

Issue 258

www.smokesignalscn.wordpress.com

August 2025

### **GREAT NEWS FOR THE COMMUNITY**

There is some very good news this issue. Through the Tasmanian Community AED fund, Smoke Signals have been successful in gaining an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for the local community.

The Tasmanian community AED fund was established by the Tasmanian Government to increase community access to defibrillation and assist individuals and organisations that would typically find the purchase of an AED prohibitive. Through this fund the Tasmanian Government provided 90 new AEDs this past financial year.

Chances of survival during a cardiac arrest decrease by up to 10 per cent every minute.





The most effective intervention is with high-quality hands-on CPR followed by application of an AED as soon as possible. Early access to a defibrillator is crucial in improving a person's chance of survival after a cardiac arrest.

An AED is very user-friendly, with clear prompts to guide you through its use. The AED will also be registered with the Ambulance Tasmania – GoodSAM Program. This program maintains a register of people (responders) who are prepared to receive a phone call if a cardiac arrest occurs near them. When a cardiac arrest emergency call is made to Triple Zero (000), the GoodSAM app alerts nearby responders and provides the location of the incident and closest public AED. GoodSAM does not change or delay ambulance response.

More information can be found at <a href="https://www.health.tas.gov.au/GoodSAM">https://www.health.tas.gov.au/GoodSAM</a> and if you would like to be a GoodSAM responder you can download the app onto your phone via the Apple

or Google app stores. You do not need to be a GoodSAM responder to be able to use the AED, Ambulance Tasmania will also advise the person making the emergency call of the nearest available public defibrillator. Anyone can access and use the defibrillator if required,

The AED will be situated at the Windermere Jetty area and mounted on one wall of the toilet block. Some of you will also be aware there is another community AED situated outside the Hillwood Hall. Between the two, this now gives us more timely access to these life saving devices.

From our February 2025 issue you may remember the sale of a painting donated through the Sandblom family. Proceeds from this sale can now be used toward ongoing maintenance of our community defibrillator.

We will provide more information in the next issue of Smoke Signals once the AED is installed.

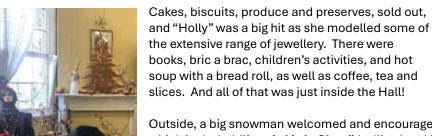
## MAGICAL WINTER SOLSTICE MARKET - Saturday 21st June 2025



Windermere Church Forever's Magical Winter Solstice Market was a wonderful community day held on the shortest day of the year! The Dilston Memorial Hall was decorated with wintery-themed backdrops and an assortment of Christmas decorations which all added to the fabulous festive feel.

Just outside the entrance to the hall, visitors were encouraged to decorate the delightful **Winter Solstice**Nymph with colourful materials and imaginative adornments.





Outside, a big snowman welcomed and encouraged visitors to browse the market stalls which included "June's Little Shop" (selling local history books and pictures); plants, more bric a brac, scented soy candles, handmade leather hats, novelty water bottles, coasters, miniature creations by Bertie, and other handmade goods.



Of course, none of this would have been possible without the hard work of the WCF Committee, and we sincerely thank those who donated prizes for the raffles and items for sale. Huge thanks to the fabulous cooks who made and donated delicious home-made soups as well as cakes, biscuits and preserves.

And last of all, thank you to all of you who attended and helped to make the day such a success. With hard work and community support, the market including raffles - raised over \$3000! Thank you also to all of the private stallholders who came along and enthusiastically sold their wares.



The best outfits to celebrate the Winter Solstice/Christmas theme were worn by Noelene Westerneng and Fiona, Ariella and Sianna. Congratulations!

# RAFFLE WINNERS:

1st Prize: Decorative Bird House - Lachlan

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Beautiful Bloom Notebook - Ariella MacLeod

### **TEA**

1st Prize: 'Mr Tea Cosy' hand knitted tea cosy - Maree

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: 'Kimono' Maxwell & Williams cup & saucer - June Burnet

### **CHILDREN'S**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Framed cross stitch Picture of Fairy Folk - Jennifer Cairns 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Geometric Stacker, 25 Wooden pieces - Cynthia Groves

MAIN RAFFLE (Drawn 7pm Friday 4th July at The Signal Station Tavern – TGIF)

1st Prize: End grain Bread Board by Wood-Heap Creations - Sally Lee

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Two Towels & Two Bottles of Wine - Robyn M

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Tea Hamper - Wendy Little

4<sup>th</sup> Prize: Homemade Fruit Cake - Janet Kelly

5<sup>th</sup> Prize: Marigold Café. Hillwood \$50 Lunch Voucher - Tony

6<sup>th</sup> Prize: Bottle 9th Island wine and six red wine glasses – Chris Brooks

7th Prize: Decorated 'Winter Solstice' homemade fruit cake - Mary Ebert

8<sup>th</sup> Prize: Maxwell & Williams two tiered cake plate - Cheryl Henderson





WCF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at 2.00 pm on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at Dilston Memorial Hall. All are welcome! Come along and consider becoming a member to further support WCF –

only \$10.00 single or \$15.00 family



### Some More Market Photos









### HOPE IN A SUITCASE



Imagine your children or grandchildren carrying all their worldly possessions in a black plastic bag!?

Bernadette, a resident of Swan Bay, is supporting **HOPE IN A SUITCASE, TASMANIA** – a non-profit organisation run by volunteers who are incredibly passionate about showing every child who enters the foster care system that they are loved and valued by their community. They aim to do this by giving them a suitcase or duffel bag containing NEW belongings (with labels still attached) of their very own, to ensure they have a safe and secure place in which to pack their belongings and take with them wherever their journey may lead them.

The suitcases are filled with essential items such as toiletries (sanitary items for the older girls), underwear, a set of pyjamas and a change of clothing. They also include something to cuddle for the younger children, a toy, a book to read, a journal or colouring-in books and pencils to encourage creativity and to provide a distraction away from their turmoil.

Each suitcase packed carries more than belonging – it carries **HOPE, DIGNITY and a FRESH START.** 

In 2025 so far, 547 suitcases have been provided in Tasmania! HOW YOU CAN HELP – there are many ways in which you can help to provide suitcases of hope to precious children and young people across Tasmania.

- Donations of items to fill the suitcases
- Donations to purchase suitcases

Please go to their Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/HIASCTAS">https://www.facebook.com/HIASCTAS</a>

It's a sad reality that each week, across Tasmania, children and young people will enter foster care or out-of-home care. Most of the time, when children are removed from their home, it happens very quickly and is quite traumatic. It's usually not possible for them to gather their belongings; therefore it is common for them to enter care with only the clothes on their back, or carrying a plastic bag filled with a few items grabbed in a hurry. Sadly, the demand is increasing every year. Perhaps this year, each of us, instead of buying a birthday or Christmas gift for someone, we could give a gift to

### **HOPE IN A SUITCASE!**

If you would like to know more, please contact Bernadette on 0434 066 699



### BIRDS OF THE TAMAR

### Jon Hosford

### **Cape Barren Goose**

## Cereopsis novaehollandiae

One of the not so common inhabitants of the Tamar wetlands is the Cape Barren Goose.

These large pale grey birds are found mainly on offshore islands of Australia's southern coast and breed in the tussocks of open grasslands. They have a strong triangular bill adapted for grazing and a notable greenish yellow cere (skin above the bill). The legs are deep red and feet are black. In flight their leading wingtips show black.

They can sometimes be sited locally in a small depression just short of the area used by the Pony clubs on Archer's property on the East Tamar highway coming from town..

The Cape Barren Goose is a grazing bird, eating predominantly the common island tussock grass, Poa poiformis, as well as spear grass and various herbs and succulents. They also eat pasture grasses, including barley and clover, and legumes.

The Cape Barren Goose lays eggs in a nest in the tussocks of open grasslands. The nest is built by the male and lined with down. Each pair establishes a territory in autumn, prepares a nest and defends it noisily against other geese. This species is monogamous, and pair-bonds are life-long. The female incubates the eggs, and the young are brooded by both parents equally.



My research on this bird led me to a culinary article on Tasmanian food. I wonder how protected these birds really are from the desire to experiment with different foods.

https://www.delicious.com.au/travel/australia/article/why-tasmanian-produce-some-worlds-best/rh5cbp85

# A Reminder - Smoke Signals Information Initiative

Smoke Signals intends to run an extra special edition later this year which will include a range of information about community groups, local services, places to eat and other points of interest. As well as normal distribution, we intend to leave issues at libraries, councils, and Real Estate agents to hand out to new homeowners/renters in the area.

To help us make this happen, local groups, businesses and regular advertisers are invited to submit information and/or ads about your activities in the area. Articles and advertisements will be free of charge in this special edition.

So please get on board and help make this happen by sending your submissions to <a href="mailto:smokesignals@bigpond.com">smokesignals@bigpond.com</a>

.For more information contact us at the above email address.

### **GARDEN CLUB NEWS**

### JUNE - A Windermere Fantasy Garden



Garden Club members had a most enjoyable and entertaining afternoon in the *ArtsPlay* garden of Di Nailon in Windermere. The sunshine was brilliant and so were the reflections across the Tamar! Landscaping right to the water's edge has recently been

completed with a mix of boulders, rocks and shale being used to



create steps and pathways and garden beds that provide a magical "marriage" of the Kanamaluka



(Tamar Estuary) to the garden. Several beautiful sculptures add to the tranquillity of the garden.

The Ratchet River Band provided entertainment in the form of a short bracket of songs for us to sing along to; an original poem was recited, and afternoon tea was shared. Thank you Di, for a really special insight into the world of **ArtsPlay** and for sharing your magical garden with us.

#### JULY – ANNUAL MIDWINTER CELEBRATION AT THE CLARENDON ARMS IN EVANDALE



The wintery theme was embraced by all those in attendance.

Handmade winter flower crowns, botanical brooches, and berry headbands as well as deep wintery reds and greens were worn to emphasise the Midwinter theme – the time when we celebrate the gradual return of longer daylight hours after the winter solstice. We all enjoyed a delicious lunch, whilst appreciating the open fire and the soft winter sunshine through stained-glass window, as well as the very attentive



service from the Clarendon Arms staff. We look forward to celebrating

this special time of year – the "quiet" time in our gardens – again next year!







**Dilston Windermere and Swan Bay Garden Club**'s next gatherings will be held in **August – "Daffodils, Jonquils and More...." in Swan Bay and in September – Edna's Garden in Windermere.** New members are very welcome. If you would like to join Garden Club, please contact me (phone number below) or send an email to:

DilWinSBGardenClub@gmail.com

Kerri - 0407 447 344



## **EAST TAMAR MENS SHED NEWS**



With winter in full swing, although some members are travelling in warmer climates, it has been good to get into the warm at the Men's Shed and enjoy the company of an enthusiastic group. The Shed has recently been painted inside and undergone a significant "de-cluttering" Thanks to the hard work of Ken Martin, Udo Westerneng, and Ric Williams – the place looks so much better -it is amazing what can build up over time.

Pirate Nate with his Macaws at the market

Our involvement in the Winter Solstice Market proved to be a success financially. As a registered charity we are completely self-funded, having to cover the cost of power, lease of the land from the Launceston City Council, insurance and our consumables from our fund raising. We also do repairs and small projects that members of the community bring to us. No job is too small or large or unusual. Currently Jeff Wynne is welding a trolley to carry a harp for less than half of what it would cost to buy a commercial unit. A popular item are our bags of kindling which we are selling for \$7.00 which is about half the price of that for sale around the shops.



The Shed continues to be used every Thursday morning by the women's scrabble group and soon a regular Mahjong group will use our facilities on a Tuesday every month. We recently donated \$400 to the Cancer Council following a "Big Morning Tea" organised by Bruce Williams.



Wouldn't it be better to join the Men's Shed? NEW MEMBERS WELCOME RELAXED ENVIRONMENT TO LEARN NEW SKILLS

ETMS is assisted by equipment grants from the Tasmani Government.

# CHURCH NEWS St Matthias' Anglican Church

St Matthias' Anglican Church 431 Windermere Rd. (Holy Trinity Parish Launceston)
Services are every 2nd Sunday of the month (with Rev Lee Shirvill) and 4th Sunday (with Rev Mark Barry)

We extend our sincere thanks to Rev Ken Box and Rev Bob McKay for leading our services for so long, until our new Assoc. Rector Mark Barry has settled in.

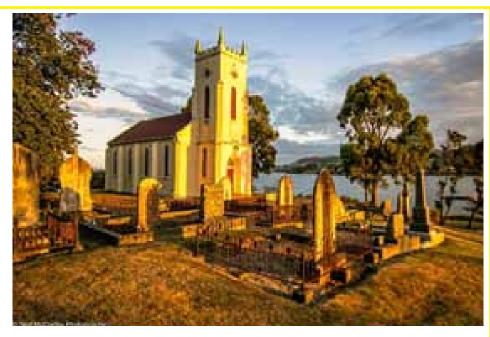
It is pleasing to see that a good size congregation has continued to meet throughout the winter months in worship and fellowship, despite some folk being away. New folk are always welcomed to our gatherings.

# Some up-coming special events:

When there is a 5th Sunday in the month, there is a Combined Parish service at 9:30 at Holy Trinity CBD, with a special morning tea and gathering afterwards, allowing all to mix and meet, regardless of which centre they normally attend. The next combined service is Aug 31st.

The Parish Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday Sept. 21st after the regular service.

Bishop's "Training Day" (an inspiring and encouraging day of learning and sharing for us all) will be held at WorldView College 41 Station St, St Leonards, on Sat Oct 25th,



9am- 3:30pm with the theme this year of "Joy" ... and who wouldn't want to learn more about that? There are 2 main sessions (Keynote speaker is Stephanie Judd) and several choices for the 2 workshop sessions, including such topics as "What churches can do about the epidemic of loneliness", run by local Windermerian, Patrick Parkinson, and "Building foundations and navigating challenges for tweens and teens". Hopefully some arrangements will also be made for accompanying children. For more details go to:

https://anglicantas.org.au/bishops-training-event-2025/



Our popular annual All Saints Service of Remembrance, will be held again this year on Sat. Nov. 1st starting at 7:30pm. This candlelight service will be held to remember past family and friends who have been significant in our lives and faith journey, and to light a candle (provided) in their memory. Please spread the word, so that others may share in this significant service.

The 2024 inaugural Launceston Nativity Display at Holy Trinity was so successful that it will return bigger and better this year. If you wish to contribute a nativity set on loan please contact Marg on 0409317806 ASAP for forward planning.

New Holy Trinity Office Hours (for all enquiries, including Columbarium niches and requests for prayer list inclusion), Mon. Tues. 9-4:30 and Wed. 9-3:30. Contact Brittany on 63314460 or brittany@htl.org.au



# Dilston and Hillwood Fire Brigades

# Tasmania Fire Service



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

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

#### **Election Day July 19**

As members of the Dilston Windermere Swan Bay community will note, the polling location for the state election was sighted at the Dilston Fire Station as the Memorial Hall was unavailable.

Despite some local concerns, and the weather that was less than ideal, the day proceeded without incident, with many "a change is as good as a holiday" comments received.

Dilston Brigade members thank the community for their patience and were proud to welcome you all to our home away from home.

#### Summer Season Preparedness.

It seems a tad early to be thinking of the summer months and the forthcoming fire seasion, however the the on again off again wet winter do give some indications that the forthcoming season is likely to produce fire activity, in a similar manner to what was experiences last summer. We can all make preparations by ensuring we have good access to your property, and where you can clear away ground litter, and ensure roof guttering is cleaned.

The TFS Bushfire ready challenge that we promoted last

year is on again for 2025/2026, and we would like to put the challenge to the communities of Dilston, Windermere, Swan Bay and Hillwood as a fun and immersive way to increase awareness and preparedness for all Tasmanians living in fire prone areas. The challenge kicks off in spring, and you can register your interest via the QR code below!



#### **New Recruits**

Both brigades continue to work with the new recruits, and they will be ready for the fire season. It is great to see the enthusiasm and excitement as they progress on their volunteering journey!







.../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

# **BUSHFIRE WHY RISK IT?**





# BUSHFIRE-READY CHALLENGE



Take it on. Be Prepared.

## Welcome to the Tasmania Fire Service Bushfire-Ready Challenge

The Tasmania Fire Service Bushfire-Ready Challenge is an immersive bushfire preparedness experience available to all Tasmanians. Take part in this Challenge at your own pace to ensure you can get to know your bushfire risk, create a bushfire plan, prepare your property and much, much more!







PREPARE YOUR PROPERTY



KEEP YOUR Family Safe





Register now >



## **HILLWOOD NEWS**

#### **HAPPY NEWS:**

Congratulations to Keisha and Eden Young on the birth of their daughter, Dusty Eden. A sister for big brothers Joe and Ollie. Another granddaughter for Sally and David.



Other happy news, Hillwood resident Zach Hansen successfully completed his Army Recruit Training and marched out from Kapooka on July 4th. He is now working to complete a Gap Year Program with the Army. Congratulations, Private Hansen,

Hillwood's got plenty of talent: Congratulations to Piers and Oliver Nicholls for their stellar performances in the Launceston Church Grammar School's production of Grease. Piers performed the lead role of Danny, his dream role and Oliver played the fun loving and mischievous Roger. Great work guys







Left: Ian Ware of George Town Council instructs Alf Waters (Hillwood Progress Association) in the finer points of operating a generator. Generators were purchased by GTC with grant money and one will be available at each town in the George Town municipality to be used in the event of power failures as were experienced last year. This generator will be able to power the Hillwood Memorial Hall.

Right: GTC have replaced the barbecue at Pontoon Park with a new accessible barbecue.



There are many opportunities for beautiful photos around Hillwood. The aurora above and rainbow reflection at right are lovely examples.



### THE HILLWOOD GARDEN CLUB

The Hillwood Garden Club had an inspiring tour of the Hillwood Fresh Food Co led by owner Jordan Grieves. Jordan's approach to farming his 20-acre property is holistic. "Everything starts with healthy soil," Jordan said, "which is fed by strong plants that capture lots of energy with large leaves." The tour showed how every element of Jordan's operation works together.

His innovative system includes:

- Mobile chicken tractor that naturally fertilise pastures
- Daily rotational grazing using Dexter cattle (chosen as the smallest naturally occurring breed, most suitable for a smaller acreage.)
- Chemical-free mushroom production using farm and industrial byproducts
- Completely off-grid operations with innovations for efficient mushroom growing



The Hillwood Garden Club meets monthly at the Memorial Hall and welcomes visitors and new members.

Informal evenings are held with occasional guest speakers on a variety of topics.

For more information, contact Rose 0487 871 345.

### **HILLWOOD MEDITATION CENTRE**

MEDITATION: Sundays, Tuesdays & Mega Thursdays 10:30-11:45am, \$10 (\$5 concession).

NOT CHURCH: Sundays 9:30-10:15am \$5.

**ZUMBA** with Heather Ferguson: Sundays 8:00am, Tuesdays & Thursdays 6:30pm, \$10. Term 2 will run until 6 July. No

bookings are required for Zumba.

**YOGA** with Ruth Murphy: Mondays 5:45-7:00pm, \$25/20/15. Bookings are essential for yoga. For further information

follow the Hillwood Road Meditation Skills Centre Facebook page or the Website via gracejunction.com.au

### HILLWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB

The Hillwood Football Club hosted George Town at Shark Park in a recent roster match. There has always been friendly rivalry between the two clubs with both vying for the Gary Crane/Rod Green perpetual trophy. Members of both families voted for the best player on the day. Hillwood coach Jake Pearce received the best player medal for his endeavours.













# 2174 East Tamar Highway Mt Direction Tas TDY Caltex service station

Mon-Fri 5.30am-6pm
Sat 7.30am-5pm
Sun 8am-3pm
Public holidays (times may vary) 7am-3pm

24-hour fuel Post office agency

Hot and cold takeaway food, grocery items

Fishing gear, bait and ice

Range of Penrite oils and other car care related products

### **TDY Enterprises**

Workshop opening hours:

Mon-Fri 8.30am-5pm

We offer pre-split firewood sales and landscaping supplies with delivery available Certified inspection station (cars, Trailers and motorbikes)

Offering a range of mechanical repairs, diagnosis and Logbook servicing for all vehicles including but not limited to lawn mowers, horse floats/caravans and right up to heavy machinery.















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Check out our reviews on Facebook!

### **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** 

Corrie Summers 0448 259 863

Dilston/Swan Bay/Windermere
Garden Club

Kerri: 0407 447 344

**East Tamar Mens Shed**Secretary: **George Cerchez** 

secretary@etms.org.au

Book Discussion Group Jess: 0428 658 988

Jess.Panday@education.tas.gov.au

Scrabble Group Kerri, 0407 447 344

Justice of The Peace Nick Jones: 0439 986 698

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