow patch in the middle of the wing. The bird I found was young, as the markings were not yet fully defined as in mature birds.

These birds inhabit the higher foliage of eucalypts scavenging for lerps and other tiny insects. They are heard more than seen, emitting a persistent "chip chip" call from the foliage.

They build a nest of grasses, dome shaped or partly domed, in a hollow tree or sometimes at the end of a tunnel in softer soils. Incubation is by both parents.

Most of the Tasmanian birds migrate to the mainland for the winter months, and return in the warmer months to breed.

They are common in gardens with taller trees.



Amble In Cottage

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- ★ Stereo CD/cassette system

Everything is there for an enjoyable stay!



Cnr East Tamar Highway & Windermere Road
Windermere, Tasmania 7252

Bookings

Judy Pike 0417311728



With the new Fire Station nearing completion, the Men's Shed is hopeful of a base to work from in the old Fire Station. We have applied formally to Council for this to occur with the support and blessing of The Fire Brigade.

The membership currently stands at over 20 and we would encourage new membership enquiry.

As we move towards active establishment as a community support group we ask for donation of tools and equipment that will help to establish our active operation in the forthcoming months.

Small tools and electrical tools that are surplus to your needs would be greatly appreciated.

We have recently been donated a wood lathe by The Port Sorell Men's

Shed and we are grateful for their support in establishing our future. Planning is underway for the organisation and operation of The Men's Shed, which is an incorporated association, and open to new membership by nomination by current members. The Committee is currently considering hours of operation and operational procedure, to ensure that community interests are supported and the highest standards of safety are observed for participants.

For enquiries about The Men's Shed activities, ring

President: Jeff Wynne

0417 843 943 or

Secretary :Jon Hosford

0419317808.

Community Advertisements



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For further details contact
Pat Hollier 63281348