

WINDERMERE CAFE CLOSES

All members of our East Tamar community will be disappointed to hear that Fleur Keals feels she cannot continue to run the Windermere Cafe and has closed as of last week. Fleur has put endless time and energy into developing the business and it has been an invaluable community resource both as a cafe, takeaway and a community meeting place.

Since Leon and Jan Miller first opened the Windermere Corner Store back in 1994, it has had a number of different owners and operators, but has always been a valued community resource.

I'm sure that all residents would join the Smoke Signals team in thanking Fleur and her staff for their substantial contribution to our community and to wish her well for the future. She will be missed.



A Message from Fleur

The time has come to make this difficult post. As many of you already know I have decided to close the cafe permanently. We have found conditions increasingly difficult and are no longer able to continue. On behalf of myself and the girls, I would like to thank our loyal customers and particularly members of the local community for their ongoing support. This is a sad time for us as we know how much the cafe has meant to the community. When times were good we had so much fun working together & serving great food in a happy, cheerful place.

Thank you again to all of our loyal customers & supporters, Fleur & the team.

A Letter From Anne Layton-Bennett

Windermere Cafe

The unfortunate closure of the Windermere Café means we've all lost something infinitely precious, and potentially irreplaceable, and it's left many people – myself included – both devastated and deeply disappointed. Not only for Fleur, but for our community as a whole. In the words of Joni Mitchell's song: You never know what you've got 'till it's gone. But some of us do know. And only too well.

The word 'community' has become something of a buzzword. Politicians use it all the time – especially during and since the emergence of COVID when the importance of community was suddenly considered essential to wellbeing. Which it is. A strong and supportive community is also powerful. Our community has proved that many times over the years. And since it first opened, central to all those times, has been the Windermere Shop/Café.

A short history lesson.

There was neither shop nor café when we first moved here. If you needed another carton of milk or loaf of bread it meant a drive to Mt Direction Service Station, or to Newnham. There was no highway either, or not as we know it now. The highway included John Lees Drive, and for the first several months we lived here it ended at Rocherlea. That last bit from Landfall to the university exit hadn't been completed. No wonder people equated living out here to being in the sticks. Dilston, Windermere and Swan Bay were relatively isolated and largely separate communities, where immediate neighbours could be several paddocks away.

Maybe that isolation prompted long-term resident Mike to establish the volunteer fire brigade. From all accounts this brought many neighbours from each of the three communities together as fundraising events at Dilston Hall were organised so a fire truck could be purchased. The fire brigade was also the catalyst for our community newsletter Smoke Signals. It was former resident Eric's contribution to the brigade. His health precluded him from being a firefighter, but his computer skills, at a time when PCs were still relatively uncommon, were significant. But those early issues of Smoke Signals helped to inform new and existing residents about the various opportunities in our area. The aptly titled Smoke Signals contained contact details for local activities such as the playgroup, walking group, book group, sewing circle and garden club – as well as the fire brigade. And joining these groups was how many in the community first met each other.

We'd lived here for a couple of years when the first hints about a corner shop opening were heard. The knowledge we could soon have a local convenience store was exciting. Sure, items were more expensive than the supermarket, but I doubt I was alone in ensuring a few staples were bought there each week to support the fledgling business and the local family who had decided to set it up.

Over the years various people have run the shop/café, some more successfully than others. The years when it was operated by Kerrie and Maree were undoubtedly among the best. Their warmth and friendliness drew people in. People dropped by just to have a chat as they picked up a newspaper or packet of lollies. These years straddled much of the pulp mill campaign. For those unaware, this was an environmental fight to stop failed timber company Gunns Ltd build a massive pulp mill near Bell Bay. Google it to find out more, but suffice to say the campaign was long, hard, bitterly divisive and exhausting, but it was the strength of the community that ultimately ensured the project failed. That it did was due in no small measure to the efforts of those in our East Tamar community, as well as the Tasmanian community more broadly.

It was the pulp mill campaign that also resulted in the long-awaited tick of approval for the bypass that finally diverted traffic from thundering through Dilston. The diversion wasn't necessarily such good news for the café though. Lack of passing traffic meant a drop in the shop's takeaway food business. To compensate Kerrie and Maree took a huge risk with the first of the Thank God It's Friday evenings. The instant and enormous popularity of these weekly gatherings took both by surprise.

But so many of us knew each other by now, and the TGIF evenings ensured many more in the neighbourhood did so too. Several new arrivals were welcomed into our community, settling in quickly to become valuable friends and neighbours. Such was TGIF's reputation, people chose to buy here because of TGIF's reputation! These were the years when the shop/café's position as the hub and heart of our community was cemented. Fleur came on board during this time and the café became the go-to place for so many events and functions. It hosted birthday parties, music afternoons, book and garden club lunches and dinners, fundraisers for various organisations, as well as providing a safe and supportive space for many people in our community who were facing some of the challenges of life's ups and downs.

Thanks to our strong and proactive community we have a safer exit onto the highway from John Lees Drive. Again the pulp mill campaign is largely responsible. We all knew each other by the time this was raised and were aware of the wealth of engineering expertise among certain individuals. These were people able to point us in the right direction, and to argue convincingly and knowledgeably to ensure we received the safest infrastructure option possible. Likewise, when the NBN was being rolled out, and our region became a political football with the off again/on again situation, we knew who to call. That this community was finally included on the NBN map is down to committed members of a strong community who met regularly at the Windermere Café to work out the best lobbying strategies. Most recently it was our feisty and motivated community that gathered together once more to ensure funds were raised to prevent the Anglican Church selling off our historic St Matthias Church to help pay redress to victims of abuse.

The café then, not to mention Fleur herself, has been instrumental in forging the strong community bonds our region is renowned for. So it's bitterly disappointing to see the café close – a real blow to our community's collective health and wellbeing.

© Anne Layton-Bennett



I currently have 4 sheep (black faced dorpers) that I raised as pets on my property on the west Tamar which have lived in Hillwood for over 3 years since I sold my property.

Unfortunately, where they live is quite boggy in winter if we get a lot of rain which is not great for their feet, so I'd like to put a notice out to the east Tamar community to see if anyone would like some friendly lawn mowers to add to their family! They need a paddock/s with good drainage and a small shed for shade and shelter. They are self shedding..ie no shearing, and I'm happy to pay any necessary vet bills,

I usually visit them weekly, they eat out of my hands and love a scratch...I'd be very happy to explain to anyone interested, and I'd hope to have occasional visiting rights!

Just phone me on 0416122 424 if you're interested.

Linda Booth



BUS UPDATE

In our last edition we made a case for all George Town bus services to run through Dilston. Thanks to all who signed the petition and to Fleur for offering it through the Windermere Cafe. No News from the Department as yet - we are suggesting a 6 week trial period to test the demand.

DILSTON DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

A lady is already assisting but wants to reduce her hours so there is a position available, initially 2 hours per week.

Applicants must have an ABN and police check (or are willing to get them).

Payment is weekly or monthly into a bank account.

Apply on 0408 281 237

GET SMOKE SIGNALS ON LINE

We rely on volunteers for the distribution of Smoke Signals, so can't guarantee that you will receive it in your mailbox every time. Why not subscribe to our on line version and be sure to keep up to date with local happenings (you'll still get the printed version if we have a deliverer in your area). Just email smokesignals@bigpond.com with SUBSCRIBE in the subject line and we'll add you to our online subscription list.



Sea Eagles

Coming home to Jetty road Dilston from the city one evening, the sun had gone and it was getting dark. At the East Tamar Highway, (ETH) Dilston / Windermere turn off, I drove up to join John Lees Drive. As I was about to make the turn towards Dilston, I observed four White Bellied Sea Eagles regimentally flying up to about six metres and diving down and back up again to a single point. As there is a small bank and wire fence between the paddock and the road my view of what the birds were diving on was obscured. Curiosity caused me to stop the car and walked back up the bank and observed a sheep and her small lamb standing and watching the eagles diving on another lamb a few metres away. Against the severity of the attacks from the eagles the lambs' time was running out, or it was dead to start with. As the eagles usually dive on fish and take

the fish from the surface of the water that is the only way they know to attack a potential meal, in this case dive on a small lamb on dry land. I suspect the Sheep had twins and one had either been a problem birth, a still birth, or strayed from the mother. Other Sheep of the flock were nowhere to be seen.

On another occasion, a neighbour and I were sitting on my terrace at Jetty road overlooking the river and at about tree height, a Sea Eagle flew towards us carrying a strange package in its claws. As the bird flew over us we observed the package in its claws, or talons, was a featherless, furless creature with a longneck and head hanging at one end and webbed feet at the other, clearly a baby swan.

A really strange event with a Sea Eagle was when a bird flying at about 12metres, high was observed carrying in its claws, a stick about 12 inches long, about 1cm in diameter and at one end of the stick, attached, was what looked like a circular fine mesh basket. I questioned; what was it, where did it come from and why would this article be of interest to a Sea Eagle? Who knows, may be purely have been picked up as a potential piece of nesting material. To the average person I have spoken to, the article the bird was carrying looked like a child's net for capture of flying insects.

Living under the flight path and about the Sea Eagle's living area/district, make interesting observations that I enjoy sharing. Should others have witnessed behaviour of these magnificent birds worth mentioning please let us know.

Peter Hunt

When it comes to pollination - don't forget the birds

The last issue of Smoke Signals reminded us about the importance of bees when it comes to pollinating flowers, vegetables and fruits. But while most of us are aware of the critical role bees play in pollination, birds are just as crucial and many bird species are struggling to survive.

Climate change is a threat for birds globally, just as it is for us all. Rising temperatures, and more frequent extremes of dry and wet seasons that lead to floods and bushfires are all affecting birds' ability to feed and breed successfully, and even just survive. Additional threats are human activity, invasive species, and predation – in particular by domestic and feral cats.

Locally, as more people move into our area, the threats include habitat loss from land clearing, and introduced species like sparrows, blackbirds and starlings. These are all displacing native bird species so it's no wonder they are at risk. Adding to the stress is the increase in light and noise pollution at night which can disturb birds' feeding, and sleeping habits, and ultimately their breeding cycles.

As though bird populations don't have enough to contend with, a further threat to their survival is the latest iteration of avian influenza, or bird 'flu. European ornithologists, conservationists and scientists spoke out publicly about this potentially catastrophic threat to birds last month. The only regions that continue to remain free of the most recent strain of the H5N1 virus, are Australia and the Antarctic, but this isn't expected to last. The rapid spread of infection, and the fact so many bird populations across the world have never previously experienced the virus, makes them particularly vulnerable.

What can our community do to help the survival of our local native bird populations – and help to minimise the biodiversity loss that the loss of birds would accelerate? Well, a good start would be to plant more bird-friendly native bushes and trees. Native bushes, shrubs and trees can provide ideal habitat for some species, and the flowers and fruits are a vital food source, especially for some of our honeyeaters, parrots, and wattle birds. To help insect-eating bird species, consider limiting the hours the light outside your home at night is burning, or at least lower its brightness. Security is important of course, but so is the survival of our lovely birds.

© Anne Layton-Bennett

Birds of the East Tamar – A visit to Native Point Reserve

On Sat., April 1st (no April Fools' Day jokes here) a group of 12 'birders' from Holy Trinity Anglican Parish, plus a few friends, held a birding outing to Native Point Reserve, Windermere/Swan Bay. This is a lesser known 'Gem' of a birding spot in the East Tamar Region (though many readers have probably been). The track through the Reserve is a little worse for wear, so for anyone intending to visit, it's good to have a higher clearance vehicle, or do as we did, and park at the gate and walk in. It was a beautiful day – fine, sunny and mild, and surprisingly little wind. All up for the couple of hours, our bird count was a healthy 37 species seen at the Reserve, or getting there and getting home.

On the way, we travelled through Swan Bay, checking the foreshore for anything unusual – mostly the usual suspects of Black Swans, White-faced Herons, Eurasian Coots, and a few Ducks and Cormorants. We did ask participants to guess the significance of the road names in Swan Bay closer to the Highway end – Atratus, Ardea and Aquila (answers later).



We had 'car-pooled', so met at the gate on Woodlawn Drive, and parked there and walked in.

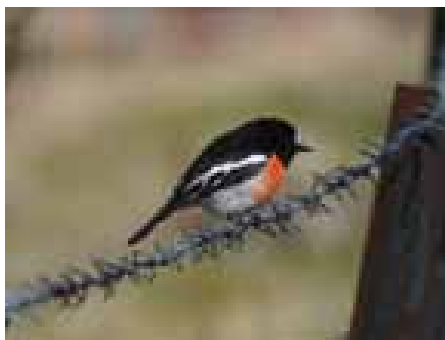
On the track from the gate in to the Reserve, we were intrigued by a very confiding Brown Falcon. We suspect he may have had a full belly, and been sleeping off breakfast. There were good numbers of Laughing Kookaburras, and Grey Fantails seemed to be following us.

A couple of beautiful Male Australian Golden Whistlers came and sang for us, and put on a show. Then some of their younger brothers (immatures) also seemed to shadow us later in the walk. For most of the walk, we were 'serenaded' by Yellow-throated Honeyeaters, and in parts we had both Spotted and Striated Pardalotes singing for us, too. Those up front were lucky enough to glimpse a Bronzewing flying off, but it was not possible to say which species.



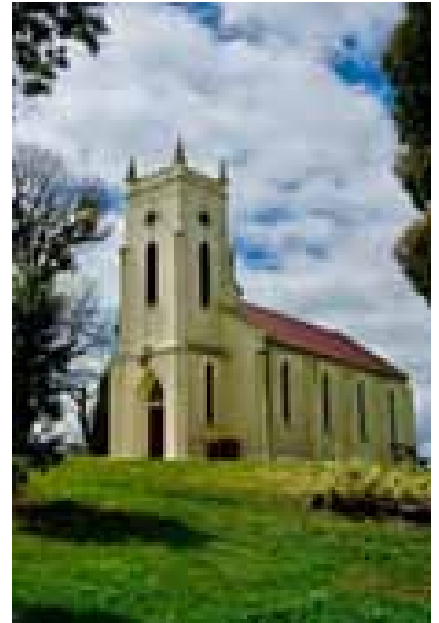
We checked out the 'Eagles' nest – reported to be used by both Wedge-tailed Eagles and White-bellied Sea Eagles at different times, though none was around today.

Then, as a parting blessing, just as we got to the cars, a beautiful male Scarlet Robin popped up on the wires to say 'hello'. We had heard a few others calling, but this stunner was the only one seen.



We headed back to St. Matthias' Church, and had a beautiful picnic lunch in the grounds, overlooking the River. It was a great way to end a very enjoyable morning, as we appreciated the view, the weather, the fellowship,

and of course the lovely birds that continued to make the day special.



If you get the chance, Native Point Reserve is a great spot to go birding.

And the Road names?? They are all parts of the Scientific names of local birds, for some reason, all chosen to be starting with the letter 'A'. Atratus is the species name for Black Swan (*Cygnus atratus*), Ardea is the Genus name for a number of types of Herons and Egrets, and Aquila is the Genus name for Wedge-tailed Eagle (*Aquila audax*).

John Tongue
Senior Associate Priest for Holy Trinity Parish, and Congregation Minister for St. Matthias' Windermere.

(Disclaimer: None of the photographs was taken today, and the shot of St. Matthias' Church is from the "Churches of Tasmania" Website: <https://www.churchesoftasmania.com/2017/12/no-7-st-matthias-anglican-church.html>)

GARDEN CLUB NEWS

FLETCHER AND CO. NURSERY – DILSTON

March saw Garden Club members enjoying a long table lunch at the Windermere Café and Gift Shop before moving on to Fletcher and Co. Nursery in Dilston.

I am sure many of you long-term residents know this nursery as it has been in existence for many years. Joel Fletcher and his family have continued the operations and they provide large numbers of trees for commercial properties whilst also selling to the general public. The nursery and greenhouses cover a vast area and hold an incredible number of trees and plants.

Joel took us on a tour of the nursery and then talked to us about “Black Soldier Fly Fertiliser” and compost which he has for sale. Quite a few of us purchased either one or both of these products. You can read more about the fertiliser on the ABC Rural News site <https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2021-11-06/black-soldier-fly-fertiliser/100580780>

Huge thanks to Joel for allowing us to visit and sharing your enthusiasm and knowledge with us. Thanks also to Elizabeth File for arranging the visit for us. Fletcher and Co. Nursery is open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. <https://fletcherandconursery.com.au/>



Joel Fletcher



Garden Club welcomed two new members from Swan Bay this month.

Our next two gatherings will be: **“Two Dilston Gardens”** in April, and **“Lunch in a Magical Windermere Waterfront Garden”** in May.

If you would like to participate in Garden Club activities, please contact me. New members are always very welcome.

Kerridwen51@gmail.com

Telephone: 0407 447 344

BEES IN THE GARDEN



Tasmania's Leatherwood Honey

Recognition of our "rare and special food" by The Ark of Taste

Leatherwood honey, unique to Tasmania, is produced in the great forests of our wild and rugged west coast. Much of the region has been proclaimed as a World Heritage Area.

Flowering from approximately January until April, the leatherwood tree (*Eucryphia lucida*) is endemic to Tasmania and originated nearly 65 million years ago. The best stands of leatherwood are often hidden deep within the forest and can be difficult to access, but the delicious rewards are well worth the trouble. Leatherwood Honey is a rich source of beneficial anti-oxidants.



Recognising that leatherwood honey is a rare and special food, the International Slow Food Movement committed to its preservation by including it in The Ark of Taste.

The International Slow Food Movement promotes and protects the enjoyment of 'slow food', that is food made from natural, fresh ingredients, using time honoured techniques. One of the organisation's key initiatives is the Ark of Taste. Just as Noah's ark was filled with two of every animal to ensure their long-term survival, so the ark of taste has been established to ensure the survival of the world's precious food. "The Ark of Taste aims to rediscover, catalogue, describe and publicise forgotten flavours. It is a metaphorical recipient of excellent gastronomic products that are threatened by industrial standardisation, hygiene laws, the regulations of large-scale distribution and environmental damage" Source: www.slowfoodfoundation.org



Photo source: yesanctuary.com Article source: Tasmanian Beekeepers Association



It has been a long time in the making and has had contributions from many Shed members, but the new larger community library is finally in place in front of the Dilston Hall. There are books that suit both men and women's preferences with a children's section as well, so come and make good use of it. Remember it is a book exchange and not a repository for old musty and dirty books, magazines, or catalogues which are no longer wanted.

The Mens Shed would like to acknowledge the organisers of the SmokeSignals newsletter and thank them for their generous financial support enabling the project to be completed. The existing smaller stands will be made into seed libraries for the gardening club and others to exchange seeds.



Ian Farquhar and his redwood bench

The library has a quantity of recycled wood used in its construction, like many of the projects we build. We are always on the look out for good quality wood and furniture so before you throw it out, ask us if it could be useful. We recently exchanged work on a project requested by a resident for a quantity of redwood (Sequoia) timber. Some of this has been made into a fine bench or table depending on how you view it, which is available for sale.

The Shed has recently become the home for the Windermere Scrabble club which meets every Thursday at 10.00 am. The Management Committee is happy to consider the use of their kitchen and lunchroom to other community groups if they need a space to meet. They are happy to welcome new members (call Edwina on 0404484671 if interested)



The scrabble club at the Mens Shed.



ETMS is assisted by equipment grants from the Tasmanian Government.



CHURCH NEWS St Matthias' Anglican Church



Coming Up

Sun. April 23rd A special day to also remember ANZAC Day.
Sun. May 14th. Mothers' Day. Normal Eucharist service on a special day for Mums. Bring along your daughter, mother or special friend



We have had several visitors recently. On March 12 we had descendants of both the Goodson and Gaunt lineages, from Melbourne and Perth respectively, meeting for the first time at our 9am service. What a co-incidence!



Visitors always love to ring the church bell.

On March 26th we had a late afternoon visit from Grahame Foster's bus group of interstate folk travelling around Tasmania and fundraising for the work of the Anglican Board of Missions. Please note that if you have family or friends visiting, you are always welcome to join our services, or you may be able to visit at other times by appointment. See contact details on the church noticeboard. Also of interest to visitors is our Smartphone Audio Tour: the QR code (above) is also on a sign just inside the gates, which links you to fascinating stories of the early pioneer families of the district now interred in the graveyard.



The tour group from the Anglican Board of Missions sample some Windermere hospitality on the riverbank.



Visitors from as far as Queensland, Perth and Sydney enjoyed hearing the church history.

The Rev Dane Courtney will be retiring after Trinity Sunday, June 4th. Please pray that we may find a suitable rector to take our parish forward into the coming years.

Rev. John Tongue 0488473973 Subscribe to our weekly Parish email newsletter, via a message to rector@htl.org.au, or Join our Facebook page [stmatthiaswindermere](https://www.facebook.com/stmatthiaswindermere) for any important updates.

For anyone interested in exploring our past there are a number of online resources now available. Most would be aware of Trove, the National Library's digital archive of Australian newspapers, but you may not know that it offers instant access to more than 100 different Tasmanian newspapers that have been published over the years from the Van Diemens Land Gazette and General Advertiser produced in Hobart in 1814, to the Examiner and Mercury up till 1954. An even more interesting resource comes from our own State Library, which offers online access to both the Weekly Courier (1901-1935) and the Tasmanian Mail (1877-1920). The interesting thing about these journals is that they include photographic inserts which provide a fascinating glimpse of life more than 100 years ago. Here are a couple of East Tamar examples:



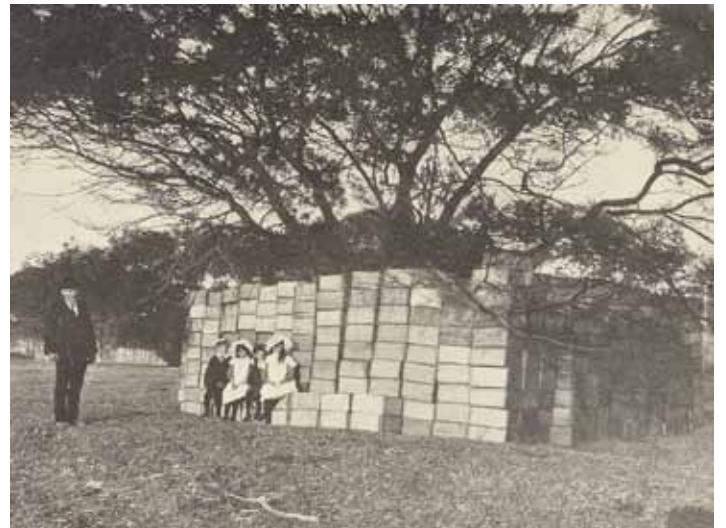
Examiner 80th Birthday Picnic Windermere 1922

Links are: <https://stors.tas.gov.au/tasmail> and <https://stors.tas.gov.au/weeklycourierinserts>

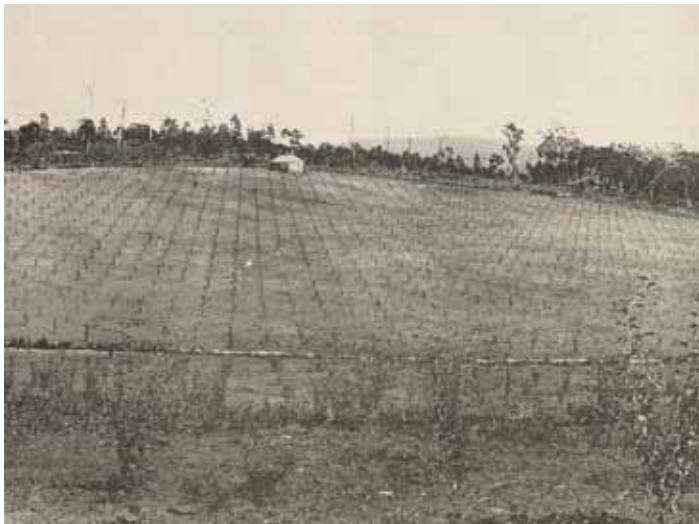
(The Tasmanian Mail photographic inserts start in 1897 – click on inserts at the bottom of the page list)



Shearing at Landfall 1908



Apple cases at Woodlawn Hillwood 1906



Westbrook, a young Hillwood Orchard in 1913



Tasmania Fire Service

Dilston and Hillwood Fire Brigades



Register your burn offs and fires by calling freecall 1800 000 699

By letting us know, you will help to prevent false alarms!

From 2am on Friday 14 April 2023

STATE FIRE COMMISSION END OF FIRE PERMIT PERIOD STATEWIDE

NORTH WEST

Burnie
Central Coast
Circular Head
Devonport
Kentish
Latrobe
Waratah/Wynyard
West Coast
King Island

NORTH

Break O'Day
Dorset
George Town
Launceston
Meander Valley
Northern Midlands
West Tamar
Flinders

SOUTH

Brighton
Central Highlands
Clarence
Derwent Valley
Glamorgan Spring Bay
Glenorchy
Hobart
Huon Valley
Kingborough
Sorell
Southern Midlands
Tasman



Tasmania Fire Service



.../DilstonFireBrigade
.../TasmaniaFireService

Dilston Fire Brigade Contacts

Raoul Stow	0417 351 423
Paul Blakie	0417 592 424
Ben Jones	0417 877 001
Ken Nolan	0448 320 996

Hillwood Fire Brigade Contacts

Elaine Burns	0417 540 665
Sharon Clarke	0417 600 571
Leon Hodges	0409 169 288
Andy Kendall	0427 818 282

HILLWOOD NEWS

HAPPY NEWS: :

MILLAR: Several happy events within the Roger and Glenda Millar family.

First, the wedding of Roger and Glenda's grandson, Dillon Millar to Shanae Wilson at a delightful venue in Golconda, held Saturday 11th March. Dillon is the son of Garry and Tina Millar. Dillon chose his grandfather Roger as his Best Man. When Roger asked Why do you want me for your Best Man? The answer was, Well, you have your best mate for your Best Man don't you, Pop? Glenda and Roger's daughter Linda came home from Queensland for the wedding and also to attend the fourth birthday of her grand-child, Isobel, daughter of Josh and Emily Cole. Glenda and Roger had the pleasure of Linda's company for two weeks. The other happy news for the family was the birth of a new great-grandson, Harvey. A son for Emma and Will and grandson for Craig and Debbie.

RHODE: Another Happy News event was a fantastic bush wedding with over 130 guests held at the property at Murphy's Ridge Road, Johnston's Road, Hillwood to celebrate the union of Brent and Courtney Rhode on 25th February.

SAD NEWS:

AIREY, Ray died on March 9th 2023. Ray, son of Lorna and Bobby both deceased, is a member of the large Airey family which moved into Hillwood in the 60's. Ray eventually built a house in Hillwood. We often saw him walking around the district with his various dogs and visiting friends along the way. Ray played football for Hillwood. Our sympathy to Ray's children, Nikeeta, Raymond (Jnr), Sarah and Gregory as well as Ray's many brothers and sisters and their families, some of whom still live in Hillwood.

HILLWOOD GARDEN CLUB :

The first meeting each year is held in February and is shared with the George Town and Districts Historical Association and a speaker is provided. This year the speaker was Lucille Gee who spoke about the history of Franklin House and the gardens. Lucille has been a volunteer for many years with Franklin House and is a font of knowledge about the history of the building and the gardens. Des Wootton of the Historical Assn provided the photo back-up and it was all very interesting. Franklin House was the first National Trust property in Tasmania. Franklin House has many knowledgeable volunteers who are happy to provide information on the house, gardens and outbuildings.

The March meeting was a very interesting and informative session with demonstrations held by Stephanie Payne of the Launceston Bonsai Society. Lessons regarding bonsai are held at Glebe Gardens. Pots and Bonsai potting mix may be obtained from any Garden Centre.

The Garden Club meets at the Hillwood Hall on the third Monday of the month at 7.30 p.m. Cost is a few dollars and a plate of supper. Produce or plants are available for purchase and a raffle is held. No serious meetings but a lot of fun and sharing of knowledge. There is no need to be a serious gardener. Members are good company, you can

learn about gardening, discuss any problems you might have with gardening and enjoy a delicious supper. Hint: Only a light tea required beforehand! Contact: Geraldine Goodwin on 63 948267.

HILLWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB:

Who would believe someone would steal the Club's Siren. The discovery was made when checking the electronic scoreboard in preparation for the upcoming football season. Someone has climbed up, cut the wires and removed the siren.

The season will have started when this issue is out, the first match being played at Bracknell on 1st April. No games at Easter, then a home game against Deloraine on Saturday 15th April.

Friday night meals at the Clubrooms have been popular. With the new season approaching, they have now been discontinued but Thursday night players' teas are available for the community to attend. Meals start at six and can be enjoyed while the players are practising. Guests are welcome to stay on and listen to the selection of the teams. Members of the community are encouraged to attend the games where they can partake of what the Club considers the best Canteen in the comp.

Our WOMEN's TEAM are playing in Division One, which means that a few of their games will not coincide with the men's games. Fortunately, they have been allocated a couple of Sunday games and Friday night games.

Sunday May 7th Hillwood v George Town at Hillwood at 12 noon and Sunday July 2nd Hillwood v Meander Valley at Hillwood at 12 noon.

Friday night games, Friday May 12th Deloraine v Hillwood at Deloraine at 7.00 p.m. and Friday May 26th Evandale v Hillwood at Evandale at 7.00 p.m.

Hillwood Football Club members extend their sympathy to the families of Ray Airey. Ray played football for Hillwood and the Airey family have an extensive and long term involvement with the Club.

HILLWOOD LADIES GROUP:

This is a group formed many years ago for Ladies of the district and surrounding area to gather and meet their neighbours and knit or sew or just sit and chat and have a laugh together. Bingo once per month. Outings are held occasionally to enjoy a meal together. At one session, Stephanie brought along Jigsaw Puzzles to keep us all occupied. Ladies Group is held Wednesday mornings from 10.00 a.m. til noon at the Meditation Centre, 362 Hillwood Main Road. Cost \$4.

Contact: Gayle Laverty on 63948213.

YOUNG ACHIEVERS:

Gabby Hoffman, who grew up in Hillwood and moved to Melbourne to dance full-time, has gained a position working on a Princess cruise ship. First stop, Los Angeles to train for her new position. Congratulations, Gabby.

Our Shelby Miller is to again captain the Netball team, Cavaliers for 2023. The squad is looking to rectify last year's finish where they were beaten in the finals after winning 14 out of 18 games during the year.

THE HILLWOOD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

(Provided by President, Robyn Wheeler)

We would like to extend our congratulations to Heather Barwick, who was recently inducted into the Tasmanian Honour Roll of Women. Heather was recognised for the work she does as the George Town Council's longest continuing serving Councillor, having been a councillor for 33 years! Heather is a long time member of the Hillwood Progress Association, and continues to work tirelessly to improve our community. Thank you Heather, and Congratulations on your award.

Healthy Hillwood



Thank you to the George Town Council, who have committed to another round of Exercise classes to be held at the Hillwood Hall. Starting on Thursday 6th April for 13 weeks. Kylie of Sherriff's Health and Fitness, will guide us through a range of different low impact exercises, to suit all ages, all abilities, tailored to your individual needs. Once again this is being run at no cost to participants, so make the most of it, as this opportunity is not likely to continue at no cost after this round, of 13 weeks! Please wear comfortable clothing, bring a drink bottle, towel and arrive 15 min before the start time. New sessions times start 6th April 2023 11:00am THURSDAYS at the Hillwood Hall. Cost : No Charge

MENTAL HEALTH- ROYAL FLYING DOCTORS

We are pleased to announce that the Royal Flying Doctor Service for youth and adult mental health workers are extending their service into Hillwood. The Royal Flying Doctors is to deliver a range of targeted rural primary health services for free. You can self-refer, or you can organise a referral from a health professional. The Mental Health Support Worker (Kate) is to promote mental health and reduce the risk of severity of mental health disorders, provide one on one sessions and services such as education, consultation and information to assist people in recovery. Kate Gray 0448 854 479 kate.gray@rfdstas.org.au If anyone under 18 needs assistance, similar services are available through the Youth Mental Health Worker Jo - Jo has been finalised to work at Hillwood, in homes, or at a community venue so if people would like to contact him directly they can. Joseph McLennan 0447 388 755 joseph.mclennan@rfdstas.org.au

Ragwort Raid

Ragwort is a serious pasture weed and is highly toxic to cattle and horses, especially when consumed in silage or dried hay. The majority of Ragwort in Hillwood and surrounds is now to be found on private land. Seed is spread by wind, so any ragwort on your property can easily spread to neighbouring properties and beyond. A small amount of weed was removed from the side of the road and a location report was sent through to Tamar NRM.



Clean up Australia: Held 5th March 2023

A small but keen number of people turned up to help clean up our reserves, with the load to the tip weighing in at around 100kg! Well done and thanks to those who help make our community a better place to live, including Sue and Derek Overton who have been involved for over 40 years, and Jo Osborne: you never know what interesting item you might find!



Anzac Day Dawn Service: Tuesday 25th April 2023 6am at the Hillwood Fire Station

This year we have a local speaker talking about his fathers experience in the second world war. The service will be followed by breakfast at the Hall. Breakfast is free, but donations are greatly accepted, and new and previous volunteers always welcome.

If you have any photos or memorabilia that we can display on the day, or if you would like to be involved in any way, please contact HillwoodPA@outlook.com or Ph: Robyn Wheeler



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Community Contacts

FIRE:000

Dilston Fire Brigade

Raoul Stow 0417 351 423

Hillwood Fire Brigade

Elaine Burns 0417 540 665

SES

132 500

Marigolds Cafe Hillwood

6311 0686

Dilston Hall

Launceston Council

St Matthias Church

June: 0411 567 029

Jenny:0419 544 266

Playgroup

Not operating at the moment

Dilston/Swan Bay/Windermere

Garden Club

Kerri: 0407 447 344

East Tamar Mens Shed

Secretary:: **George Cercez**

secretary@etms.org.au

Book Discussion Group

Jess: 0428 658 988

Jess.Panday@education.tas.gov.au

Justice of The Peace

Nick Jones : 0439 986 698

**Copy For NEXT
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