



Smoke Signals

Your Free Community Newsletter For The East Tamar

Issue 264

www.smokesignalscn.wordpress.com

August 2026

Windermere Church Forever - Festive Winter Market



Saturday 1st August was the date for the Windermere Church Forever (WCF) Festive Winter Market at Dilston Memorial Hall.

Braving a chilly start to the day stall holders and local artisans offered a wide range of goods.

Welcome parts to the day were the delicious morning teas, and hot tea and coffee, along with the Men's Shed Sausage Sizzle.

Key organisers of the Market, June Burnet and Kerri Curtis offered the following comments:

Our Festive Market was well attended - we were lucky with the weather, and it was so good to catch up with so many old friends and to meet new friends!

Thank you to our great community helpers (you know who you are!). Thanks also to the first-time helpers who have made the WCF Market a

success; the cooks for making slices, cakes and biscuits for the Cake Stall and for those preparing the teas. To those of you who helped in the clearing and cleaning up of the Hall, we can't thank you enough!

On the invite of Fiona Miller, local Councillors Susie Cai and Krista Preece also attended and had a great time. Cr Cai commented on her Facebook page "Events like these play such an important role in bringing communities together and showcasing the dedication of local volunteers, makers and community groups."

It was the LAST Winter Market for the current Windermere Church Forever organisers. This is not to say there won't be other fundraising events by WCF. If you would like to see these markets continue and feel you can offer fresh ideas and new perspectives, then please step forward, join WCF and be an organiser for any future events. If you would like to be a part of this

friendly community group, please contact June on 0411 567 029.

WCF will continue to sell fundraising merchandise, such as the latest framed (and unframed) Pencil Art Prints by J J Rainbird as shown in the photos. History booklets on St Matthias' Church, story books on Dr Gaunt and the convicts who worked for him, greeting cards, WCF mugs etc are still available. Please contact June (as above) for details.

Several raffles were held during the market, with one major raffle still to be drawn. Tickets are available for \$2 each or 3 for \$5.00 at the Signal Station Tavern, or by contacting June Burnet (as above). The draw date is Friday 11th September, at the Signal Station Tavern. From 5.30pm you can purchase drinks and pizza, and the draw will be at 7pm.



June & Cr Cai



Stallholders braved the cold with a wide range of goods



Pencil Art Prints by J J Rainbird



Some happy helpers providing delicious morning teas



Jeff cooking sausages for the Mens Shed BBQ



Wedding Celebrant

Your wedding ceremony should feel personal, meaningful and unmistakably you. Anna De La Rue is an authorised Marriage Celebrant with more than 25 years' experience creating beautiful, personalised ceremonies. An ex King Islander, Anna is known for her warmth, professionalism and genuine care for every couple she works with. Whether you're planning an intimate elopement, a relaxed wedding celebration or a vow renewal, Anna will guide you through the process and craft a ceremony that tells your story — your way.

Anna De La Rue

Phone 0439 394 794

annadelarue29@gmail.com

Windermere Neighbourhood Watch

We're delighted to share that the Windermere Neighbourhood Watch has now been officially approved, with **Melanie Smith** appointed as the co-ordinator for our area. We're also grateful to **Bev Allen**, who has kindly offered her time and support.

We are excited to help share local news, safety tips, and neighbourly advice to support a safer, kinder, and more connected community. Together, we can look out for one another and strengthen the sense of care that makes Windermere, Dilston and Swan Bay such a special place to live.

A gentle reminder that **any crime or suspected crime should still be reported directly to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or the police on 131 444**. Neighbourhood Watch is here to support awareness and connection — not replace official reporting channels.

Safety Tip #1 - Don't make it obvious when you are away.

Recruit a neighbour to create activity around your home. Ask them to do things like open and close blinds, clear out your letterbox, park their car in your driveway, hang clothes on your washing line and put your wheelie bins out, and bring them in again, on bin day.

Each addition we will share the Crime trend report, please see the first one below.



Windermere NHW Crime trend report



Reporting period: 01/05/2026 – 24/07/2026

Areas included in report: Windermere, Dilston and Swan Bay.

During this period there was one matter of public interest reported to police.

On 9/7/26 a residence on the East Tamar Highway, Dilston was forcibly entered and property stolen. **This matter is currently under investigation.**

**Please continue to report suspicious activity in your area to police on 131 444
Crime Stoppers – report anonymously to solve crime: 1800 333 000.
You can also report online at crimestopperstas.com.au/report-a-crime/**

CHURCH NEWS St Matthias' Anglican Church 431 Windermere Rd

Services are every 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. Services EVERY Sunday at 9:30 at Holy Trinity in town, or you can also tune in online: <https://www.youtube.com/@holytrinitylaunceston/streams>
Or join the livestream direct from the website also via htl.org.au and head to sermons: <https://www.htl.org.au/Media/AllMedia.aspx>

FRIENDSHIP LAB | 6 WEEK COURSE | LEARN THE UNSPOKEN RULES OF FRIENDSHIP

Friendship is one of life's greatest gifts, but most of us were never shown how to build or deepen them. The Friendship Lab Course is a six-week journey with video teaching, conversation, and practical tools to help your friendships thrive. Patrick Parkinson (Windermere resident) and Bronagh Falloon (Office Manager Holy Trinity) will be hosting the course at the Launceston Public Library on Monday 10th August @ 4-5:30pm. For further details and to register, go to: <http://publica.org.au/developing-thriving-friendships-sign-up/>

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 24th, 9am- 4pm. There are 2 main sessions and several choices for the 2 workshop sessions. Morning tea is provided and lunch is available to purchase. Register for free tickets through Humanitix.

Have you noticed the spring bulbs which are bursting out at the church? They are a constant annual reminder of the time in August 2018 when we had finally raised the money to save our church from sale, with a contribution to the redress scheme for victims of historic sexual abuse. Please continue to pray for the victims and the church with the need for continuing financial support.



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 30th

Planning is now underway for the 2026 Launceston Nativity Display at Holy Trinity. Last year the display featured 350 different nativities, and "all things Christmas" and it was so successful that it will return bigger and better this year, from Dec 3rd to Dec 24, with free entry. If you wish to be part of this Christian outreach and contribute a nativity set on loan, please contact Marg on 0409317806 ASAP for forward planning.

Use the QR code to access a 3 minute video of last year's event.



Holy Trinity Office Hours (for all enquiries, including weddings, Columbarium niches and requests for prayer list), Mon. Tues. Wed. 9-4:00 Contact Bronagh on 63314460 or office@htl.org.au

GARDEN CLUB NEWS

GARDEN CLUB REPORT FOR SMOKE SIGNALS – JULY 2026

JUNE – GLEBE GARDENS, LAUNCESTON

After lunch in the refurbished pavilion and following a lucky number draw for plants donated by Glebe Gardens, we were taken on a comprehensive tour of the nursery by our guide Kathryn. Our first point of interest was a hedge of French lavenders - the most robust, long flowering and heavily perfumed among the species. Next - a row of English box, was praised for its rapid growth and resistance to disease

- a reliable choice for establishing a hedge.



Some highlights on our walkabout were a most beautiful Wollemi pine - a church under construction from wood salvaged from the old Bridgewater bridge, and an impressive heart fashioned from willow wood. Glebe gardens is now focusing on propagating, and the creation of a bargain section to maintain their position in an increasingly competitive market.

JULY – 8TH ANNUAL MIDWINTER CELEBRATION

Our annual Midwinter Celebration is a time for us to come together in warmth and conviviality to celebrate the halfway mark of our coldest season. The Clarendon Arms in Evandale did not disappoint with its array of winter warming dishes, wine, fire and beautiful decorative features which all enhanced our enjoyment of this day.

It is the only gathering where there is no garden to visit! It is a time for dreaming of spring and all of the garden joys to come - and for just enjoying each other's company. Thanks to everyone for attending and making it such a lovely day.



Dilston Windermere and Swan Bay Garden Club's next gatherings will be in **August – The Launceston Club** and in **September – a private viewing of some members' gardens - Longford Garden Club**. If you would like to join us, send an email to dilwinsbgardenclub@gmail.com or contact me on 0407 447 344. New members are very welcome.

After a very successful limited trial to the end of June, the management committee have decided to continue the Women's Day, which is held every Tuesday at 9.30 to 12.00 at the Mens Shed behind the Dilston Hall.



The feedback from those attending has been very positive and due to the dedication and teaching skills of three of our members, new skills have been acquired and projects have been completed. There are a few spaces still available so ladies, if you are interested please contact secretary@etms.org.au.

Another successful box making workshop was held at the Shed over 3 weeks with a very successful outcome for the participants.

Thanks to a grant from the Federal Department of Health, through the Australian Men's Shed Association, a defibrillator has now been located on the outside of the Men's Shed if it is needed for the Dilston/Windermere community.

The defibrillator can be accessed at any time and talks the user through how to apply the pads and operate the machine. It is still necessary to perform CPR, so we encourage everyone to learn. It might be someone in your family who needs it one day.



Come and check out the Mens Shed. Monday, Wednesday, Saturday 8.30 am to 1.30pm behind Dilston Hall.

For membership enquiries, please contact our President, Ken Martin on 0412 46 42 49

ETMS is assisted by equipment grants from the Tasmanian Government.



Fire Systems Tasmania
0476 054 357
0457 072 946
www.firessystemstasmania.com.au

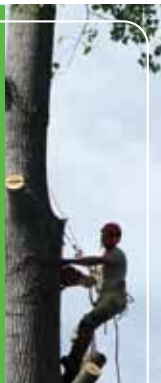
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Chris Grant

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MUSCLES For MEN

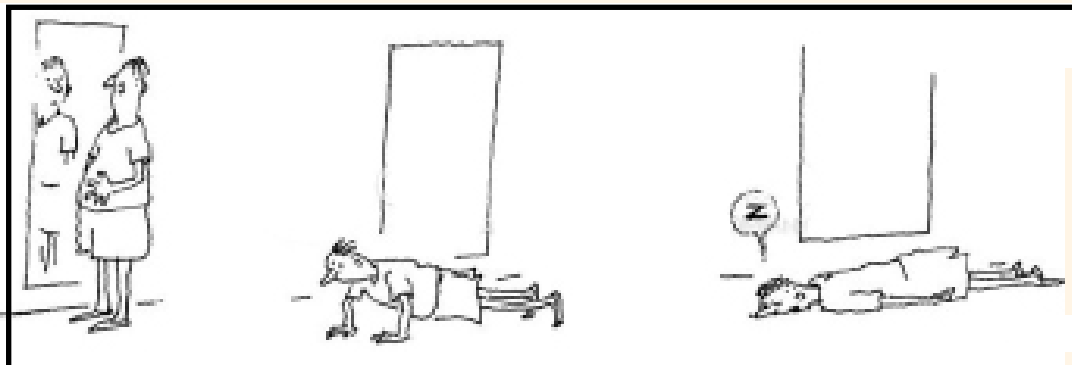


The Mens Shed have also been awarded a grant from Primary Health Tasmania to run a fitness exercise program for men over 55. The sessions will be held at the Dilston Hall in the early evening under the supervision of an exercise physiologist. It will be guided and appropriate to existing fitness levels and age of the participants.

We hope to start the sessions in September, and it will run for 12 weeks. Our funding is for 12 months so we will repeat the program twice more. It will be open to any men in the Hillwood, Georgetown, Launceston, Windermere, Dilston and surrounding areas.



So, if you have been meaning to increase your exercise, but haven't got around to it, register your interest at secretary@etms.org.au. and join in the friendly, non-threatening group.



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Tasmania Fire Service

Dilston and Hillwood Fire Brigades



Register your burn offs and fires by calling freecall 1800 000 699, or via My Service Tasmania

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

Brigade Updates

As noted last issue, Hillwood's brigade leadership elections were imminent, and congratulations now go to Sharon, Ian, Andy and David for being elected into their roles.

For Sharon this is a step up from second officer to Brigade Chief, and the leadership group welcomes back Iain to second officer after time away from the officer group. Iain has fulfilled the role of brigade chief previously. He brings a wealth of knowledge in support of the Sharon and the other officers in the group.

Andy steps up to third officer from fourth, having held this position for the last terms. Andy brings also a significant level of experience and knowledge to the brigade leadership group.

David is a newly elected fourth officer role and will be

ably supported by the other officers, as well as the other senior members of the brigade, including Elaine and Leon who have stepped away from senior leadership positions. David has already attended his first incident as officer in charge in his new role!

Membership Updates

Both Brigades are continuing to develop new members and provide additional training opportunities to existing members. Both Dilston and Hillwood members travelled to Burnie recently to undertake an advanced structural firefighting course. Whilst these courses are also offered locally, the opportunity was taken to training with other Tasmania Fire Service members more broadly, which encourages collegiality across 'borders'!!

Dilston Fire Brigade Raffle...

...has commenced at the Winter Market on August 1st.

Funds raised will go to the running of the annual Christmas Santa lolly throw...er, lollies being passed around gently! Ticket prices are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00.

1st prize :

8x5 trailer load of the wood, and 2 bags of kindling (supported by the East Tamar Men's Shed)

2nd and 3rd Prizes :

Fire extinguisher and smoke alarm (kindly donated by Fire Systems Tasmania)

The raffle runs through until August 31st, and winners will be notified in the week following.

To grab a ticket, brigade members will be on station :

Wednesday Aug 5; 1845-2130

Sunday Aug 16; 0900-1200

Wednesday Aug 19; 1845-2130

Or alternatively please contact once of the brigade contacts below.

EFTPOS available.



.../DilstonFireBrigade
.../TasmaniaFireService

Dilston Fire Brigade Contacts

Raoul Stow	0417 351 423
Ben Jones	0417 877 001
Peter Shires	0408 263 577
Ken Martin	0412 464 249

Hillwood Fire Brigade Contacts

Sharon Clarke	0417 600 571
Iain Nixon	0429 948 245
Andy Kendall	0427 818 282
David O'Brien	0431 942 846

DILSTON FIRE BRIGADE RAFFLE

1st PRIZE:

8X5 Trailer load of firewood + 2 bags of kindling (delivered)

(kindly supported by East Tamar Mens Shed)

2nd + 3rd PRIZE:

Fire extinguisher and smoke detector

(kindly donated by Fire Systems Tasmania)

Tickets \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00

Drawn 31st of August.

Winners notified by Email and Phone.

**All proceeds to go to the Dilston Fire Brigade
for the annual Christmas Santa Run!**

HILLWOOD NEWS

HILLWOOD NEWS FOR SMOKE SIGNALS AUG 2026

HAPPY NEWS:

Congratulations to **Sammie Wheldon and Damon Long** on the arrival of **Koda Tony Long** born on the 20 June 2026.

Jasmine Latham and James McElwee welcome **Stanley Arthur McElwee-Latham**, on 17 July 2026, making **Scarlett Rose McElwee-Latham** a very happy big sister!

Peter and Jan from Marigold's Café were closed for a week in July to attend their daughter's wedding in Bali. Congratulations to Rebecca and Riz on their marriage.

Reminder to get your tickets to Launceston Church Grammar's production of Footloose, with local **Piers Nichols** cast in the lead role as Ren McCormack. The show will be performed at the Albert Hall 2-5 September. Tickets available via Ticket North.

SAD NEWS: **Peter Hunter** passed away in July after a long illness. Peter was a loved member of the Hillwood Eightball group and will be sorely missed.

HILLWOOD GARDEN CLUB:



In June the Hillwood Garden club welcomed guest speaker **Helen Tait** who spoke about habitat trees. The tree is nature's boarding house, and ours to protect. It is also important to have some long grass sections that bandicoot, quolls and maybe a devil can use as habitat. While it is not always possible, if we can leave some fallen trees and branches in situ we can provide a home for many.

Alison Hugo from Tamar NRM joined us in July. Tamar NRM is an independent not for profit organisation with a focus on - Biodiversity, Sustainable Living, Sustainable Agriculture and Environmental Education. The Boneseed Blitz and Ragwort Raids are two of their better-known activities regarding weeds but there are other weed programmes that are also ongoing. If you see a weed, please contact Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tas. The Sustainable Living Programme runs Launceston Bike Library, Community Garden Network and Community Garden Open Day.

The Hillwood Garden Club meet at 7:30pm on the third Monday of the Month at the Hillwood Hall. For August we have a Poetry night planned and for September a Seed Swap. New members always welcome.

BONESEED BLITZ

This years Boneseed Blitz is scheduled for
SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 10am-12pm

Meet at the Hall to register and a short safety brief. No experience necessary but please wear sturdy shoes, water, strong gloves and secateurs or hand saw if you have them.



Boneseed is an invasive weed of national significance. It invades natural areas and out-competes native plants. It can invade the understorey of bushland, reduce biodiversity and become a fire hazard.

June 5th was World Environment Day – a time to reflect and think about the different types of things we can all do to contribute to a healthier environment. Recycling our waste is one small thing that we can do that can have a big impact. To help us to all be recycling as well as we can, here’s a quick guide to resources that are available from the Launceston and George Town Councils.

The City of Launceston website has multiple waste management resources, including a detailed “A-Z Guide to Waste and Recycling” that outlines everything you need to know about how to recycle different materials. A colour-coded sheet summarising this information is also available for download – a terrific quick reference sheet if you aren’t sure what goes where. For those using mobile phones and tablets, the Council’s “Waste and Recycling” app is also a terrific resource. The app includes a comprehensive guide to what can be included in kerbside recycling bins and can also be set to send a notification when scheduled bin collections are due or have been delayed. For more information, visit <https://www.launceston.tas.gov.au/Natural-Environment-and-Waste/Waste-and-Recycling>.

The George Town Council webpage is also a terrific resource. There is a recycling hub at the Council building in Anne Street where you can drop off a range of household items, including old spectacles, Nespresso pods, Bread Tags, Printer toners and cartridges, CDs and DVDs, toothbrushes and toothpaste tubes, old batteries, tablet blister packs, mobile phones and small items of e-waste. The website provides information on other items that can be recycled at the George Town Waste Transfer Stations, including unwanted paint and paint packaging and larger pieces of e-waste. Visit the Council’s recycling webpage to learn more: <https://georgetown.tas.gov.au/recycling>.

And don’t forget that eligible drink containers can be returned to Recycle Rewards stations located throughout our municipalities. There’s a Recycle Rewards station at 21 Vermont Road in Mowbray (in the Woolworths carpark) and is open from 7am-9pm Monday-Saturday and from 8am-9pm on Sunday. In George Town, the refund point is at George Town City Mission, 10 Sorrell St and is open from 10am-4.30pm Monday to Friday and from 10am – 4pm on Saturday.

Picture: Recycling hub at George Town Council Building in Anne Street.



Welcome to the new residents of Hillwood.

While we are sad to see our longtime neighbours and friends move on, we welcome new families and encourage them to become involved in the community. The Hillwood Progress Association Inc. (HPA) is an organisation member of the Neighbourhood Watch. We work with Landcare and Tamar NRM, improve the environment with Boneseed Blitz, Ragwort Raid, Clean-up Australia and Catch it in the Catchment. We work with council to improve the facilities in the area, (currently working with council to upgrade the tennis court) have oversight of the Hillwood History Room, and organise social events such as our Trivia Night, Market Day, Anzac Day Service & Breakfast and Meet the Neighbours events. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact us:

Hillwood Progress Association

Email: HillwoodPA@outlook.com

Ph: Robyn Wheeler 0409 420 877

History Room

Contact Julie 0408 275 539

Save the Dates.

HPA General meetings

Tue 11th Aug

Tue 9th Sep immediately following AGM.

Bone Seed Blitz

Sat 12th September

HPA Trivia night

Sat 10th October

HPA Hillwood Market Day

Sat 21st November 9-1

MRA Awareness Ride

Sat 21st November 12-4

HILLWOOD TRIVIA NIGHT!

 **Hillwood War Memorial Hall**

 **10 October 2026**

 **Doors open 6:30pm**

• **Trivia kicks off 7:00pm**

 **TICKETS**

• **\$12.50 pp — Pre-purchase**

• **\$15 pp — On the night**

• **\$100 — Table of 8**

• **Round up your smartest mates and claim your table!**

 **REGISTER NOW**

 **HillwoodPA@outlook.com**

 **Robyn: 0409 420 877**

 **BYO Food & Drinks**

Bring your favourite snacks, drinks, and cash for games and settle in for a night of laughs, friendly rivalry, and brain-bending fun!

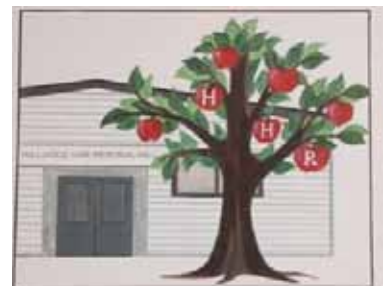
HILLWOOD HISTORY ROOM

Located in the Hillwood War Memorial Hall

Email: HillwoodHistoryRoom@outlook.com

WHO'S BEEN LIVING IN MY HOUSE?

The Hillwood History Room invites you to be part of the living history of Hillwood. A project designed to be a perpetual record to be kept in the Hillwood History Room, recording the social and family history, so easily forgotten when occupants move on. Do you know which land grant your property was a part of? To find out this and other interesting stories of Hillwood, visit the History Room. Open days will be advertised on the Chalkboards, or by appointment.



If you have an interest in researching or helping collate Hillwood Stories, please contact Julie Airey 0408 275 539.

The Hillwood Sharks Football Club Centenary Gala Dinner was held on 25 July 2026 with guest speakers sharing stories across the decades. Sports Media Specialist **Rick Fontyn** interviewed former Tasmanian and Melbourne Football player **Brad Green** and MC'd the night.



Nick Duigan with Life Member Craig Jenkins.

Craig has played an amazing record of 464 games with the Hillwood Sharks.



Hillwood Football Club - 100 Year Centenary Team of the Century - Pioneer 1926-1970



Hillwood Football Club - 100 Year Centenary Team of the Century - Modern 1980-2026



Hillwood Football Club - 100 Year Centenary Team of the Century - Reserves 1980-2026



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Sharon Fahey | Property Representative

Sharon Fahey has been a real estate agent since 2002. As a Property Representative, she deals with owners and purchasers within the north east areas of Tasmania and Launceston.

She has lived in Windermere & Swan Bay in the East Tamar area since 2003 and prior to that moved from Karoola. She particularly loves the sense of community in country areas, knows many people, and the diversity of those who live there.

Sharon has sold everything from lifestyle properties, acreage and your typical suburban home in the Launceston area. Early in her career, Sharon broke the record for selling 13 properties in 10 days and has ranked eight times in the top 100 sales

agents Australia wide for a national agency group.

Sharon is particularly good at and prides herself with her knowledge of rural properties, and lived on a 125-acre small beef farm for over 20 years. She also has a very keen eye for detail and is happy to offer her advice on presentation in order to achieve the best price.

Sharon loves the challenge of marketing unusual properties, also matching buyers with their ideal homes and helping her vendor's property stand out in a busy market. She will always aim to achieve the best price the market is prepared to pay. Her greatest triumph is receiving the many

testimonials from clients she has helped through tricky situations.

One of her proudest moments was when she assisted a young couple who had bought a door-upper to renovate it themselves, to re-sell. With Sharon's advice on renovations and marketing, their home was transformed, and she was able to market it to exactly the right demographic and turn their renovated home into a huge selling point. These same clients have come back time and time again and asked Sharon to sell all their renovated properties.

A unique blend of professionalism, personality and drive has been the key factor that allows Sharon to say that she certainly has the runs on the board.

Sharon Fahey | M: 0409 188 249 | E: sharon@key2.com.au

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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

Corrie Summers 0448 259 863

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

Scrabble Group

Kerri, 0407 447 344

Justice of The Peace

Nick Jones : 0439 986 698

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Email address:

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Editorial decisions for publication
will be made by Peter Mulholland:

mulholl2@yahoo.com

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www.smokesignalscn.wordpress



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